



# Toastmasters YLP Resource

Program Quality Director's Office | District 98

## Introduction

The Youth Leadership Program (YLP) is a specialized initiative by Toastmasters International designed to empower young individuals between the ages of 14 and 16, particularly those from lower economic backgrounds, such as students attending schools run by NGOs. It focuses on cultivating essential communication and leadership skills through practical experience.

Through this program, participants engage in a series of workshops, typically held over eight sessions, where they learn to speak confidently, think critically, and lead effectively. The program is facilitated by experienced Toastmasters and offers a hands-on, interactive learning experience, encouraging young participants to develop and practice their skills in a supportive environment.

Districts do not have any involvement in YLP, and it cannot be held as a District event. Only Clubs can conduct YLP and it is free. Clubs need to sponsor or get a sponsor to help hold the program.

## Key Features of the YLP Program

- 1. Structured Sessions:** The YLP is usually conducted over eight weekly sessions, each lasting 1-2 hours. These sessions are carefully structured to cover various aspects of communication and leadership, including speech delivery, listening, critical thinking, and leadership roles.
- 2. Interactive Learning:** Participants actively engage in the sessions through speeches, evaluations, impromptu speaking, and leadership activities. This interactive approach ensures that learning is practical and enjoyable.
- 3. Leadership Opportunities:** The program allows participants to take on roles like Toastmaster of the Day, Timer, or Evaluator, enhancing their leadership skills. Mentorship: Each participant is guided by an experienced Toastmaster who volunteers as a mentor, providing personalized feedback and support throughout the program. This mentorship is crucial in helping participants build confidence and refine their skills.
- 4. Tailored Curriculum:** The program is flexible, allowing coordinators to adapt the curriculum to meet the specific needs and interests of the participants, making it relevant and engaging.
- 5. Recognition:** Upon completion of the program, participants receive certificates, recognizing their efforts and achievements. This acknowledgment serves as a motivating factor and a testament to their newly acquired skills.

## Benefits for YLP Coordinators

A YLP coordinator is an experienced Toastmaster responsible for organizing and managing the Youth Leadership Program, ensuring that sessions run smoothly and that participants receive effective mentorship. YLP coordinators acquire the following benefits:

1. **Leadership Development:** Coordinators enhance their leadership skills through hands-on experience in project management, team leadership, and event planning.
2. **Mentorship Experience:** Coordinators mentor young individuals, making a positive impact on future leaders, which can be deeply fulfilling.
3. **Networking Opportunities:** Coordinators expand their network by working closely with participants, families, and fellow Toastmasters, fostering new relationships and connections.
4. **Recognition:** Coordinators are recognized for their contributions, both within their Toastmasters club and at the district level, boosting their reputation as leaders and mentors. Only one coordinator per YLP is eligible to receive credit toward completing the Distinguished Toastmaster award.

The YLP by Toastmasters International offers young participants a unique opportunity to develop crucial communication and leadership skills. Coordinating this program not only supports the growth of future leaders but also provides significant personal and professional benefits to the coordinators. Both participants and coordinators gain valuable experience, fostering a community of confident and capable leaders.

For YLP related queries, you can email to [educationprogram@toastmasters.org](mailto:educationprogram@toastmasters.org).

## Important Links Related to YLP

- YLP Workbook  
<https://www.toastmasters.org/shop/805--Youth-Leadership-Workbook>
- YLP Coordinator's Guide  
<https://www.toastmasters.org/shop/802--Youth-Leadership-Coordinators-Guide>