



Dear Youth in Government Parents,

Your child has expressed interest in participating in the Seventeenth Annual YMCA Middle School Youth Legislature Conference. This Conference is a one day educational event held at the City Hall and County Commission Chambers on Wednesday, May 11th. Young people grades 6th through 8th have a hands-on experience with the legislative process. Students have the opportunity to develop leadership and speaking skills while debating under the rules of parliamentary procedure. The YMCA has proudly hosted Youth Legislature conferences for High School students for 60 years! We are excited to have this program for middle school students and are delighted that your child wants to participate.

The YMCA has four character components which we strive to instill in every program: Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. Adherence to the following criteria is just one way these components are expressed in our Youth in Government program.

1. Each student is to attend a FREE preparatory training session held at their school.
2. The training teaches each student how to research, write, present and debate a legislative Bill. The Bills are due **April 22nd**.
3. Each student is to pay a \$25.00 registration. **This money is non-refundable. All fees are due within one week of the school training. Please make online payments on the YMCA website (see attached online payment directions) or make checks payable to the YMCA.**
4. Business attire is required of all conference participants. Boys are wear coat, tie and slacks (no tennis shoes). Girls are to wear business dresses, skirts or slacks. We want all students to have a professional appearance.

Enclosed is a registration form for your child to sign ensuring they will behave properly and represent themselves, family, school and YMCA to the best of their ability. If any contracts are broken, you will be contacted and your child will be sent home immediately. We are very proud of our students and do not foresee any problems in this regard. At the bottom of the registration form is a permission slip. Please fill it out and have your child return it to their school advisor. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me kclack@ymcamemphis.org or call me 359-3547. We are delighted to have your child participating in our program. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Kelley Clack
Youth in Government Director
Enclosure