

Kentucky *Christian Youth in Action*®

2024 General Information and Guidelines



What is CYIA™?

Christian Youth in Action® (CYIA) is a ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship through which Christian teens and young adults learn to effectively share the Gospel message with children through Bible lessons, songs, memory verses, missionary stories and more.

What takes place at training?

CYIA is a seven-day residential training program, not a summer camp. Interactive classes and guided practice sessions are held throughout each day to prepare you for ministry this summer and throughout your life. Corporate worship, Bible study, prayer times and fellowship with other Christians helps you to grow in your personal relationship with God as well.

Who may apply?

Christian teens and young adults who are serious about their relationship with Jesus Christ, have a desire for personal growth, passion for children and willingness to serve are welcome to apply. Following the application, a personal interview will be conducted and references will be checked to determine the applicant's suitability for this program. Please carefully read through the guidelines prior to applying.

How much does CYIA cost?

The cost of training is **\$425**. A minimum of **\$125** is due on or before April 15. If the student is not accepted, the deposit will be refunded. If the student is accepted, this becomes a **non-refundable deposit**, leaving a balance of **\$300** due upon arrival.

Is financial assistance available?

All students are encouraged to raise prayer and financial support for their summer ministry. Your local CEF missionary can provide sample support letters for you to distribute, as well as a prayer card and assistance with fundraising via social media. If you have financial need and have sent out at least 25 support letters no later than May 5th, you may be able to apply for financial assistance. Applications for financial assistance are due by May 20th and are available through your local CEF missionary.

Where and when does training take place?

CYIA training will take place **June 8-15** at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, KY. Move in and campus registration is from 12:45-1:30 p.m. EDT on Saturday, **June 8**. Please plan to arrive and register during that time frame, as we are not able to accommodate early or late arrivals. Classes begin that afternoon. If you are raising support and/or have applied for financial assistance, you will be advised of the balance due after any additional funds have been received. The balance may be paid online via credit card or be submitted at registration (cash or check made payable to "CEF of KY").

What are the pre-training requirements?

Seek prayer partners who will commit to actively intercede for you as you serve the Lord. Prepare your heart and mind for the Lord's service. Learning the memory verses **prior to your arrival at CYIA** will equip you for ministry and prevent you from falling behind. These key verses and principles are continually used during the summer teaching ministry. They may be recited one section at a time to your local CEF® missionary. Viewing of online lesson demonstrations, reading assignments and study questions must also be completed prior to CYIA. Check with your local CEF missionary for the due date. ****If you have difficulty with the online requirements, talk with your CEF director or staff! These are required for admission to the training.***

What is the schedule during training?

CYIA is an intensive missionary training, *not* a camp. The schedule begins with "rise and shine" at 6:30 a.m. Fun-filled class sessions are conducted throughout the day, along with study halls and supervised practice sessions. Attendance and participation in **all** classes and meals is expected. After recreation and dinner, additional classes are held in the evening with dismissal to dorms and lights out by 10:30 p.m. A detailed schedule will be available at registration.

What to know before beginning the application process...

Applications must be submitted by April 15. If you are under 18, your parent/guardian will need to be with you to fill out their section, which includes medical information. The \$125 deposit is due with the application. Plan at least a half an hour to complete the online application.

What should or should not be brought to the training?

These items **should** be brought to training:

- KJV and/or ESV Bible for personal study and teaching (physical copy—apart from cell phone)
- Pencils, pens and paper (a notebook will be provided)
- Sleeping bag or bedding for single bed and your pillow
- Toiletries (towels, wash cloths, toothbrush, soap, etc.)
- Extra money for missions offering
- Required medication
- Alarm Clock (optional, but should be separate from cell phone)
- Umbrella (if desired for walking across campus in the rain)
- Water bottle (for use in classroom)
- Classroom and recreational clothing which meets the dress code
- Dress-up attire (one outfit for commissioning service, e.g. dress shirt/slacks or dresses)

These items are **not** to be brought to training:

- Radio, CD player, any other personal listening devices (i.e.: iPod, MP3 player)
- Laptop computer*, television, tablet* or hand-held games, cell phones*
- Secular magazines
- Weapons or guns of any type
- Food/beverage items (*except in case of dietary restrictions when pre-approved by CYIA Director*)

*NOTE regarding cell phones: Any phones brought to *CYIA* by minors are to be turned in to your dorm leader after arrival for safe keeping during the week. Adult and married students may access personal cell phones and/or computers, but we ask that you strictly limit usage during *CYIA* training. This is a unique environment to concentrate on developing yourself for service to the Lord. Bring items that will help you and leave home those items that may hinder.

How is communication with the students handled (mail and phone calls)?

Because of the short duration of training, e-mail is the best method of communication with students. E-mail communication may be sent to cya@cefkentucky.com, with the student's name in the memo line. Our staff will make every effort to keep up with e-mail sent to this address, subject to the availability of internet access. Minor students will not have access to the internet during training and will not be able to send e-mails. Parents will be given a list of on campus staff phone numbers at registration for emergency contact only.

When will *CYIA* training conclude?

A commissioning service will be held on the last afternoon of training. This marks the end of the formal training school and beginning of summer ministry. (However, supervised field training will continue during summer ministry.) Parents/guardians, pastors and friends are invited to the commissioning service which starts at 3:00 p.m. EDT. An offering will be received to help defray the cost of the training.

What happens after training and commissioning?

Prior to the commissioning service, the students will be packed and ready to leave campus. Some students will be returning home and some will go directly to their first area of ministry. Be sure you have all belongings and teaching materials when leaving campus. It is a real challenge to be teaching in Louisville with your lesson visuals in Campbellsville! Supervised *5-Day Clubs*[®] begin the week following *CYIA*, where practical field training continues. Other ministry opportunities, such as party clubs, fair ministry or open air evangelism may also be available throughout the summer. Your teaching assignments will be coordinated with your family schedule and the local *CEF* ministry. By attending training, you are committing to teach at least two full weeks (or four clubs), minimum. Continuing ministry throughout the school year is encouraged through the *Good News Club*[®] ministry, seasonal party clubs and other events in the local area.

What if I need a summer job?

As part of our missionary training, summer missionaries who are 14 or older and commit to serving at least four weeks following training are eligible to apply for temporary paid employment. See your local *CEF* missionary for more information. If you are accepted as part of this program, part of your responsibility is to help raise money to cover expenses for summer ministry. All gifts must be made payable to *CEF* for the Summer Ministry Fund of the chapter in which you are serving. Gifts are tax-deductible, except when an immediate family member pays for training fees.

What are the standards and guidelines expected during training and ministry with CEF®?

Christian Youth in Action (CYIA) is an intensive training program that requires diligence, dedication and proper conduct. Diligence is to be expected from each participant in order for the instruction to be internalized. As servants of God committed to reaching a lost world for Jesus Christ, summer missionaries must be dedicated to the task of preparing properly to assure quality teaching in the 5-Day Clubs. We seek to develop individuals who will faithfully serve the Lord and be good witnesses for Him. Therefore, we ask that you:

- Be loyal to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Have daily devotions and a desire to share the Gospel with children.
- Prepare your studies well and teach to the best of your ability.
- Abide by these standards and maintain a good testimony on the field and throughout life.

At all times, conduct should be such that would bring honor and glory to the Lord Jesus Christ. Bringing reproach to the name of Christ or failure to adhere to the code of conduct may result in being sent home from the *Christian Youth in Action* training and/or disqualified from summer ministry. It would be impossible to make rules to govern every type of situation. Good behavior must come from the heart, in love and obedience to Jesus Christ and should not be mere conformity to man-made regulations. We do expect the following:

- Respect for the authority of the staff.
- Proper speech, which is pleasing to God. Profanity, ridicule, complaining and lying are not acceptable.
- Students are expected to dress conservatively and abide by the dress code.
- Conduct yourself as a young lady or gentlemen while in training and ministry. You are to be courteous to others and respectful of the facilities.

Friendships with Christians of the opposite sex are beneficial in social, spiritual and leadership development. Therefore, you may talk, walk, sit and dine with members of the opposite sex as well as attend classes and recreation together. However, no dating or “pairing-off” is permitted. If you come with an established relationship, you may spend time together as long as you do not exclude friendships with other students and you stay in public when together.

As summer missionaries, remember that you are serving the LORD, not men. You are responsible for pleasing the Lord in your relationships with your teammates, staff, hosts/hostesses where you teach, children whom you teach, pastors, and the CEF organization. Your appearance, dress, conversation and actions will either help to win people to Christ or turn them off so that God’s message is not effectively communicated. Common sense courtesies that are of tremendous importance include:

1. Punctuality — Ephesians 5:15,16; Colossians 4:5
2. Orderliness — I Corinthians 14:40
3. Cleanliness — Psalm 51:10
4. Dependability — I Corinthians 15:58
5. Loyalty — I Corinthians 3:7
6. Good Attitude — Proverbs 15:13; 17:22.

What is the dress code?

*These standards are to help protect you, your testimony before the Lord and others (both saved and unsaved), and the ministry of CEF from any “appearance of evil” (I Thessalonians 5:22). We recognize that earnest Christians, parents, and church groups have varying opinions regarding acceptable manners of dress and appearance. We purposefully choose to avoid questionable things that might unduly offend other Christians who have different convictions than our own...especially when we are directly involved in Christian ministry. Things that are acceptable in the “world” may cause offense to those around us are not always acceptable to God and the standards HE gave us in HIS Word. **Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.** Please remember that your outward appearance is a reflection of your inward heart and mind. Through your clothing, make-up, and hairstyles you will either draw attention to yourself or will magnify the Lord.*

Adherence to the guidelines for dress during training and ministry is based upon these principles:

1. Your body is the temple of God (I Corinthians 6:19,20).
2. You are to be an example to other believers (1 Timothy 4:12).
3. Modesty is mandatory (I Timothy 2:2-10).
4. Obedience/submission to authority (Romans 13:1).

Please cooperate! Non-compliance may result in dismissal from training and/or disqualification from service.

General Guidelines for CYIA Training and Ministry:

- Clothing should be neat, clean and in good condition without excessive wrinkles.
- Collared shirts or CEF ministry t-shirts are recommended for classes and ministry. Several ministry shirts will be provided for your convenience, but you will need a couple of extra shirts. (Solid colored or patterned t-shirts are acceptable, but it is preferred that you refrain from shirts with words, apart from CEF ministry shirts provided or church shirts.)
- Nice slacks, khakis or neat jeans are appropriate for classes and ministry (including capris for girls). Long “Bermuda style” shorts are also acceptable for classes and ministry (length closer to knee than hip). Leggings should be avoided or covered through the mid-thigh. Pajama pants are not acceptable in the classroom setting.
- A dress-up outfit should be worn for commissioning service. (A dress for ladies and collared shirt and dress slacks for men are recommended. Ties are optional.)
- Clothing should fit properly (not so tight that it is suggestive or so loose that it is revealing or sloppy).
- Undergarments should not be visible—on top or bottom. Bare skin should not be exposed between the shirt and pants when seated or while arms are raised.
- Shoes or sandals must be worn inside all public buildings on campus at all times. Shoes with laces need to be tied.
- Hair should be well-groomed and preferably a natural color (not green, purple, orange, pink, etc.). Hats should not be worn indoors (unless being used in lesson review games for a short period of time).
- Facial or visible body jewelry is discouraged, with the exception of tasteful earrings for girls.*
- It is recommended that any tattoos or body art be covered at all times.*
- After CYIA training is concluded, check with your field supervisor regarding the dress code for the area in which you are teaching.

Special Notes for Ladies:

Skirts or dresses should touch the floor when kneeling. Dress/skirt slits must NOT be more than two inches above the knee. Shirts should not be too loose or low cut as to expose cleavage, even when bending over. Sleeveless shirts should come to the edge of the shoulder.

Special Notes for Men:

Hair should be neatly trimmed, preferably above the eyes, off the ears, and above the collar.* Facial hair is to be shaved or well-kept, so as not to be a distraction. Shirts must be worn at all times outside of the dorm. Muscle shirts are not permitted.

****NOTE:*** *If you have questions or concerns about clothing or the hair/dress code, ask your CEF Director or staff member for clarification before packing for training. If you're in doubt about a certain item of clothing, leave it at home. Do not bring questionable items. If inappropriate clothing is worn, you will be asked to change.*

Thank you for your joyful compliance!