

## **YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SKATEBOARDING (YES) PROGRAM FAQ**

### ***Is this a paid position?***

- The YES program is NOT a paid position. If you are 15 years of age or older, you may be invited to apply for paid roles, depending on your performance as a YES member & with consent from your guardian.

### ***I am a cisgender boy. Can I join the YES program?***

- Yes, our YES program is open to all genders. However, please note that at Skate Like a Girl, we prioritize staff & volunteers who match the identity of the demographic we are serving. For example, we would try to not schedule cisgender boys to work during our WT sessions or our Girls &/or Trans summer camp weeks.

### ***I'm wondering what the degree of commitment will be like?***

- The YES program commitment includes attending workshops/training and supporting at programs/events, for a total of 50 volunteer hours combined. There may be additional free social events and educational gatherings for YES members, but these will not count towards the total hours volunteered, nor will they be required.

### ***How much of the in-person attendance to events/workshops is required?***

- Some YES training/workshops are virtual, however all program/event volunteer hours will be in person. Anticipate volunteering at least 40 hours in person at programs or events and roughly 10 hours in combined virtual and in person training, for a total of 50 required volunteer hours.

### ***What do the weekly requirements look like and is there flexibility if something comes up (ex. Midterms week or otherwise busy week, taking a mental health day, prioritizing school work)?***

- The YES program volunteering runs during the summer, roughly June through August and is mostly supporting our Summer Day Camps for full or half days. We respect all cohort member's mental health and other commitments. If time off is needed, we ask for at least 2 weeks notice when possible.

### ***Do I need to formally show a reason for calling out?***

- YES members will not be asked to formally show a reason for not attending a program they initially signed up for (ex: Doctor's note), but we ask that folks give 2 weeks notice when possible.

### ***If I'm a few weeks in and the YES program does not feel like a good fit for me, (ie: it's not working with my schedule, it's affecting my mental health negatively, or I have had a family emergency) what does it look like to pull out of the YES program?***

- Any YES member can drop out of the program at any time, however, the drop out will be considered final and they will not be allowed to rejoin the same cohort, join our end of service skate trip, or obtain letters of recommendation. We will encourage folks to join at a later cohort if they so desire.

### ***What are the next steps after I turn in my application?***

- After you apply, our YESTeam will review your application. After review, you may be offered an interview. If accepted into the program, you are required to attend the orientation and mandatory training/workshops. Then you will fill out a Volunteer Sign Up Form and begin volunteering at programs. If you complete all 50 hours required, you will be invited on the end of summer YES trip!

### ***How many people are in a cohort?***

- 10-20 depending on your chapter city.

***Is this the same position that my child did last summer? Are there also paid camp counselor positions that are an option for them this year?***

- The YES program was revitalized in 2023 and is a cohort-based program specifically for teens to complete community service hours, make friends, & support them in becoming young, professional, working adults through training, workshops, teambuilding, and real life work experience. In the case that your child has already participated in the YES program but is interested in attaining a paid camp counselor position, we also hire summer staff, most of whom were former volunteers. If your child is at least 15 years old, they could join us for the YES program and also apply to be a staff member.

***Do you have a rough idea of a YES member's schedule? My child is definitely interested but is not sure if it'll work with their schedule.***

- The goal of the program is to have our YES members supporting with at least 40 hours of programming & 10 hours of training/workshops. Some programs/events/workshops your child could sign up for include (but are not limited to):
  - Summer camps: Monday-Friday from 8:30am-12:30pm (half day) or 12pm-4pm (full day)
  - WT sessions (if YES member is also Women and/or Trans identifying): 1 evening/week 6-8
  - One off weekend events (tabling, youth clinics, etc): Sat OR Sun 3-5 hrs
  - Professional skill development workshops: Weeknight evenings OR weekend mornings, 1-2 hrs

***Does it cost money to participate?***

- No, the YES program including all workshops and the end of service skate trip, are completely free!

***As a YES member, how do I reach out to Skate Like a Girl Staff or volunteers? & what if they are not responsive?***

- Once you have joined the YES program, you will be added to Slack, our communication platform. All communication should take place through Slack with the exception of emergency OR day of communications. In which case you will call or text them from their phone number listed on their Slack profile.
- If you have contacted someone through Slack and they are not immediately responsive, they are likely busy with other tasks and if it is not an emergency, we ask that you wait 24 hours before reaching out again.

***What if I don't complete the 50 hours in time?***

- Unfortunately we will not be able to invite you to attend our end of service trip.

***When do I work?***

- You will be scheduled for programs based on the Volunteer Sign Up form you will fill out, which will be sent out through google calendar invitations. Please accept calendar invitations so we know we can count on you to show up!

***What if I can't make a program I signed up for?***

- If you can not make a program you signed up for due to illness, contact your YES coordinator and your program lead via slack to notify them. If you cannot make a program due to schedule conflicts, we ask for at least 2 weeks notice.

***Should I find a sub for days when I can't work a scheduled shift?***

- While this is helpful and appreciated by your team, it is not necessary to find a sub for your volunteer shift.

***What if I'm a parent and I would like to volunteer?***

- You are more than welcome to learn more about [Adult Volunteer opportunities](#) & fill out our [Volunteer Application](#) on our website!