

# New York State YMCA Youth and Government Program


## CODE OF CONDUCT

**Delegate** (*print your name*) \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_ **Club** \_\_\_\_\_


Each participant must abide by the program Code of Conduct during the conference weekend. The Code of Conduct is as follows:

1. **BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT:** Essential to the Youth and Government program is the concern and respect for the rights of every individual. Being responsible for your own behavior and attitude at all times is an essential element of self-government benefiting not only ourselves, but fellow delegates and the New York State YMCA Youth and Government Program. All facilities placed at the disposal of the Youth and Government program are to be given the greatest care and attention. It is a **PRIVILEGE** to use them; treat them with respect.
2. **GENERAL RULES:** Infractions of the following general rules shall result in expulsion from the YMCA Youth and Government program functions and conferences. In addition local law enforcement agencies may be contacted and the participant/advisor/staff member turned over to them as appropriate:
  - a. Laws of the State, County and City are always observed.
  - b. State Capitol Chamber rules restrict all beverages, food, gum, including phone limitations that we will follow.
  - c. Possession or consumption of weapons, alcoholic beverages or non-prescribed drugs are not permitted
  - d. Any act of vandalism, destruction of property, or misuse of a facility may be a crime and will be treated as such.
  - e. Attendance and punctuality is mandatory at all work sessions
  - f. Those who decide to be present when a violation occurs shall, by their own choice, be considered a participant in the violation. In this program there are no "innocent bystanders."
  - g. *This is a full tobacco free event.* There will be **no smoking**, chewing, use of e-cigarettes etc. in the Government buildings, in the hotel or any other facility where Youth and Government activities take place.
  - h. Badges shall be worn by individuals whose name is on the badge. **BADGE SWITCHING OR SHARING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Participants will wear their assigned badges at all times when they are not in their sleeping rooms, and must be able to produce their badges at all times. Badges are to be worn above the waist and must be visible. Badges are not to be defaced, decorated, or altered in anyway. Only advisors can request replacement badges.
  - i. Young women will be expected to wear conservative business dresses, skirt or pants outfits – no bare legs, spaghetti straps, low cut top, short dresses. Young men will be expected to wear a suit and tie, or sports combinations with collared shirt, tie, dress sport coat, and dress shoes – no paten sneakers.
  - j. Delegates are required to be in their hotel for and during sessions. It is assumed that the conduct in the hotel will reflect the principles of self-control as outlined in this Code of Conduct
  - k. Curfew and quiet hours must be observed with each delegate in her/his own room defined by the official schedule
  - l. No participant shall be in the room of the opposite gender during the conference.
  - m. Participants are not permitted to drive vehicles to or from an event sponsored by the statewide program. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**
  - n. For the safety of all each delegate's advisor will check their luggage, carry-on bags, coat pockets prior to departure similar to the security check process at an airport.
  - o. In the interest of our health high energy or high caffeinated beverages are not allowed such as Jolt or Monster.
  - p. While a variety of dance styles exist, recognize that this is a YMCA event, not a club or dance party event. Inappropriate dancing is in violation of the code of conduct jeopardizing your participation and Premier District standing.
3. **Disciplinary Action:** This code of conduct is considered binding on all participants, advisors and staff. Each YMCA and its advisors shall be held accountable for all actions and conduct of their participants. The intent is to hold each participant accountable for his/her own actions

**THE STATE DIRECTOR, and your advisor, HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO INTERPRET THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ADMINISTER ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY.**

 I have read and understand the New York State YMCA Youth and Government Code of Conduct and I agree to follow it. I understand that failure to adhere to the Code's minimum standards of conduct may result in my immediate expulsion from the New York State YMCA Youth and Government program.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

 I have read and understand the New York State YMCA Youth and Government Code of Conduct, and accept the responsibility for my child's adherence to it. I also understand that if my child violates the Code of Conduct and is expelled from the program, that I am responsible for his/her immediate transport from the conference or YMCA function. This transport shall be done at my own expense.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
copy – state office                      copy – advisor                      copy – participant/parent/guardian