

Young Worker Leadership Academy 2027 FAQs

Participation Requirements

1. Who can apply to YWLA?
 - a. YWLA is open to any teens ages 14-18 located in California!
2. Do all team members need to attend the same high school or be affiliated with the same Organization?
 - a. No, teams are welcome to be from different high schools and organizations as long as they are teams of four and have the same adult advisor.
3. Can homeschooled students participate?
 - a. Yes, homeschooled students are eligible to participate if they are able to find a team of four with whom they would attend the event (accompanied by the same 2027 adult advisor) and complete a group project.
4. Is there a grade-level preference for applicants?
 - a. There is no grade-level preference for YWLA. All teens ages 14-18 are encouraged to apply!
5. What level of English is required to participate? Are translation or language support services available?
 - a. YWLA will be in English, and while we have some staff who are bilingual (English & Spanish), we are not able to provide interpreters at this time. We recommend identifying an adult advisor who can assist with translation to support during the program.

Application Process

7. How many students are required per team?
 - a. Groups should apply with a 4-person team and one alternate.
8. Do teams need an adult advisor?
 - a. Yes, all teams applying will need an adult advisor who will be able to attend the program with the students.
9. What is the application deadline?
 - a. Applications are due on December 1, 2026.
10. Where can teams submit their applications?
 - a. To apply, please check out our Young Workers website, section "How to Apply": <https://youngworkers.org/ywla>

11. By when will teams be notified if they were selected?
- a. We anticipate that groups will be notified during the third week of December.

Logistics

12. Where will the YWLA take place?
- a. YWLA will take place on UC Berkeley campus with overnight stay at The Graduate Hotel in Berkeley.
13. What are the dates of the training?
- a. YWLA will commence on February 4th, 2027 at 11:00 AM and conclude on February 6th, 2027 at 3:30 PM.
14. Is attendance required for all three days of the Academy?
- a. Yes, attendance is required for all three days of the Academy.
15. Are adult advisors required to stay overnight with their team?
- a. Yes, Adult Advisors are required to stay overnight at UC Berkeley. Since students also stay on-site, adult advisors need to be present to support and ensure their safety including during the academy's afterhours.

Lodging & Meals

16. Will lodging be provided for student participants and adult advisors?
- a. Yes, all teams will be provided overnight stays at the Graduate Hotel located in Berkeley.
17. Are meals provided during the Academy?
- a. Yes; breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided to all YWLA attendees.
18. Are meals and lodging provided for teams from Berkeley as well?
- a. Yes, meals and lodging will be provided to all YWLA attendees.

Transportation

19. Are teams responsible for arranging their own transportation?
- a. Depending on location and team's preference, teams will be set up with flights, mileage reimbursement, or a shuttle service.
20. Is mileage reimbursement or transportation assistance available?
- a. Yes, mileage reimbursement is available for teams who drive to YWLA.

Program Content

21. What topics will students learn about during YWLA?
- a. Students attending YWLA will learn about issues impacting working teens and

how to advocate for young workers. They will also get a chance to learn from health and safety educators, representatives of different government agencies, and UC Berkeley students.

b. Covered topics include: training requirements for young workers, health and safety regulations protecting young workers, and other employment rights!

22. What kind of community project will teams complete?

a. In previous years students who have participated in YWLA have done infomercials, developed training materials, and completed outreach in their community. Teams are encouraged to choose a project that would best. During YWLA, participants will hear from previous academy participants regarding the community projects they were involved in and will have the opportunity to ask questions and get advice.

23. Who leads the workshops and activities at the Academy?

a. Health and Safety Educators from the UCLA Labor Occupational Health & Safety (LOSH) Programs and from the UC Berkeley Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP).

Other Questions

24. Is there a stipend for participating students?

a. Yes, all participating students will be given a \$100 stipend after completing their community project.

25. Who can we contact for more information?

a. Please contact Jessica Zavala (jessiczavala@berkeley.edu) or Jordan Nguyen (jordannguyen@berkeley.edu) if you have any other questions!