

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

"Democracy Must Be Learned and Practiced By Each Generation."

Purpose

Youth in Government builds an understanding of democratic citizenship by engaging high school students in the role and process of state government.

Student Legislature and Supreme Court

Student legislators write legislation to improve the state. Legislation is considered in Committee and, if passed, the full House or Senate considers it. Legislation passed by the Youth Legislature is sent to the Youth Governor.

The Student Supreme Court is an appeal of a case presented by student attorneys and student justices.

Student Positions

Legislators

- Member of the House
- Member of the Senate

Supreme Court

- Justice
- Chief Justice
- Associate Justice

Legislative Officer

- President of the Senate
- Speaker of the House
- Clerk
- Chaplain
- Governor
- Lt. Governor (Ohio only)

Other Positions

- Lobbyist
- Press
- Page

Student Leadership

Student officers elected at the end of one program provide program leadership all the next year. Officers do the public part of their job at HI-Y Camp at Horseshoe in June, at the November HI-Y Fall Conference, at the Bill/Case Rating Day in February and at the April YG.

HI-Y members and other interested students begin the program year with participation in a summer HI-Y Leadership-Service Summit at the HI-Y Leadership Center's YMCA Camp Horseshoe. Training, goal setting, effective organization, team building, creating a multi-state peer network and practice sessions help everyone learn how to more effectively contribute, participate and lead.

History

Ohio Youth in Government was established in 1952 by the Attorney General C. William O'Neill. Speaker of the House Jon Husted is 2008 Committee Chair. West Virginia Youth in Government first convened in 1958 through the work of Governor Cecil H. Underwood and the late W. T. Brotherton, Jr. W. Richard Staton is the current Committee Chair.