



# High School Conference at the Reagan Ranch Santa Barbara, California October 20 to 23, 2021 FAQ's

## **When should I arrive?**

You should arrive during the afternoon on Wednesday and check in at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort (633 E. Cabrillo Blvd., Santa Barbara, California 93103). Conference registration begins at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m. This is where you will receive your hotel assignment, and room keys will be available at the hotel at 4:00 p.m. Shuttle vans will be available from Santa Barbara airport, escorted by a member of our staff (see below).

## **What time does the conference end?**

The conference ends Saturday at 5:00 p.m., and students should depart from the Reagan Ranch Center (217 State St., Santa Barbara, California 93101). We recommend flights depart on Saturday night after 6:30 p.m. Shuttles to the airport will operate starting at about 5:30 p.m. that day. **FULL TIME attendance is required.** Flights requiring a departure prior to 5:00 p.m. are not allowed.

If the *only* returning flight would leave your student in an airport overnight for a layover, we are able to provide accommodations Saturday night and get them to the airport Sunday.

## **Is tuition assistance available?**

Tuition assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with financial need. If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to Madison Habersetzer at [madisonh@reaganranch.org](mailto:madisonh@reaganranch.org) with some language regarding your financial need and what you hope to gain by attending the conference. We cannot consider your request until we receive this essay.

## **Is travel assistance available?**

While travel assistance is never guaranteed, Young America's Foundation will gladly consider all completed requests.

Travel assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with financial need. If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to [travel@yaf.org](mailto: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 IAD to SBA \$500. I am requesting \$200 in assistance.)
- The subject line for this email should read "October High School Conference – Travel Assistance Request"

Please register for the program before submitting your travel assistance essay, and we will not consider your request until we receive this completed essay. Travel assistance essays are due three weeks prior to the event.

### **Can I sponsor a student to attend this program?**

Yes! Your generous tax-deductible gift of \$2,500 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 Katie Cupp at [katiec@reaganranch.org](mailto:katiec@reaganranch.org) or call 805-957-1980.

### **How do I cancel my attendance?**

If you can no longer attend for any reason, please email [madisonh@reaganranch.org](mailto:madisonh@reaganranch.org) with your *name* and indicate for which *conference* you need to cancel. If you cancel prior to September 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. PST, you will receive a full refund. Please check your card statement to verify your refund was processed.

If, after canceling, you continue to receive correspondence about this conference, please forward your original email to both [madisonh@reaganranch.org](mailto:madisonh@reaganranch.org) and [bmarsh@yaf.org](mailto:bmarsh@yaf.org).

### **To which airport do I fly?**

You should fly to Santa Barbara Airport (SBA), if possible, or you can arrive at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and take a 2-hour bus ride to Santa Barbara through the Santa Barbara Airbus (Please visit [www.sbairbus.com](http://www.sbairbus.com) for more

information). Another option is to fly to Burbank airport and take the Amtrak train to Santa Barbara, but this option will add several hours to your trip.

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

Students will be picked up by a Young America's Foundation staff member (with a sign) just outside the baggage claim area on the curb at Santa Barbara Airport and will be taken in a shuttle bus to the Reagan Ranch Center. The specific times of these shuttles will be determined once students submit their travel information forms and sent to the students a day or two before the conference, but they will run on Wednesday afternoon and Saturday evening. You may have to wait in the airport for the next shuttle to arrive. We will not be able to accommodate you if you arrive or depart outside the conference schedule times.

### **Can I take the bus?**

Yes, Greyhound has buses to downtown Santa Barbara, but they are not within walking distance of the Reagan Ranch Center or the hotels. You can take a taxi or Uber to the Reagan Ranch Center from the bus stop. Please visit [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com) for more information on this option.

### **Can I take the train?**

Yes, Amtrak runs trains through Santa Barbara on its Pacific Surfliner route, which spans from San Diego to San Luis Obispo. The train station is located right in front of the Reagan Ranch Center and is a short walk to the hotels. Please visit [www.amtrakcalifornia.com](http://www.amtrakcalifornia.com) for more information on this option.

### **Will there be supervision during the weekend?**

Yes, students will be supervised by several staff members who will be chaperones and stay in the same hotels for the whole event. Students are expected to behave appropriately or will have to leave the conference at their parents' expense. Parents need to sign the waiver form and responsibility pledge that will be sent to students prior to the event.

Even if a student is 18, they are still expected to abide by all rules and curfew.

### **Will students have free time during the conference?**

No, because the event is only four days long, there is minimal free time. If you wish to tour Santa Barbara, please make your own plans to arrive on Tuesday night or stay through Saturday night and Sunday. Young America's Foundation only covers your hotel room on Wednesday through Friday nights, and you will check out on Saturday morning before the sessions. A luggage storage room will be provided.

### **Are parents and family members invited to attend the program?**

Parents and grandparents are invited to the opening dinner banquet on Wednesday, at the Reagan Ranch Center and to tour the Reagan Ranch. Further details will be emailed to students and parents in the weeks preceding the conference.

### **What does the conference fee include?**

The conference fee includes three nights at a Santa Barbara hotel, conference tuition, materials, and meals from Wednesday dinner through Saturday lunch.

### **What is the dress code for this conference?**

Dress for the dinner banquets will be business professional. This means a suit for the gentlemen and a suit or dress for the ladies. **Jeans, shorts, and t-shirts are not acceptable attire.**

Dress for Thursday's sessions and the trip up to the Ranch is casual, but respectful. Please pack layered clothes and bring a jacket as weather can be unpredictable on the mountain. **Jeans are acceptable as long as there are no holes or tears.** Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes

Dress for Friday and Saturday sessions is business casual. This means slacks, polo or button-up shirts, sweaters, etc. **Jeans, shorts, and t-shirts are not acceptable attire.**

\*\*\*The Reagan Ranch Center is about a 10-minute walk from the hotels, so ladies who wear high heels may want to consider wearing commuter-friendly shoes for the walks and then slipping into heels upon arriving at the Center.\*\*\*

### **What are the activities during the conference?**

Wednesday night will feature the opening banquet, to which parents and grandparents are invited. Thursday features a trip to and tour of the Reagan Ranch, speakers and question-and-answer sessions, and a dinner in the evening. Friday will feature breakout sessions, more speakers and question-and-answer sessions separated by a luncheon, and an evening dinner banquet. Saturday features more speakers and question-and-answer sessions in the morning and afternoon. Students will receive a detailed agenda via email prior to the conference.

### **What are the living arrangements?**

Students will have one or two roommates of the same sex for Wednesday night through Friday night at the conference hotel. The registration form contains a blank in which you can request a roommate, and we will do our best to accommodate your requests.

**What are the terms and conditions of the conference?**

*A. LIMITED SPACE.* I understand that I am applying for a limited amount of space at this conference and that my application is subject to confirmation. I understand that all applications submitted prior to September 24, 2021 will receive a response on September 24, 2021 regarding acceptance. Applicants that apply after September 24, 2021 will receive notice within 2 weeks of their application submission. In the event I have not been accepted I will be refunded via my original payment method.

*B. FAILURE TO ATTEND.* I recognize that my participation in this conference is made possible through the generous financial support of Young America's Foundation's supporters nationwide. As such I agree to attend all sessions of the High School Conference. I understand that if I fail to attend all sessions of conference, I will be charged, and I agree to pay, the total cost of my attendance for the conference including the hotel, food, and conference costs, which is \$2,500.

*C. PLEDGE NOT TO DISRUPT.* I assert that I am not here under any false pretense. I will not disrupt or undermine the event by my actions.

*D. PROMOTION OF OTHER GROUPS.* I understand that Young America's Foundation has a set procedure in place for outside organizations to attend the event and I am not allowed to promote any other groups or organizations without written permission from Young America's Foundation.

*E. FAILURE TO NOTIFY OF CANCELLATION.* Except in case of emergency, I must notify Young America's Foundation by September 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. PST of my inability to attend or I will be charged the supplemental fee of \$2,500 since it is too late to give my spot to another student.

*F. LATE CANCELLATION.* I understand that the conference fee is not refundable if I cancel my participation after September 24, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. PST.

*G. ROOMMATES.* 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.

*H) HOTEL RULES/REGULATIONS.* I agree to abide by all rules and instructions of Young America's Foundation and to obey all laws. I agree to notify Young America's Foundation's staff immediately if a problem arises during the conference.

*I. WAIVER.* Young America's Foundation uses real photos, videos, and quotes from our students for promotional purposes and to advance its mission. By attending this program, I do hereby grant Young America's Foundation ("the Foundation") permission to use, exploit, adapt, modify, reproduce, distribute, publicly perform and display, in any form now known or later developed, my image or visual likeness, my name and/or my voice ("Personal Information") throughout the world, by

incorporating it or them into publications, catalogues, brochures, books, magazines, photo exhibits, motion picture films, videotapes, websites, and/or other media (“Works”) or commercial, informational, educational, advertising, fundraising, or promotional materials relating thereto. I waive any right to inspect or approve any Works that may be created using the Personal Information and waive any claim with respect to the eventual use to which the personal information may be applied. The Personal Information may be used at the Foundation’s sole discretion. I understand and agree that the Foundation is and shall be the exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest, including copyright, in the Works, and any commercial, informational, educational, advertising, fundraising, or promotional material containing the Personal Information.

*J. ADDED TO EMAIL LIST.* I understand that my email address will be added to the YAF email list for notification of future events.

*K. OPT IN TO TEXTING SERVICE.* By registering, I agree that the phone number I have provided under Cell Phone is my own and that YAF may call and send text messages to this phone number in order to respond to and provide me with information and services related to my request, comments, and questions regarding YAF. Message and data rates may apply. Text Stop to stop.

*L. SOCIAL MEDIA/PRIVATE MESSAGING.* I understand that the words, statements, and images that I post on social media or send through private forms of communication may reflect on YAF and the Conservative Movement as a whole. I understand that during the conference, YAF is monitoring participants social media posts, including but not limited to, posts on Facebook, Twitter, and Group Me. I understand that by posting, or sending, inappropriate words, statements, or images (as determined by YAF), I may be removed from the conference, in which case I forfeit my registration fee and I will be liable to pay the remainder of the \$2,500 program cost.

*M. FAILURE TO ABIDE BY TERMS AND CONDITIONS.* I understand that if I fail to abide by these terms I will forfeit my registration fee and liable to pay the remainder of the \$2,500 program costs.