

# WHAT IF YOUNG PEOPLE RAN THE GOVERNMENT?



## AT YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT, THEY DO.



**JOIN** MORE THAN 1,300 YOUNG LEADERS FROM AROUND THE STATE  
TO DEBATE THE ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU.

**LEGISLATURE:** Serve as a State Senator or Representative and write bills on issues of your choosing, debate them in committee hearings and on the floor, and vote to pass them.

**COURTS:** Attorneys research cases and present arguments in a mock trial or appeals case. Judges preside over trials and decide important legal questions.

**LOBBYING:** Advocate for legislation on behalf of special interest groups.

**MEDIA:** Uphold the right of the people to a free press by writing articles, producing broadcasts, and curating digital media content.

**NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM:** Research, present, and debate a policy solution to a current national or international issue of your choosing.

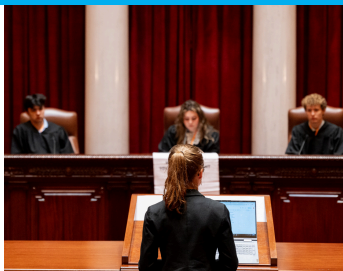
**LEADERSHIP CORPS (8th grade):** Explore all YIG program areas by creating bills, arguing court cases, and writing media articles.

[YOUTHVOICE@YMCANORTH.ORG](mailto:YOUTHVOICE@YMCANORTH.ORG)

[YMCAYOUTHVOICE.ORG](http://YMCAYOUTHVOICE.ORG)

# WHAT IS YIG?

Youth in Government (YIG) is a hands-on civic learning program where students in grades 8-12 become legislators, lawyers, judges, lobbyists, journalists, or cabinet members and spend four days running a state model government. Young people in YIG aren't spectators; they elect their own leaders, debate their own ideas, and support policies and laws that highlight their values.



## WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM?

**JOIN OR FORM A DELEGATION:** Connect with students and staff at your school or community organization to join or form a YIG delegation.

**LAUNCH:** Attend a pre-conference training event with your delegation in the fall.

**PRE-CONFERENCE PREP:** Meet regularly with your YIG delegation to learn about state government, practice skills, select a program area, and prepare for the conference.

**CONFERENCE:** Join secondary students from across Minnesota and spend four days in January at the Minnesota State Capitol strengthening your critical thinking and public speaking skills. Spend three nights at the Minneapolis Hilton and enjoy supervised meals in the skyways and evening activities including trivia, bingo, crafts, karaoke, and a talent show.

## CONNECT WITH US FOR MORE INFORMATION:



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