DISTRICT 217

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions for Toastmasters Volunteers

Share your skills. Build confidence. Help young people find their voice.

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH LEADERSHIP ROLES

Host Organization: A club, school, community organization, or church with a youth program interested in offering YLP to its young members or students.

YLP Coordinator: A Toastmaster who leads the 8- to 10-week Youth Leadership Program. Coordinators must have completed at least six speeches in the Toastmasters Pathways education program.

Assistant Coordinator: A Toastmaster who learns about YLP by helping the Coordinator. Assistants may attend some or all sessions.

Co-Coordinators: Two Toastmasters who share responsibility for planning and leading a YLP course. Only one may receive credit toward the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award for that program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do I need to be an experienced Toastmaster?

To coordinate, you must have completed at least six Pathways speeches and be familiar with Toastmasters meeting roles. Teaching experience is not required. Patience, enthusiasm, and encouragement matter.

2. Do I have to find my own host organization?

No. You may identify a school, youth club, church, or community organization yourself. District 217 may also have interested organizations seeking volunteers.

3. How much time will I need to commit?

The program generally runs 8–10 weeks, with weekly sessions of approximately one to two hours. Coordinators also prepare and communicate with the host organization. Assistants may attend selected sessions.

4. Will I receive orientation and materials?

Yes. District 217 provides an orientation. Toastmasters International offers a Coordinator's Guide and Participant Workbooks with a structured curriculum and activities.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | CONTINUED

5. Do I have to lead the program alone?

No. Two Toastmasters may serve as Co-Coordinators, or a Coordinator may work with one or more Assistant Coordinators.

6. Can I volunteer without committing to the entire program?

Yes. Assistant Coordinators can help with individual sessions, support participants, and learn the program without taking responsibility for the entire course.

7. What if I've never worked with young people before?

That's okay. YLP emphasizes learning by doing. Participants practice speaking, listening, evaluating, and leading meetings. Your role is to guide and encourage rather than lecture.

8. What are the requirements for working with minors?

Volunteers must comply with applicable laws and the host organization's youth protection and supervision policies. The District YLP Coordinator can help clarify expectations.

9. Does coordinating a YLP count toward my DTM?

Coordinating a YLP may fulfill a qualifying leadership project requirement for the Distinguished Toastmaster award, subject to applicable requirements. When there are Co-Coordinators, only one may receive DTM credit for the program.

10. How do I get started?

Contact the District 217 Youth Leadership Program Coordinator about opportunities, orientation, host organizations, and next steps.

YLP VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM

https://forms.gle/QWFsnwEMytVDtKdn9

Help the next generation find its voice.

You already know the difference Toastmasters can make. Imagine helping a young person discover that same confidence.