

YSA Youth Venture

Youth Service America – Youth Venture
Partnership Program

Program Overview & Submission Guidelines

A resource to plan and launch a successful Venture and the gateway to become a part of the global network of young people creating and leading positive social change.

Dream it. Do it.



Program Overview

The YSA Youth Venture Program is a partnership program between Youth Service America (YSA) and Youth Venture, Inc.

www.genv.net/en-us/region/ysa

Youth Venture, Inc. is a national non-profit organization that helps teams of young people (ages 12-20) by providing them with all the tools necessary to start their own sustainable clubs, organizations, or businesses that are a lasting benefit to their community.

www.genv.net

Youth Service America is a resource center that partners with thousands of organizations committed to increasing the quality and quantity of volunteer opportunities for young people in America to serve locally, nationally, and globally. Its premier program, Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), is the largest service event in the world.

www.ysa.org

The YSA Youth Venture Program utilizes the Youth Venture model and incorporates resources and materials from Youth Service America to help create an emerging **network of young people leading sustainable community change**. By forming a Venture, you are helping to alter the perception and role of youth in society. This is your opportunity to **take charge** and to show the **power** that your Team, as young people, have to **shape your world**.

Our Action Plan is structured to help you think through your community-benefiting idea and easily form it into a successful Venture, an ongoing, sustainable organization that **positively impacts the community**. Ventures can be school-based clubs, community organizations, or for-profit or nonprofit businesses. YSA Youth Venture is here to offer a range of support and resources —including **up to \$1,000 in start up funds**— to help you launch your idea.

Application Process

Our Action Plan also serves as your Team's application to receive YSA Youth Venture resources and officially receive acceptance into the Youth Venture network. The first step is to complete **one Action Plan as a Team**. Your Action Plan will be scored and reviewed. From there you will have the opportunity to re-submit the Action Plan for a final draft. You will then be invited to present your idea and final plan to a **Selection Panel**, a group of key community members, staff and current YSA Youth Venture Team members who believe in the power of youth and want to help your Team be successful.

Selection Criteria

- Venture Team members are **ages 12-20**.
- Venture is based in the United States or US territory, district or property.
- Venture **benefits the community**.
- Venture is **youth-created and youth-led**.
- Venture is a **new** organization or a new program within an existing organization.
- Venture is ongoing and **sustainable** (**not** a one-time event or project).
- Venture has clear, **attainable goals** and a realistic budget.
- Venture Team is trustworthy and committed to ethical standards.

Submission Guidelines

- Proposals must be submitted using the YSA Youth Venture Action Plan format.
- Only complete Action Plans will be accepted.
- Action Plan must be submitted via email.
- Make a copy for your own records.
- Do not include supplemental information (cover letter, brochures, pictures, etc.) or submit multiple attachments. They will not be reviewed or returned.
- Send Action Plan using your Venture Team name as the file name (*example: Operation Noah.doc or Operation Noah.pdf*)