

WANTED: Volunteers for State YES!

As educators of America's future leaders, it is important that we do all we can to increase the awareness, appreciation and knowledge of U.S. citizenship, government and history. The National Rifle Association strives to complete this objective by providing each state the materials to host an annual conference that teaches and instills in young adults the true meaning of freedom. This program is called the State Youth Education Summit (YES). A three-day weekend event, State YES is open to high school freshmen and sophomores throughout your state. Led by dedicated volunteers who serve as mentors to the youth, these students explore their state capital, debate current affairs, and learn how to bring NRA programs such as Eddie Eagle GunSafe® and Refuse To Be A Victim® back into their communities.

State YES is an essential American experience for every young adult and takes place in your state's capital. The weekend-long summit prepares 10 to 15 high school students for living as responsible citizens by exploring the influence and power of the U.S. Constitution, investigating the responsibilities of citizenship, and learning about the impact of state and federal laws.

The youth of America have never been in such desperate need of political uplifting than they do right now. One cannot stress enough the importance of motivating our youth, inspiring them to take on leadership roles and opportunities within their communities and schools, and teaching them the true mission of the NRA. There is no substitution for hands-on learning. As many alumni of the program have said, textbooks pale in comparison to the rich experiences that viewing the sites of government, history and military provides for students. It is a priority of everyone involved in the cause and fight for the Second Amendment to provide these children with the learning experiences necessary to mold them into confident, outspoken political leaders, military servicemen and women, Second Amendment champions, and government officials.

One outstanding student is selected from each State YES as the winner of a scholarship to attend National YES, which takes place in Washington, D.C., every summer. Students of National YES are treated to a weeklong summit in our nation's capital where they compete for up to \$30,000 in college scholarships.

Supported through grants from The NRA Foundation, the two best ways to ensure that a State YES takes place in your state is to encourage your State Fund Committee to approve this program's grant application and volunteer your time to help organize the event.

This program not only offers insight into politics and government, but it also promotes teamwork while providing an outlet for students to meet other goal-oriented academics like themselves. Furthermore, State YES participants leave the program with a greater sense of social responsibility and an understanding of their role in preserving and defending the Second Amendment. Through political guidance and hands-on learning,

this program contributes toward a bright future for the Second Amendment by enlightening and educating the leaders of tomorrow.

Your experiences are an asset to young people in your state. If you would like to get involved with State YES, please contact your local NRA field representative by calling (800) 672-3888 ext. 1353 or visit www.nrafoundation.org/YES/pilot_info.asp for more information.