



The 40th Annual National Conservative Student Conference

July 30 to August 4, 2018
Washington, D.C.

FAQs

When should I arrive?

You should arrive at the JW Marriott (1331 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004) between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 30. The conference starts at 6:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the hotel. Parking is not provided so if you plan to drive please plan accordingly. While parking is available from the hotel (\$60 per night) you can find more affordable options in the local area. You will receive more detailed arrival information when the conference gets closer.

What time does the conference end?

Checking out of the conference will occur **Saturday morning, August 4 at 11:00 a.m.** Students should plan to stay until 11:00 a.m. Saturday.

What is included with my fee?

Almost everything is included in your registration cost, such as your food (three meals per day), housing (5 nights in the hotel), tuition, materials, and other related costs. While books are sometimes provided, most are sold at the conference, so you will need extra money if you plan to purchase the speakers' books to have signed. Leave extra room in your suitcase, as we often give out SWAG!

Is travel assistance available for students?

Yes—travel assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with demonstrable financial need. While travel assistance is never guaranteed, Young America's Foundation will gladly consider all **completed** requests.

If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to travel@yaf.org that includes:

- Language regarding your financial need
- What you hope to gain by attending the conference

- Your travel plans
- The expected amount of your travel plans and the amount you are requesting. (For example, Expected travel costs from SBA to IAD is \$500. I am requesting \$200 in assistance.)

Please note that travel assistance is not guaranteed, and is allocated on a case-by-case basis. Incomplete essays will not be considered. Travel assistance essays are due no later than July 1, but are issued on a first come first served basis. If you are not dependent on full financial assistance, we recommend purchasing your ticket as soon as possible to lock in the lowest fare.

Are tuition scholarships available for students?

Yes—tuition assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with demonstrable financial need. If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to Jolie Ballantyne at jballantyne@yaf.org with some language regarding your financial need. We cannot consider your request until we receive this essay.

What is the dress for the program?

During the day, you are required to wear business casual and have the option to wear business formal clothing. During the dinner banquets each evening, you are required to wear business professional attire. You may wish to bring casual clothing for your free time. During the opening dinner barbeque, we ask that you wear SWAG (T-Shirt or sweatshirt) representing your school.

How much extra money should I bring?

This depends on what you do, because some students go out every night while others prefer not to. We advise that you bring some spending money for books that can be signed by the speakers. You will also need about \$50 for transportation to and from the airport if you fly. Bring extra money if you anticipate going out frequently.

To which airport do I fly?

You should fly to Washington – Reagan National Airport (DCA) because it is closest to the conference site, but you can also arrive at Washington – Dulles International Airport (IAD) or Baltimore Washington International airport (BWI) which are further from the conference site. Taxis are expensive from both airports, so you may wish to use public transportation.

How will I get to and from the airport and the conference?

We do not provide students with transportation to and from the airport for this conference, but it is simple to arrive at the hotel via Metro. You can also schedule a Super Shuttle van ride. More information and directions will be sent to you when the conference approaches.

What if I take the bus or the train?

Students can arrive at Union Station in Washington, D.C. and take the Metro to the JW Marriott

What are the activities during the conference?

During the day, you will listen to exciting conservative speakers and participate in question and answer sessions. Each evening will feature a dinner banquet with a special guest speaker and time for questions and answers. On occasion, you will even have an opportunity to meet and have your picture taken with our speakers!

Will I have free time during the conference?

You will not have much free time in Washington since we provide you with a comprehensive program. You are free in the evenings after dinner (at about 10:00 p.m.) and many students go out and enjoy the town at that time each night. If you wish to have more free time in Washington, you need to come early or stay late. Young America's Foundation is not able to make these arrangements for you.

Can I stay in the hotel extra nights before or after the conference?

Yes. Feel free to call the hotel to make these arrangements, or you contact Jolie Ballantyne for more information. Young America's Foundation is only responsible for your accommodations during the specified times (Monday-Friday nights). You may want to arrange for extra time in Washington before or after the conference on your own.

What are the living arrangements?

Students will have one or more roommates of the same sex for the week at the hotel. The registration form allows you to request roommates, and we will do our best to accommodate those requests.

How many students are expected for the conference?

More than 300 full-time students are expected to attend the conference from all over the country, and hundreds of Washington-area interns will also join us for dinner each night.

Is there a registration deadline?

Yes, the last day to apply is July 20. Also, the price increases from \$100 to \$195 on May 31, so we encourage you to apply early.

Can I sponsor a student to attend this program?

Yes! Your generous tax-deductible gift of \$2,000 will allow Young America's Foundation to host a student at this program who could not otherwise attend. You can designate a specific student you know to attend, or sponsor a student who is receiving free tuition as a result of financial need. For more information about these and other sponsorship opportunities, please contact Young America's Foundation Development Officer Haley Jones at hjones@yaf.org or call 800-USA-1776.

What if I have other questions?

You will receive information via email when the conference gets closer about what is on the agenda, and how to arrive at the conference site. Also feel free to contact Jolie at (800) USA-1776 or via email at jballantyne@yaf.org with any other questions you have.

What are the terms and conditions for this event?

Terms and Conditions:

- a) I understand that I am applying for a limited amount of space at this conference and that my application is subject to confirmation. I will be notified within two weeks of submitting my application whether I have been accepted to the conference. In the event I have not been accepted, my charge will be refunded immediately.
- b) I must attend all sessions of the National Conservative Student Conference. If I do not attend all functions, I will be charged the full cost of the conference and/or event(s), including the hotel, food, and conference costs, which total \$2,000 per attendee.
- c) Except in case of emergency, I must notify Young America's Foundation by July 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. EST of my inability to attend or I will be charged the supplemental fee of \$2,000 since it is too late to give my spot to another student.
- d) I understand that the conference fee is not refundable if I cancel my participation after July 1, 2017, unless I send another student to take my place.
- e) I understand I will be assigned roommates for the conference. I may request preferred roommates of the same sex, but there is a chance I may not be able to room with them.
- f) I agree to abide by all rules and instructions of Young America's Foundation and The JW Marriott, and to obey all laws. I agree to notify Young America's Foundation's staff immediately if a problem arises during the conference.
- g) Young America's Foundation uses real photos, videos, and quotes from our students for promotional purposes and to advance our mission. By attending this program, I consent to the use of my photo, written evaluation statements, and video in any Young America's Foundation materials.
- h) I understand that my email address will be added to the YAF email list for notification of future events.