

# NATIONAL APPLICATION



**July 16<sup>th</sup> - July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

## **Instructions**

- 1) Carefully read the information and instructions printed in this packet.
- 2) All attachments should be included in ONE email with your application. (Letters of Recommendation, essay, etc.) You may include all the information as one PDF document or as multiple files, but please only send ONE email. Use “**Last Name, First Name - YES 2024**” as the subject line of your application email.
- 3) Include your full name on the upper left-hand corner of all pages, including attachments.
- 4) Make sure all portions of the application are completed. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 5) Return this application as soon as possible via EMAIL, no later than Friday, March 1st, 2024.

**Email Applications to: [YES@NRAHQ.org](mailto:YES@NRAHQ.org)**

Questions? Contact Riley Hoaglin, Y.E.S. Coordinator at 703-267-1363 or [YES@nrahq.org](mailto:YES@nrahq.org)

# About the National Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.)

Each summer, up to 40 high school students from around the country, come together for a week of hands-on learning experiences and networking in our Nation's Capital through the NRA's Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) program.

The mission of Y.E.S. is to give students an opportunity to expand their knowledge of our American government, Bill of Rights, and the U.S. Constitution; encourage them to become active participants in the uniquely American democratic process; and give them the tools and confidence to return to their communities as articulate, committed leaders on behalf of the Second Amendment.

The week wraps up with a celebratory banquet where up to \$40,000 worth of scholarships are awarded to those outstanding students who embody leadership as both individuals and as a collective. Students with an interest in becoming NRA Ambassadors for a year can start NRA programs in their communities, then submit an additional application for the Grand Scholarship.

Entry into the Y.E.S. program requires submission of a completed application form, high school transcript, a three-page essay on the Second Amendment, a one-page personal statement, and three letters of recommendation. These students are the best and brightest among their high school peers, actively engaging in academic, leadership, and community service.

Since its inception in 1996, more than 1,200 students have graduated from Y.E.S and over \$700,000 in scholarships have been awarded.





If you are from Idaho, your state has a State Youth Education Summit that you must attend first. Please visit [yes.nra.org/state-summits/](http://yes.nra.org/state-summits/) for more information.

## PART I: Applicant Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name/Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number 1: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Work  Cell

Telephone Number 2: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Work  Cell

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian with whom you reside: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs or Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Y.E.S. week can be exhausting (typical days are from 6:00 am - 11:00 pm) and includes a lot of walking. Summer months in D.C. are hot and humid, and many Y.E.S. activities take place outdoors. Participants are required to take part in all Y.E.S. activities.**

## PART II: School Information

Applicant must currently be enrolled in an accredited or equivalent high school and must currently be a sophomore or junior (no exceptions) with a minimum 3.0 on a 4.0 GPA scale. **If your school does not use a 4.0 grading scale, please calculate and convert your GPA to the equivalent on a 4.0 scale.**

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

School Counselor or Teacher who will act as a reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade:  Sophomore  Junior

Cumulative Grade Point Average (**unweighted**): \_\_\_\_\_

## PART III: Extracurricular, Volunteer and Shooting Sports Activities

Please list your extracurricular, community, shooting sports activities and other relevant hobbies in chronological order. Include school and community clubs and associations, leadership positions held, awards received, etc. Also include the number of years you've been involved in the organization and your current and past roles. Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.

## **PART IV: Essay**

Attach to this application an **original** double spaced, typed, two to three page essay on **ONE** of the following topics. Correct spelling and grammar are expected. **Research and credit to appropriate sources and/or bibliography must be included.**

**The Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights states: “A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”**

**Choose ONE of the following topics for your essay:**

- 1) Does the Second Amendment still hold the same meaning today as it did to our forefathers? Is it still relevant to present day American society? Why or why not?
- 2) Where do you stand on the issue of gun control? Does the government have the right to step in and disarm the American people, even though the right to bear arms is one of the main principles this country was built on?
- 3) What are the pros and cons of gun control? Discuss each side thoroughly.

**Note: “Extra credit” will not be given to those applicants who turn in more than one essay.**

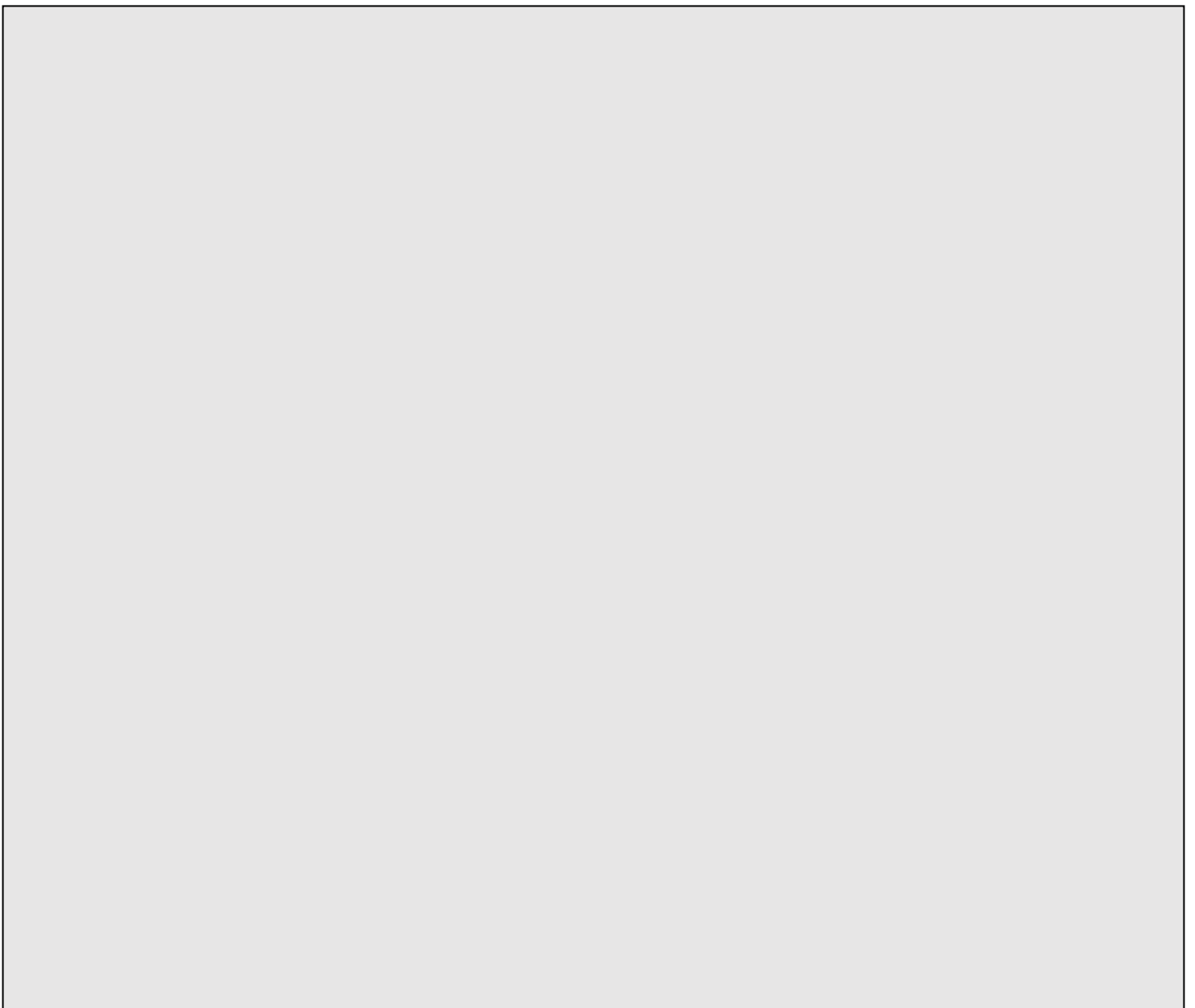
**Definition of a polished essay:** A polished essay includes clear and concise sentence structure and vocabulary, unique ideas and points, and excellent grammar and spelling. This type of essay also includes points that are supported up by quotes and evidence, with proper citations; it includes smooth transitions and an introduction that is direct and to-the-point, while lacking subjective adjectives, and wordiness.

## **PART V: Personal Statement**

Explain why you are a good candidate for this year's Y.E.S. Please state why you should be selected, why you are passionate about participating, and what you want to get out of from this program. Simply restating your activities and leadership roles will be not be accepted as a personal statement.

**Option 1:** Type a personal statement explaining why you are a good candidate for this year's Y.E.S. The statement should be between one paragraph and one page in length. Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.

**Option 2:** Produce a PowerPoint or video, two to five minutes in length explaining why you are a good candidate for this year's Y.E.S. You may include photos, video, or any other multimedia in your statement. Please submit PowerPoint with your submission email. You may send a Dropbox or other cloud link if necessary. Save and send all files as "Last Name, First Name - YES 2024".



## PART VI: Transcripts

Attach official copies of transcripts. If you are home schooled, send notification of evaluation provided by the Board of Education, grades from an independent third-party source such as a licensed teacher, or grades from the student's family. For all transcripts and evaluations, send your last two academic school years (one if you're a sophomore) along with any grades from the present year. If possible, please keep official transcripts with application in your submission email. **Do not send separately unless required by school.** If your school must send separately, please have them send the file name "Last Name, First Name - YES 2024".

## PART VII: Recommendations

Please attach three letters of recommendation from any of the following: teacher, school administrator, clergy, employer, business owner, Scout or other youth group leader, community leader, politician, or outstanding member of the community. Recommendations by family members are prohibited. Please ask them to read the attached recommendation form before writing the letter. **Please send recommendations with application in one email.**

## PART VIII: Signature

All applicants **must** sign and date the following to be considered.

**I hereby certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge and the essay is an original work written by me. I understand that knowingly fabricating any information on this application may make me ineligible to participate in the Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) program.**

**I understand that information provided on this application may be verified by the National Rifle Association of America and I authorize and request every person, firm, corporation, association, and/or agency having control of any documents, records, writings, or other information pertaining to me furnished to the NRA any and all such information the NRA believes will relate to my qualifications and/or fitness to participate in the Y.E.S. program, and to permit the NRA and any of its agents or representatives to inspect, copy, or otherwise record such information.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Before emailing, please be sure that you can answer Y.E.S. to the following questions:**

- I have completed the Personal Information section.
- I have completed the School Information section.
- I have completed the Extracurricular Activities section.
- I have completed an essay on one of the three listed topics in the Essay section, with proper citations.
- I have completed my Personal Statement.
- I have attached the required official transcripts/notification of evaluation.
- I have attached the three required letters of recommendation.
- I have included my name on the upper left corner of all application pages.
- I can email all of these in ONE email to YES@NRAHQ.org

# Youth Education Summit

## Recommendation Form

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking the time to complete a recommendation for the Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) applicant. Letters of recommendation are an integral part of the Y.E.S. application. Therefore, your most earnest and observational thoughts on the student's qualifications are of great importance.

We have asked that the prospective Y.E.S. student give you as much time as needed to write a letter that thoroughly examines and highlights the applicant's strengths and weaknesses. Please note that students will not be judged on weaknesses - per se; our purpose for the letters of recommendation is to give us insight and perspective on the applicant's judgment, dependability, interpersonal skills, attitude, and initiative. We hope to gain a clearer picture of the applicant with this portion of the application, in addition to his or her GPA and essays.

Please attach one letter of recommendation (1-2 pages) citing your understanding of the individual's qualifications for Y.E.S. Specific examples of behavior and acts of ambition are beneficial to the applicant. My contact information is listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Riley Hoaglin  
Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator  
Y.E.S. Coordinator  
[YES@NRAHQ.org](mailto:YES@NRAHQ.org)  
703-267-1363

### Letter of Recommendation: Contact Information

Please fill this section out with your contact information if it is not already notated in your letter of recommendation. This information is kept confidential. It will not be entered into a database or sold to third-party vendors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



# Youth Education Summit

## Recommendation Form

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking the time to complete a recommendation for the Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) applicant. Letters of recommendation are an integral part of the Y.E.S. application. Therefore, your most earnest and observational thoughts on the student's qualifications are of great importance.

We have asked that the prospective Y.E.S. student give you as much time as needed to write a letter that thoroughly examines and highlights the applicant's strengths and weaknesses. Please note that students will not be judged on weaknesses - per se; our purpose for the letters of recommendation is to give us insight and perspective on the applicant's judgment, dependability, interpersonal skills, attitude, and initiative. We hope to gain a clearer picture of the applicant with this portion of the application, in addition to his or her GPA and essays.

Please attach one letter of recommendation (1-2 pages) citing your understanding of the individual's qualifications for Y.E.S. Specific examples of behavior and acts of ambition are beneficial to the applicant. My contact information is listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Riley Hoaglin  
Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator  
Y.E.S. Coordinator  
[YES@NRAHQ.org](mailto:YES@NRAHQ.org)  
703-267-1363

### Letter of Recommendation: Contact Information

Please fill this section out with your contact information if it is not already notated in your letter of recommendation. This information is kept confidential. It will not be entered into a database or sold to third-party vendors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Youth Education Summit

## Recommendation Form

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking the time to complete a recommendation for the Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) applicant. Letters of recommendation are an integral part of the Y.E.S. application. Therefore, your most earnest and observational thoughts on the student's qualifications are of great importance.

We have asked that the prospective Y.E.S. student give you as much time as needed to write a letter that thoroughly examines and highlights the applicant's strengths and weaknesses. Please note that students will not be judged on weaknesses - per se; our purpose for the letters of recommendation is to give us insight and perspective on the applicant's judgment, dependability, interpersonal skills, attitude, and initiative. We hope to gain a clearer picture of the applicant with this portion of the application, in addition to his or her GPA and essays.

Please attach one letter of recommendation (1-2 pages) citing your understanding of the individual's qualifications for Y.E.S. Specific examples of behavior and acts of ambition are beneficial to the applicant. My contact information is listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Riley Hoaglin  
Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator  
Y.E.S. Coordinator  
[YES@NRAHQ.org](mailto:YES@NRAHQ.org)  
703-267-1363

### Letter of Recommendation: Contact Information

Please fill this section out with your contact information if it is not already notated in your letter of recommendation. This information is kept confidential. It will not be entered into a database or sold to third-party vendors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Grading Criteria**

- 1) Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale. This helps to show students are dedicated, and have a good work ethic.
- 2) Extracurricular Activities. These show a student's leadership ability and experience, the ability to plan and balance time, varied interests, and determine if a student is active in their community.
- 3) Second Amendment Essay. The essay displays a student's research and writing abilities. Strong arguments, academic research, and correct grammar and citations are expected.
- 4) Personal Statement. The personal statement should give a glimpse into a student's personality and their desire to come to Y.E.S. that cannot be garnered from the other parts of the application. Students should also share what it is that they hope to gain from this experience, and how it could impact them and/or others.
- 5) References. The reference from those that know a student allow for the application committee to see a different perspective on the student, and to hear about how a student interacts with others.