

2009 – 2010 CALENDAR

	What	When	Where	How Much*
2009	Pre-Youth Judicial	Sept. 20	Montgomery	No Cost
	Fall Planning	September 12-13	YMCA Camp Chandler	\$40
	Youth Judicial EARLY BIRD Registration Begins	August 14	www.alyig.org/register	\$220*
	Youth Judicial REGULAR Registration Begins	October 1	www.alyig.org/register	\$235*
	Youth Judicial LATE Registration Begins	October 22	www.alyig.org/register	\$245*
	Youth Judicial Officer Training	October 24-25	YMCA Camp Chandler, Wetumpka, AL	\$20
	Youth Judicial	November 14-16	Montgomery, AL	
	Youth Legislature EARLY BIRD Registration Begins**	November 16	www.alyig.org/register	\$210*
2010	District Meetings	See Website	http://www.alyig.org/leg	No Cost
	Youth Legislature REGULAR Registration Begins**	January 14	www.alyig.org/register	\$225*
	Youth Legislature Officer Training**	January 29-30	YMCA Camp Chandler, Wetumpka, AL	\$40
	Bills Published Online	January 29	www.alyig.org/leg	No Cost
	Youth Legislature LATE Registration Begins**	February 4	www.alyig.org/register	\$235*
	Youth Legislature	February 26-28	Montgomery, AL	
	Jr. Youth Legislature	February 26-28	Montgomery, AL	
	Jr. Youth Leg (Montgomery Area)	February 26	Montgomery, AL	
	Collegiate Legislature	March 4 – 6	Montgomery, AL	See www.cleg.org
	YMCA Conference on National Affairs	July 3 – 8	Black Mt., NC	www.ymcacona.org
	YMCA Christian Values Conference	July 18 – 22	Black Mt., NC	See www.ymcacvc.org
	Jr. Christian Values Conference	July 23-25	Black Mt., NC	See www.ymcacvc.org

*Conference registration fees include a meal ticket. Conference T-Shirts will also be given to all participants who register at least 2 weeks before the start of the conference. ALL registration will be done online through www.alyig.org.

** All Youth Legislature Officers, Press, Lobbyist, SC Justices must be registered by the Early Bird Date.

State Youth Judicial Program ~ www.alyig.org/judicial

This is a hands-on mock trial competition where students try an actual case and are scored by youth judges. Students work with attorneys, as team coaches who help them understand the judicial system.

When: Saturday - Monday, November 14th -16th , 2009
Where: Montgomery, Alabama
Grades: 9-12 (Must be either YIG club members or Student YMCA members)
Cost: \$220.00 per person, includes shirt and meals (Early Bird Special)
Registration Due: **October 22, 2009 (after this date fees are \$245.00, includes meals)**

Youth Legislature District Meetings

Each of the four state districts will hold a District Meeting in January. The students at the Fall Planning Meeting determine these dates and times. District meetings are the forums where candidates for office are nominated and district support is gathered. All Youth Legislature forms and amendments are distributed at this meeting. Special attention is given to practicing parliamentary procedure for the session.

When: TBD at Fall Planning
Where: TBD at Fall Planning
Grades: 9-12 (Must be either YIG club members or Student YMCA members)
Cost: No Charge

Youth Legislature Officer Training

Officers of the Youth Legislature Program are provided training for the Annual YMCA Youth Legislature Program. Officer training is a mandatory event for all officers listed below.

When: February 6th-7th, 2010
Where: YMCA Camp Chandler, Wetumpka, Alabama
Requirements: Current Youth Leg. Officer, Supreme Court Justices, Gov. Cabinet Member, Committee Chair, Lobbyist and Press
Cost: \$40.00

YMCA Youth Legislature

A hands on program where over 500 high school students take over state government for three days. Participants are required to write a bill on a topic of their choice and take it through the legislative process. Exciting elections, dances and lots of fellowship top off this wholesome educational experience.

When: Friday - Sunday, February 26th-28th, 2010
Where: Montgomery, Alabama
Grades: 9-12 (Must be either YIG club members or Student YMCA members)
Prerequisites: Must have attended District Meeting.
Cost: Early Bird Discount - \$210.00 per person (includes t-shirt and meals)
Registration Due: **February 4, 2010. After this date, fee is \$235.00 per person, includes meals. No exceptions!**

YMCA Junior Youth Legislature

Like the Senior High Program, Junior Youth Legislature gives students the opportunity to learn how the Legislative Branch of state government operates, specifically, the House of Representatives. This program gives Junior High students the training they will need to successfully participate in Senior High Youth in Government programs.

INFORMATION FOR THE DELEGATIONS OTHER THAN MONTGOMERY:

When: Friday - Sunday, February 26th-28th, 2010
Where: Alabama Statehouse
Grades: 7 – 8
Cost: \$150.00 (includes Conference Fee, Hotel, Meal Ticket, & Conference T-shirt)
Registration Due: **February 4, 2010. After this date, fee is \$175.00 per person.**

INFORMATION FOR THE MONTGOMERY DELEGATIONS:

When: Friday, February 26th, 2010
Where: Alabama Statehouse
Grades: 7 – 8 (6th graders can serve as Pages)
Cost: \$25.00 (includes Conference Fee, Lunch, & Conference T-shirt)
Registration Due: **February 4, 2010. After this date, fee is \$35.00 per person.**

YMCA Conference on National Affairs

This conference is the only nation-wide YMCA Youth in Government conference. Participants of the nation's YMCA Youth in Government programs are selected to attend the event at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina. The debate, centered on issues of national and international importance, is competitive and the friendships are long lasting.

When: July 3rd – 8th, 2010
Where: Black Mountain, North Carolina

YMCA Christian Values Conference

Each summer brings together young people (grades 9-12) from all over the country to the Christian Values Conference sponsored, in part, by the YMCA of the USA South Field. It is held at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, N.C.

The conference is divided into family and social time, special events, devotions and entertainment. The goals are to provide a secure environment that will allow students to develop deeper insight into their values and strengthen their Christian commitment.

When: July 18th – 22nd, 2010
Where: Black Mountain, North Carolina
Grades: entering 9th grade – exiting 12th grade



Youth Legislature



February 26 - 28, 2010 Montgomery, Alabama

- **Youth Legislature is Alabama's Premier Mock Government conference.** Students from across the state come together to debate legislation, argue appellate cases to the Supreme Court, lobby for and against bills, and cover the politics of the day through the press.
- Each delegate chooses to be in either a legislative chamber, the Supreme Court, a lobbyist or on the Press Corps. Members of the House, Senate or First Year chamber will write and debate a piece of legislation and debate *other* pieces of legislation throughout the week. Supreme Court members will hear an appellate case and will put pieces of legislation through Judicial Review. Lobbyists pick positions on critical public issues and attempt to persuade legislators to vote one way or another. Finally, the Press Corps is charged with covering the ins and outs of each day's political scene.
- Some delegates will choose to run for office or will submit their names for appointed positions. Each year, the conference selects a Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House and many other offices. The Governor will appoint several cabinet members (listed below) to serve as their 'brain trust.'
- Please see included registration packet for all registration information.

Cost: \$210.00 per person (Early Bird Discount) includes T-Shirt and Meals

Registration Deadline: February 4, 2010 (\$225.00 after deadline)

Alabama YMCA  Youth Legislature 2010
Hotel Information Sheet

Embassy Suites Hotels

300 Tallapoosa Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104
334-269-5055

Guest Accommodations

Each suite is beautifully decorated with a private bedroom and spacious living room. All of our suites are fully equipped with a refrigerator, microwave oven, coffee maker, and a well lit dining/work table. Embassy Suites provides a complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast.

Suite Amenities

For your Comfort

Accessible
Air Conditioning
Alarm Radio
Clock Radio
Hand Held Shower
Lever Door Handles
Non-Smoking
Shower for Wheelchair
Sofa Bed
Thermostat (adjustable)
Work Desk with Lamp

For your Convenience

24 Hour Housekeeping
Bathroom Amenities
Coffee Maker
Hairdryer
High Speed Internet Access
Iron
Ironing Board
Refrigerator
Telephone – Auto Wakeup

For your Confidence

Audible alarms
Automatic Door Closer
Electronic Locks
Electronic Smoke Detector
Secondary Locking Device
Thumb Dead Bolt

Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature 2010 Positions for Governor's Cabinet

1. Chief of Staff
2. Legal Advisor
3. Senior Advisor
4. Senior Counsel
5. Communications Director
6. Legislative Affairs Director
7. Director • Department of Industrial Relations
8. Director • Department of Economic and Community Affairs
9. Director • Alabama Emergency Management
10. Commissioner • Department of Revenue
11. Commissioner • Department of Human Resources
12. Superintendent of Banks • Banking Department
13. Director • Alabama Development Office
14. Commissioner • Medicaid Agency
15. Commissioner • Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation
16. Director • Department of Transportation
17. Director • Department of Public Safety
18. Administrator • Alcoholic Beverage Control
19. Commissioner • Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
20. Director • Department of Tourism and Travel
21. Executive Director • Department of Senior Services
22. Commissioner • Department of Labor
23. Director • Department of Finance
24. Director • Homeland Security
25. Adjutant General • Alabama Military Department
26. Commissioner • Department of Children's Affairs
27. Commissioner • Department of Corrections
28. Commissioner • Department of Insurance
29. State School Superintendent

BILLS

- ✧ Each House, Senate or First Year member must author at least one piece of legislation. **Delegates who have attended the conference previously in any capacity are required to author at least one bill without a co-author. First year delegates in the House, Senate or First Year Chamber may count a co-authored bill towards the required submission. .**
- ✧ No delegate may offer a resolution unless he/she has written a bill.
- ✧ Bills are due by the day set by the State Office. * **MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.**

I. MAKE UP OF A BILL: *Check your bill for these parts in the order below:*

- A. **TITLE:** The title of the bill should be complete enough to express in broad terms what the bill would do. The title should contain any penalties, retroactive effects, or appropriations that are provided in the bill. It is a short statement of the subject of the bill.
- B. **PREAMBLE:** Not essential in all bills. Wherever it seems desirable, a brief statement may follow the title, which gives the purpose of the bill. This statement may start with the word "Whereas..."
- C. **ENACTING CLAUSE:** Every bill must begin "**Be it Enacted by the Youth Legislature of Alabama.**"
- D. **BODY:** The substance of the bill is ordinarily comprised of:
 1. Short title, if the legislator-sponsor desires one.
 2. Definitions, if any are needed.
 3. Main legal principle or proposition.
 4. Procedural and administrative provisions.
 5. Sanctions and penalties.
- E. **SAVING CLAUSE:** (not essential) -- To save certain acts to which you do not want the bill to specifically apply. It restricts general operation of the statute used with a repealing clause.
- F. **LIBERAL INTERPRETATION CLAUSE:** A liberal statement of the intention of the bill so that the court will clearly understand its purpose.
- G. **SEVERABILITY CLAUSE:** "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed."
- I. **REPEALING CLAUSE:** when repealing a specific part of the code of Alabama, use this format: To repeal Act____ Code of Alabama____
- J. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

II. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO YOUR DELEGATES:

- ALL BILLS MUST BE THE ORIGINAL -- No Copies -- No Fax Transmittals.
- Each House, Senate or First Year member must author at least one piece of legislation. **Delegates who have attended the conference previously in any capacity are required to author at least one (1) bill without a co-author. First year delegates in the House, Senate or First Year Chamber may count a co-authored bill towards the required submission..**
- All bills are to be submitted through the online form at www.alvig.org.
- to specifications. Your bills will be printed exactly as you present them to the State Office.
- **DELEGATES MUST BE IN THE SAME CHAMBER TO CO-AUTHOR A BILL TOGETHER.**

III. How to Develop Your Bill Idea

1. Ask yourself the following questions about your idea:
 - ✧ Does it truly serve the public interest?
 - ✧ Do the Federal and State Constitutions permit it?
 - ✧ Does it infringe upon any basic rights guaranteed by these constitutions? Ask a government teacher, an attorney, or a local judge for their judgment.
 - ✧ Could the function be performed better at some other level of government?
 - ✧ Could it be better handled by private enterprise?
 - ✧ What will it cost the state to implement your idea? Who will pay the cost? Can the cost be met from state money or must you propose additional ways of generating the money? Is it worth it?
 - ✧ If your idea requires administration or enforcement, who will provide it?
2. Check your idea with appropriate local authorities. If your bill deals with education, speak with your principal. If it deals with prison reform, speak with a local parole officer, judge or public officer.
3. Seek out opposite views on the subject. Ask your parents and your neighbors what they think about it.
4. Revise your bill idea, if necessary, in view of the facts or ideas you have received.
5. You are now ready to begin drafting your bill. Pay particular attention to the following sections that suggest instructions for writing a bill.

IV. Check Your Bill

A BILL IS PROPOSED LAW put in writing by a member of the Legislature. All Bills are not “good” ones. The following characteristics/qualities of a good bill are offered to assist you in your final review of your bill. Before sending the Bill to the Youth in Government office, double check it to make sure it meets all of the standards.

- ✧ It deals with only one subject matter.
- ✧ It expresses the subject accurately in the title of the Bill.
- ✧ It concerns a matter that is within the field of State Legislation and distinguished from Federal, County, or Municipal law.
- ✧ It conforms to the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Alabama and of the U.S.
- ✧ It expresses the author’s intent in concise, everyday language.
- ✧ It represents clean and analytical thinking by the author, who will “boil it down” to its essentials.
- ✧ It contains the enacting clause: “BE IT ENACTED BY THE ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE” if it is a Bill.
- ✧ If the Bill proposes a new law, it is divided into sections as short as possible in view of the subject matter.
- ✧ If it amends an existing law, each section amended must constitute a separate section of the Bill.
- ✧ Each separate section of the Bill is numbered consecutively in order.
- ✧ Major provisions of the bill are included in the early sections.
- ✧ Definitions of terms, if required, are included before the terms are used.
- ✧ It stipulates the amount and source for appropriation of funds if the Bill requires an expenditure of money.
- ✧ It includes the date the Bill will become effective if it is other than the usual 90 days following passage.

V. How a Bill Becomes a Law in Youth in Government

A “bill” is a proposed law. Only a member of the legislature can introduce it. A bill does not become law automatically. There are certain specified procedures through which it must go before it becomes law. The persons authoring the bill are responsible for knowing these steps and seeing his/her bill through the program.

1. The State Director assigns the bill you submit for inclusion in the Bill Book to a Hearing committee.
2. Then the bill is assigned to a Hearing committee to which other bills of associated subject matter are assigned. Both the Chief Sponsor and Co-sponsor of the bill are assigned to this committee during the Conference in Montgomery.
3. The authors present their bill to the committee and the committee recommends (a), which bills should be, sent to the Legislature for debate and (b) in what priority order they are recommended.
4. The Rules Committee, which is comprised of the Hearing Committee Chairmen, determines the calendar (schedule of bills to be debated) for the Legislature.
5. The Youth in Government Legislature debates bills on Friday and Saturday. Each bill is debated in its respective chamber first. If it passes, it is then sent to the other chamber for debate.
6. If both houses pass the bill, it is sent to the Governor who may sign it into law or veto it.