



We encourage all alumni to stay involved with Texas YG upon completing the program. There are a number of ways to stay engaged whether you are a recent high school graduate, college student, or established community member! Below are some ways alumni can stay connected to YMCA Texas Youth and Government. However, please note that certain roles require you meet specific criteria.

## Ways to Stay Engaged

- **Connect with us:** Follow Texas Youth and Government on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#), and sign up for our Newsletter and [Blog!](#)
- Visit the [Conferences](#): Watch our current students in action and observe how Texas Youth and Government has evolved.
- Volunteer: Become a [conference volunteer\\*](#), [start](#) or support a club.
- **Stay in touch:** Share your experience with Youth and Government with us and let us know what you're doing today.
- **Contribute:** Donate to or fundraise for Texas Youth and Government and help us achieve our motto – "Democracy must be learned by each generation."

## Alumni Conference Volunteers

\*Note about alumni volunteering:

**Recent High School Graduates:** To maintain the fairness and integrity of the program, we ask that recent high school alumni sit out **at least** one program cycle year before registering to volunteer at the State Conferences. This means that college freshman are not eligible to volunteer at either the High School or Middle School State Conferences. We value your experience and willingness to help. However, we want to ensure that current program participants see recent high school graduates as experienced YG alumni and not as peers.

**College Students (Sophomores-Seniors):** Alumni who have at least one year of college experience do have an opportunity to volunteer. Your volunteer capacity/responsibility will grow as you become an upperclassman. See more details below.

- If you are a college sophomore, you can volunteer at the High School State Conference as a General Conference Volunteer. The State Office will not assign you evaluator shifts in any section in advance because we want to ensure YG alumni are seen as knowledge experts and not as peers. However, if there are vacancies due to last-minute changes, the section leader may select you to fill an evaluator spot. You may also help section leaders in some other capacity.
- At the Middle School State Conference, college sophomores may serve as evaluators in sections or help section leaders in some other capacity. Volunteering in this way presents a great opportunity to serve as mentors to our middle school students.



# TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

- If you are a college junior or senior, you may sign up to volunteer at either the High School or Middle School State Conference. You can sign up to serve as an evaluator in a specific section or fill another volunteer role of your choice.
- Please understand that only registered participants, Y Staff, and Club Advisors who have paid the conference fees can participate in conference social activities and banquets.

**College Staff:** These are YG alumni selected to volunteer for the three-day High School State Conference or two-day Middle School State Conference. Our college staff is primarily made up of juniors and seniors in college, but the State Director may consider sophomores on an individual basis. Eight spots are available each year at each State Conference. Students will be offered hotel accommodations and meals in exchange for their volunteer efforts. College staff will be housed four students to a room and supervised by an adult staffer, section leader, or the State Director. They will be assigned to various conference volunteer roles and may select volunteer areas of interest. However, the State Office will primarily assign them to roles with the greatest need for volunteers. These include roles within specific sections, evening activity coordinators, and office assistants. The Texas Youth and Government State Director will select college staff after review of each volunteer application.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

- Q: Can YG alumni volunteer at the High School State Conference?
  - A: Yes, if you are a sophomore, junior, or senior applying as a general conference volunteer or college staff or are an older alum. Please see our [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page for information about volunteer roles and what to expect in each section. You can also visit our [Resource Portal](#) and click on the “Volunteers” section for additional volunteer resources like score sheets and tips.
- Q: Can YG alumni stay at the conference hotel?
  - A: Only college staff can stay at the conference hotel. The rooms reserved are set aside for conference participants, staff, advisors, and parents. Alumni who are not college staff and/or section leaders will need to make their own accommodations offsite.
- Q: Do I need a background check?
  - A: Only volunteers staying in the hotel are required to have a background check. All other volunteers need only meet the application criteria.
- Q: How long will my volunteer shift be?
  - A: Morning, afternoon, and full-day shifts are available. Times and locations vary by section. As an example, subject to change:
    - **Legislative Section Volunteer shifts:**
      - Thursday 6:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. (college staff only at Renaissance Hotel)
      - Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Hotel/Capitol)
      - Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Hotel/Capitol)
    - **State Affairs Forum Volunteer shifts:**
      - Thursday 6:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. (college staff only at Renaissance Hotel)
      - Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Hotel/Capitol)
      - Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Hotel/Capitol)
    - **Judicial Section Volunteer shifts:**



# TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

- Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (downtown locations)
- Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (downtown locations)
- **General Conference Volunteer shifts:**
  - Thursday 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Renaissance Hotel)
  - Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m., and/or 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. (Hotel/Capitol/downtown locations)
  - Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m., and/or 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. (Hotel/Capitol/downtown locations)
  - Sunday 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (Renaissance Hotel)
- Q: Do volunteers receive training?
  - A: Volunteers will be required to participate in an online training and/or a mandatory volunteer orientation before their shifts at State Conferences.
- Q: Can alumni unexpectedly come to the State Conference and be assigned a volunteer position?
  - A: No. The State Office coordinates volunteer positions and times in advance with those who have filled out our [Volunteer Registration](#) form and meet our volunteer criteria. Fill out the form today!
- Q: Can alumni volunteers stay in rooms with their former Youth and Government delegations?
  - A: No. Volunteers should not be one-on-one or in a hotel room with program participants at any time, and volunteers who do not abide by this rule will be asked to leave the State Conference.
- Q: Can District Directors invite YG alumni to either State Conference as part of their conference staff?
  - A: Yes, District Directors can invite YG alumni who meet the criteria. This means they must be at least college sophomores. If a District Director invites you to volunteer, you must have a background check on file with him or her. Alumni who attend State Conference with a district are not considered registered State Conference volunteers. Alumni traveling with Districts are District Delegation volunteers.
- Q: Can alumni stay in hotel rooms with their parents attending the State Conference?
  - A: Yes, you can stay in a room as a conference visitor and will follow our visitor guidelines unless you sign up with the State Office as a volunteer.