



Youth Leadership Jacksonville Application

Currently Selecting Class of 2025 for Participation
in the 2024-2025 Program Year

Apply as a Freshman, if selected, participate as a Sophomore

Please Read This Overview in its Entirety Before Applying

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

YLJ is an experience that is challenging, eye-opening, and enriching. Students are selected from high schools in Baker, Clay, Duval, and St. Johns counties to participate in activities and presentations designed to help them understand the issues facing our community, our successes at addressing issues, and opportunities for involvement in all aspects of the community. The program addresses the critical skills needed to be a community leader.

TIME COMMITMENT:

ATTENDANCE AT ORIENTATION, BOTH RETREATS, PROGRAM DAYS, AND GRADUATION IS EXPECTED.

- YLJ 2025 Orientation will be held **Monday, April 29, 2024** from 5:30 - 7:30 pm and is **MANDATORY** for selected students and at least one of their parents or guardians.
- An Opening Retreat will be held on **Friday, August 23, 2024 and Saturday, August 24, 2024** and attendance both days is **MANDATORY**.
- Program Days for YLJ 2025 will be on the following Thursdays:
September 12, 2024; October 10, 2024; November 7, 2024; December 5, 2024; January 16, 2025; and February 13, 2025.
- The Closing Retreat/Graduation will be on **Saturday, March 8, 2025.**
Parents will need to provide transportation to the designated drop-off point for all retreats and program days and pick up at the end of the program day. Drop-off is generally between 7:30 am and 7:45 am. Program Days end at 3:30 pm and pick-up is also at 3:30 pm. The location of each Program Day may vary, however, drop-off and pick-up will be at the same location.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Attend a participating high school in Baker, Clay, Duval or St. Johns counties.
- Demonstrate proven leadership in school and/or community activities.
- Have an interest in addressing the issues confronting our community.
- Commit to 100% attendance at the Orientation, Opening Retreat, Six Program Days and Closing Retreat. Program Days are from 7:45 am - 3:30 pm.
- Academically committed with a "B" average or higher.

APPLICANT CHECKLIST:

- ✓ Complete the application form, and make sure to save your document. Either e-mail your completed application to your school's Youth Leadership Jacksonville School Liaison or print and deliver it to your school's Youth Leadership Jacksonville School Liaison.
- ✓ Return your completed application packet to your school's Youth Leadership Jacksonville School Liaison by **the deadline your school has established**. Your school will select applications to forward to the Leadership Jacksonville Office for participation in the Selection Process.
- ✓ Parents and Applicants are encouraged to visit the Leadership Jacksonville website at www.leadershipjax.org to learn more.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- Be thorough in your answers.
- Please spell out names of organizations (ex. National Honor Society instead of NHS).
- You (the student) must fill out the application – not a parent, teacher, sibling or friend.
- All answers to application questions should be on the forms provided online - additional pages will not be accepted.
- Make sure to add your e-mail address on the application. Check your email regularly for updates and next steps.

SELECTION PROCESS:

- All applicants will be interviewed by three to five members of the Selection Team via Zoom in February or March 2024.
- Emails will be sent to all applicants to notify them of their interview date and time.
- Members of the same family (including siblings and cousins) will not be selected for participation in the same program year.
- The Selection Team and the Leadership Jacksonville Board of Directors will select more than 50 students to participate in YLJ 2025 during the 2024-2025 school year. All Applicants will receive letters notifying them of the Selection Team's decision by April 25, 2024.

PROGRAM FEE AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SELECTED STUDENTS:

Cost per selected participant is \$250. This fee will be due at the Orientation for the selected students. Scholarships will be provided for those with financial need.

There are no fees due with the application.

Questions? Contact Meg Folds, Programs Director, Leadership Jacksonville at meg@leadershipjax.org or (904) 396-6263 x3

Please complete all questions. Limit your responses to the space provided. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Student Personal Information

Name (First): _____ (Last): _____ Current Grade: _____

Name you prefer to be called: _____ High School: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ Gender: _____ Race: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Student E-mail Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Information: First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Recognitions:

List awards, honors, or recognitions for academic, school, or community-related activities you have received in the last TWO years.

Organizations and Activities:

List activities and/or organizations you have participated in during the last TWO years. (limit 250 characters)

List your academic areas of interest.

Volunteer Experience:

List any volunteer experience and/or paid work, and briefly tell what it involved.

General Information:

What do you like the most about yourself? What are your best qualities?

Other than a parent, name someone in your life who has taught you about leadership. Why did you select this person? What did they teach you?

Why do you want to participate in Youth Leadership Jacksonville?

Why are you a strong candidate for Youth Leadership Jacksonville?

Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

Personal Statement: If you could make one positive change to improve the quality of life in your community, what would it be and why? How would you personally make a difference? Answer in the space provided. (limit 700 characters)