



How to Apply

Applications for appointment to the NYL are available at: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/NYL/>.

You may submit your application by e-mail or fax. Your application must include:

- Completed and signed application form, including the short-answer essays; and
- One letter of recommendation.

Deadline: Check the Nevada Legislature's website for the 2017 application deadline details.

If you have any questions concerning the application process, please contact the NYL Coordinator in the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

Program Benefits Include:

- *Connect with peers across the State;*
- *Represent Nevada youth in local and State policy-making;*
- *Engage with State Legislators and other elected officials;*
- *Develop legislation that is processed by State lawmakers;*
- *Participate in one-of-a-kind leadership trainings and activities;*
- *Access opportunities through NYL scholarships; and*
- *Continue peer relationship building through the NYL alumni network.*

Nevada Youth Legislature

Research Division
Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Phone:
775-684-6740

Fax:
775-684-6400

E-mail:
info@youthleg.state.nv.us

Website:
<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/NYL/>

Nevada Youth Legislature

*The Student Voice in
State Government*



November 2016

The Nevada Youth Legislature

The Nevada Youth Legislature (NYL) is a two-year program that gives high school students an opportunity to learn the legislative process and take an active role in State government. This includes presenting one bill per term to the Nevada Legislature on an issue important to Nevada youth. Interested students may submit an application to the Senator in the Senatorial District in which they live or attend high school. Each of Nevada's 21 State Senators then appoints a Youth Legislator to represent his or her Senatorial District.



Term: Two Years

Each term begins on June 1 and ends on May 31 of odd-numbered years. Members elect a Chair and Vice Chair who serve for one-year terms.

Mandatory Meetings and Trainings:

Approximately ten scheduled meetings and trainings

The program includes a two-day training in Carson City in August and a one-day training in Las Vegas, as well as half-day meetings and training sessions during each school year. These trainings prepare Youth Legislators for: connecting with constituents; dealing with media inquiries; honing their listening, presentation, and negotiation skills; and developing a bill to be considered by the Nevada Legislature during the upcoming session. Most meetings/trainings are held in the afternoon during the week and may require missing afternoon classes or school activities.

Individual Assignments:

Five assignments during the two-year term

Youth Legislators must:

- Create a written plan for organizing and activating a District Youth Advisory Council (DYAC) and town hall meeting;
- Establish a DYAC made up of students from high schools in their Senatorial District and hold at least one meeting to gain insight into issues important to youth in his or her district;
- Conduct at least one town hall meeting to gain insight into issues important to youth;
- Testify before at least one local governing body; and
- Develop a concept for legislation that affects Nevada youth. The NYL will develop a list of all 21 Youth Legislators' concepts and vote to accept one. The chosen measure will be introduced as the NYL's bill in the upcoming legislative session.

Attendance/Assignment Requirements:

Youth Legislators must attend all mandatory meetings, activities, or event days, unless excused. Youth Legislators with two unexcused absences (as calculated below) must be released from the program as required by *Nevada Revised Statutes* 219A.150.

- Missed assignment = ½ absence
- Missed meeting or training day = 1 absence



History of the Nevada Youth Legislature

The NYL was created in 2007 by Senate Bill 247. The program was established to give students a voice in State government and allow them to influence issues that are important to Nevada youth. The NYL Foundation was created in 2011 by S.B. 237 in order to oversee the policies, practices, and finances of the NYL.

The NYL has presented several bills to the Nevada Legislature. Below are brief descriptions of two of these bills, submitted by the NYL, which were passed by the Legislature:

1. Senate Bill 464 (2015): Revises provisions relating to possession of an alcoholic beverage by persons less than 21 years of age.
2. Senate Bill 14 (2011): Requires the State Board of Education to develop a model curriculum for English language arts and mathematics.