



# **HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE**

## **AT THE REAGAN BOYHOOD HOME**

**Dixon, Illinois**  
**July 18-20, 2024**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Who can attend?**

Any students currently enrolled in high school, including spring 8th and 12th grade graduates, are eligible to attend this program.

### **When should I arrive?**

You should arrive between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Reagan Boyhood Home (810 S Hennepin Ave, Dixon, IL 61021), on Thursday, July 18. The conference starts at 6:30 p.m., and Young America's Foundation will offer a shuttle to and from the hotel in the evening.

### **What time does the conference end?**

Checking out of the hotel will occur Saturday morning, and parents will pick up their student on the evening of Saturday, July 20, at 4:30 p.m. from the Northwest Territory Historic Center (205 W 5th St, Dixon, IL 61021).

### **Where will I be staying during the program?**

YAF will provide hotel accommodations for students on Thursday and Friday night at the Holiday Inn & Suites (301 E 2nd St, Rock Falls, IL 61071). YAF will provide shuttles to and from the hotel during the program. Students will have one roommate of the same sex for the conference in the hotel. The registration form contains a blank in which you can request a roommate, and we will do our best to accommodate those requests.

### **Is tuition assistance available?**

Tuition assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with financial need. If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to Madison Habersetzer at [madisonh@yaf.org](mailto:madisonh@yaf.org) with some language regarding your financial need and what you hope to gain by attending the conference. We cannot consider your request until we receive this essay.

## **Is travel assistance available?**

Travel assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with demonstrable financial need. While travel assistance is never guaranteed, Young America's Foundation will gladly consider all completed requests. Apply for travel assistance here: <https://forms.gle/QfyqMDYiWDFJwyc8>

*Travel assistance requests are due prior to the event. Please note, does not cover ground transportation, baggage fees, seat assignments, travel insurance. etc. Flights must allow for full-time attendance to be eligible for reimbursement.*

If you have any questions regarding your travel assistance submission, please email [travel@yaf.org](mailto:travel@yaf.org).

## **Can I sponsor a student to attend this program?**

Yes! Your generous tax-deductible gift of \$2,000 will allow Young America's Foundation to host a student at this program who could not otherwise attend. You can designate a specific student you know to attend, or sponsor a student who is receiving free tuition as a result of financial need. For more information about these and other sponsorship opportunities, please contact Young America's Foundation development officer Katie Cupp at [kcupp@yaf.org](mailto:kcupp@yaf.org) or call 800-USA-1776.

## **How do I cancel my attendance?**

If you can no longer attend for any reason, please email [madisonh@reaganranch.org](mailto:madisonh@reaganranch.org) with your *name* and indicate for which *conference* you need to cancel. If you cancel prior to June 26, 2024, you will receive a full refund. Please check your card statement to verify your refund was processed.

## **To which airport do I fly?**

You should fly to O'Hare International Airport (ORD), Chicago Midway International Airport (MDW), or Quad Cities International Airport (MLI). Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the airport.

## **Where should I park if I drive myself?**

Parking is available at the hotel and at the Reagan Boyhood Home.

## **How will I get to and from the airport and the conference?**

Young America's Foundation will provide one shuttle from Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD) that departs from ORD at 2:00 PM on Thursday, July 18. The students will be returned to ORD by 6:00 PM on Saturday, July 20.

Additional shuttles will not be offered from other airports or outside these arrival and departure times.



Photo courtesy of the Reagan Presidential Library

### **What if I am an “Unaccompanied Minor” flying in for the conference?**

“Unaccompanied Minor” is a term used by airlines to designate travelers under their care. Please refer to your specific airline for guidance on who must be designated as an “Unaccompanied Minor.” Flying as an unaccompanied minor requires you to have a designated adult pick you up at the gate upon arrival and wait with you at the gate, inside of TSA security, until your flight is “wheels up.”

Due to the limited number of staff members, we are not able to accommodate “Unaccompanied Minors” via YAF staff. Students needing to fly as “Unaccompanied Minors” must have a friend or family member who is able to get them through the security process.

### **Can I take the bus?**

Yes, Greyhound has a stop in Dixon, IL. The Reagan Transit Station is located at 210 E Progress Dr, Dixon, IL 61021, which is a short drive from the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home. More information can be found at <https://www.greyhound.com/bus> Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the bus station.

### **Can I take the train?**

You should arrive at Chicago Union Station in Chicago, IL. Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the train station.

### **Will there be supervision during the weekend?**

Yes, students will be supervised by several staff members who will be chaperones and stay in the same hotel for the whole event. Students are expected to behave appropriately or will have to leave the conference at their parents’ expense. Parents need to sign the waiver form and responsibility pledge that will be sent to students prior to the event.

Even if a student is 18, they are still expected to abide by all rules and curfew.



### **Will students have free time during the conference?**

No, because the event is only three days long. Young America's Foundation only covers your lodging on Thursday and Friday night, and we are unable to accommodate or supervise you at any other time.

### **Are parents and family members invited to attend the program?**

Parents are invited to the opening dinner banquet on Thursday, the Roundtable Luncheon on Friday, and to tour the Reagan Boyhood Home on Saturday. Space is limited, and details about how to RSVP for these activities will be emailed to families in the weeks preceding the conference.

### **What does the conference fee include?**

The conference fee includes two nights in a hotel, conference tuition, materials, and meals from Thursday dinner through Saturday lunch.

### **What are the activities during the conference?**

The event includes speaker sessions, question and answer sessions, tours of the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home in Dixon and Reagan Birthplace in Tampico, a dinner banquet on Thursday night, a barbecue dinner and lawn games at Lowell Park on Friday, and more! A full agenda will be sent to students a week prior to the program.



### **What is the dress code for this conference?**

Dress for the Thursday dinner banquet will be business professional. This means a suit for the gentlemen and a suit or dress for the ladies.

Dress for Friday and Saturday is casual but respectful. Jeans are fine, as long as there are no holes or tears.

### **What are the living arrangements?**

Students will have one or two roommates of the same sex for Thursday and Friday night at the conference hotel. The registration form contains a blank in which you can request a roommate, and we will do our best to accommodate your requests. Students are not allowed in rooms of other students of the opposite sex, even if related.

### **When/where can I see conference photos?**

Pictures from the photo lines and conference events will be posted on the Young America's Foundation Facebook page following the event. Photos may take several weeks, please be patient.

## What are the terms and conditions of the conference?

**I am registering for myself, or on behalf of my minor child or ward (hereafter “child”), to attend a Young America’s Foundation’s (YAF) private event. I understand and agree that, as an express condition of participation and/or attendance in YAF’s event, I intend to be legally bound and will abide by the following terms & conditions.**

**A. Terms of Registration.** All attendees must register themselves or their child and any guests they may be registering for using the real and true name for all parties and may be asked to present valid identification to verify the identity of the registrant and their guests. I understand and acknowledge that any actions intended to disrupt or undermine this YAF event will result in my or my child’s immediate ejection from the event. Disruptive activity includes, without limitation and in YAF’s sole determination, posting or sending inappropriate words, statements, or images, through social media or by and between event attendees. YAF reserves the right to pursue all appropriate civil & criminal remedies against disruptive attendees. Attendees removed for disruptive activity forfeit any registration fees and will be required to reimburse YAF at applicable actual costs of their attendance within ten (10) business days.

**B. Acceptance & Attendance.**

a. I understand that this event may have a limited amount of space and that my application may be subject to confirmation. I understand that all applications submitted prior to March 1, 2024, will receive a response on March 1, 2024, regarding acceptance. Applicants that apply after March 1, 2024, will receive notice within two (2) weeks of their application submission. I understand that in the event I have not been accepted I will be refunded via my original payment method.

b. Participation in this YAF event is made possible through the generous financial support of YAF’s supporters nationwide. As such, I or my child agree to attend all sessions of the July High School Conference. I understand that if I or my child fail to attend the entirety of YAF’s event without good cause, I agree to refund YAF the actual cost of attendance for the event, including hotel, food, transportation, and other costs incurred.

c. Acceptance and participation in this YAF event include reviewing and understanding the terms and conditions of YAF’s Responsibility Pledge, the terms of which are incorporated by reference. I understand that violation of the Responsibility Pledge may result in my removal or the removal of my child from the event, forfeiture of registration fees, and applicable reimbursement due to YAF.



**C. Cancellation.** Except in case of emergency, if accepted to attend YAF's event, I must notify YAF by June 26, 2024, of my or my child's inability to attend or I may be charged \$1,500 since it is too late to give my reserved space to another participant. I understand that the conference fee is not refundable if I cancel my participation after June 26, 2024.

**D. Policy Focused Event.** YAF's event is intended solely for the promotion of conservative ideas, in accordance with YAF's tax exempt mission. No political activity, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service, is permitted at YAF's event. No candidate stickers, pins, t-shirts, or other materials may be worn, displayed, or otherwise visible by members of the audience. I understand that attendees will not promote any other groups or organizations without express written permission from YAF.

**E. Roommates & Lodging.** If applicable, I understand that I or my child may be assigned roommates for the conference. A preferred roommate of the same sex may be requested, but YAF is not obligated to honor that request. I agree to notify YAF staff immediately if a problem with a roommate arises during the event. I or my child further agree to abide by all applicable hotel rules, as well as any rules or instructions from YAF staff as deemed necessary, in YAF's sole determination, during any overnight event stay.

**F. Consideration.** In consideration for participation in this event or program, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is acknowledged, I agree to release and forever discharge YAF, its officers, employees, and assigns from all manner of actions, legal causes of action, claims and demands for or by reason of any damage, loss, or injury to person and property which has been or may be sustained as a result of my own or my child's participation in this event or program.

**Liability Release.** I am fully aware that there are risks, foreseeable and unforeseeable, related to me or my child or ward attending this event or program, ranging from normal risks associated with any stay away from home, such as physical injury from a slip and fall or accident, food poisoning or allergic reactions, loss or damage to personal property, fires, disasters, terrorism or other incidents of violence, contraction of illness such as the flu, COVID-19, or legionnaire's disease, which could result in a serious medical condition requiring treatment in a hospital or could possibly lead to death. For my own benefit or on behalf of my child or ward, our heirs, successors, and assigns, I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, relating to participation in this event or program and I hereby forever release, waive, relinquish, and discharge YAF, its officers, employees, and assigns from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, rights, damages, expenses, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, and other losses of any kind, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, and I further promise not to sue YAF for any personal injury, disability, property damage or theft, or death which may result from participation in this program. These terms and conditions shall be construed under Tennessee law and should be interpreted by any court of competent jurisdiction to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible.'

**G. Assumption of Risk.** I assume all risks and hazards incidental to participation in the above mentioned function, including transportation to and from such activities, and do hereby release and waive all claims against YAF, its directors, officers, staff, employees, volunteers, representatives, agents, and speakers whether they be foreseen or unforeseen at the time this waiver is signed. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS MY SOLE RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID EXPOSING MYSELF OR MY CHILD TO FOODS THAT WE MAY BE ALLERGIC TO AND TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS RELATING TO POTENTIAL ALLERGIES, INCLUDING HAVING ANY MEDICATION SUCH AS AN EPINEPHRINE PEN ("EPIPEN") ON MY OR MY CHILD'S PERSON AT ALL TIMES AND NOTIFYING YOUNG AMERICA'S FOUNDATION STAFF OF CONCERNS. I understand that YAF makes no promises or guarantees that an accommodation will be made for my or my child's allergy, even after notifying YAF of said allergy. As such, I recognize that if I or my child consumes food or beverage at a YAF event, I assume the risk.

**H. Emergency Medical Treatment Consent/ Property Damage.** I grant permission for emergency medical treatment to be performed upon me or my child in case of sickness or injury and have indicated any special medical needs or allergies in the space provided below. All expenses incident to hospital care shall be my responsibility. I also accept responsibility for any property damage to the program facilities that I or my child may cause.

**I. Consent and Release for Use of Likeness.** YAF uses real photos, videos, and quotes from students for promotional purposes. By attending this YAF event on your own behalf or on behalf of your child, you irrevocably consent and authorize YAF and its affiliates, employees, related companies, and contractors, to record, film, photograph, broadcast, or otherwise capture during the event and related events your likeness, image, voice, or any other indicia of identity in any media whatsoever and to distribute, use, broadcast, or disseminate into perpetuity such media for any purpose whatsoever without any further approval from you or any compensation of any kind to you. The images in all media will constitute YAF's sole property, and YAF will have the right to use your likeness, image, voice, or other indicia of identity, including, but not limited to, the right to produce, publicly perform, transmit, exhibit, publicly display, print, reproduce, televise, broadcast, transfer, modify, distribute, create derivative works of, and otherwise use for any lawful purpose, in whole or in part, in any location throughout the world through any means or medium or format without limitation, any Subject Matter, all without prior inspection or further consent or approval by the undersigned of the finished product(s) or of such use, together with irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide and royalty-free rights, title and interest in and to any and all results and proceeds from any such use.

**J. Exclusive Broadcast Rights.** You further agree that you will not record, reproduce, or transmit from the place of performance, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, any portion of, or the entirety of, any YAF event in the absence of the specific written permission of YAF. YAF retains the exclusive copyright to all materials that may be distributed at the event, unless otherwise noted, and all video or audio recordings of all YAF events.

**K. Data Usage.** By sharing your information with YAF, you agree that we may use your information to contact you about this event and other activities, such as educational materials or opportunities to attend future events, as disclosed to you at the point of collection, or in any other manner that advances our educational purposes. This includes, without limitation, adding your e-mail address to receive YAF emails and receipt of telephone calls and text messages to your cell phone. You affirm that the cell phone number provided at registration is your own or that of your minor child, and that YAF may call and/or send text messages to this phone number to provide information regarding your application or registration for this event, as well as future YAF events and programming. You understand that message and data rates may apply to any such messages. We may share or transfer your information with our affiliates and any other organizations or entities for similar purposes.

**L. Severability.** If any provision of this waiver is held to be invalid or unenforceable that provision will be eliminated or limited to the minimum extent possible, and the remainder of the waiver will have full force and effect.

**M. Understanding and Acceptance.** By including my name on this form and allowing my child to participate in this Program, I confirm that I understand and have had a full opportunity to review these terms and conditions. I have had the opportunity to have these terms and conditions reviewed by a legal counsel of my choosing. In the event of any dispute between the Parties regarding any ambiguity or inconsistency in this terms and conditions, the adjudicating body will use a neutral construction not favouring either Party. I understand and agree that these terms and conditions constitute the full entire agreement between myself and YAF and supersede any prior oral or written understanding or agreement. No modifications, alterations, or amendments may be made to the terms and conditions unless done in writing and agreed to by both parties. I accept these terms freely, I declare my intention to bound by the terms, and I acknowledge it shall be construed broadly to provide a full release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.