

Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp



YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

Providing no-cost summer camps
for eligible West Virginia children
at Camp Horseshoe
since 1975



Children thrive in Horseshoe's safe and supportive atmosphere of purpose, positive role models, caring expectations, outdoor exploration, hands-on learning, and character building activities. The residential experience of family and community sets Horseshoe apart as a favorite place for generations of WV youth. It only takes a **week** at Horseshoe to make a world of difference in the life of a child.

Eligibility

Governor's YOC is for WV boys and girls aged 7–12 who meet certain income guidelines, receive cash assistance (TANF/SNAP), SSI, or Protective Services from the WV Department of Human Services.

Cost/Fee

Eligible 7–12 year old children may attend camp at no cost. Others pay \$365 (\$315 if paid by May 15).

Transportation

Horseshoe does not provide transportation. Some local agencies do. Contact Horseshoe for information.

Arrival/Departure

Arrive on Sunday from 2–4 pm.
Leave on Saturday at 9 am.

Insurance

Parents are responsible to have adequate coverage for their child at camp. Attach a copy of insurance card or medical card to the Health History Form.

Health History

Current physical and parent/guardian signed permission must be turned in at or before registration on opening day of camp session.

Applications

Applications are due at Horseshoe at least three weeks before the camp session. Applications are available from Horseshoe, WVDHHR, Community Action and other agencies.



2021 YOC Dates

July 4–10

July 11–17

July 18–24

July 25–31



Register online at:
vla-youthleadership.org

Or
Mail completed application to:

Camp Horseshoe
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
304-478-2481



www.yla-youthleadership.org

304-478-2481

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

Making friends, making memories, making a difference for good.

- Archery
- Basketball
- Bracelet Making
- Swimming
- Snorkeling
- Creek Exploration
- Hiking
- Fishing
- Gaga Ball
- Home-cooked meals
- Arts and Crafts
- Classic Camp Traditions
- Learn New Languages
- Olympics
- Literacy Skills
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Campfires
- Cabin Adventures
- Sports and Physical Fitness
- Field Games
- Carnival
- Waterslide
- Awards Ceremony
- Banquet
- And so much more!



Horseshoe programs are provided without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. YLA partners with the USDA Forest Service and is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

For Stronger Families, Better Communities and a Stronger State!

Youth Opportunity Camp (YOC) is prevention and intervention through direction into positive activities and goals. Horseshoe becomes a home away from home where nutritious, plentiful meals are the norm, healthy routine is part of the program, and every person is accepted and valued. YOC helps boys and girls build confidence, develop self-control, get along with others, and set goals. YOC promotes physical and mental activity, good nutrition, school success, positive choices and healthy living. Campers tell their camp counselors that they feel better equipped to do well in school and to make and keep friends after their time at camp. YOC is an investment to create the future!



The Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association is an equal opportunity provider.



Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp 2021 Camper Application Form



**APPLICATION & HORSESHOE APPROVAL REQUIRED IN ADVANCE.
NO APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED ON OPENING DAY OF ANY CAMP
REGISTER 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE CAMP YOU WANT TO ATTEND.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED UPON RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION.**

Mail the completed application to:
Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
(304) 478-2481

For Children/Youth Eligible through Receiving Cash Assistance (TANF/SNAP), SSI, or Protective Services from West Virginia Department of Human Services or by Meeting the Income Guideline Listed on the Reverse Side

Check choice of camp program, complete the application, show how child meets eligibility, and mail to above address. Use a separate application for each camper.

I. Camp (choose one):

ADVENTURE CAMPS – Ages 7 – 12 ONLY

July 4 - 10

July 11 - 17

July 18 - 24

July 25 - 31

Agency Contact Information:

II. Family Information & Camper Applicant:

1. Name _____ Name on Name Tag _____ Boy Girl
Last First M.I.

2. Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____

3. Applicant's Medicaid Billing No. (if has one) _____

4. Applicant's School in the Fall _____ Grade _____

5. *Case No. (if has one) _____ Food Stamp No. (if has one) _____

6. Parent/Guardian(s) Name _____

7. Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

8. Family E-mail _____ Emergency Contact # _____

9. Mailing Address _____
House # Street City State Zip County

10. Does "Camper Applicant" have any special dietary needs? YES No
If "Yes" please contact Horseshoe for the Special Dietary Form, this must be completed by the child's doctor for us to accommodate the child's dietary needs.

11. Family Members and Others in Your Home (must be listed):

Last Name	First Name	Relation	Date of Birth	Income Source	Monthly Income Before Deductions

12. Total Monthly Gross Income \$ _____

III. Eligibility Category (check each category that qualifies applicant for YOC Camp)

*TANF/SNAP SSI Income Eligible *Protective Services

IV. Eligibility:

Applicant is eligible for camp because of Department of Health & Human Resources Benefit received and checked in Part III...OR...the Applicant's family gross *monthly and gross annual income for the number of persons in the household on Part II answer No. 11 and 12 is at or below the levels on the chart below.

Household Size	Allowable Gross Monthly Income	Yearly Gross Income	Household Size	Allowable Gross Monthly Income	Yearly Gross Income
1 Person	\$1,968	\$ 23,606	5 Persons	\$4,730	\$56,758
2 Persons	2,658	31,894	6 Persons	5,421	65,046
3 Persons	3,349	40,182	7 Persons	6,112	73,334
4 Persons	4,040	48,470	8 Persons	6,802	81,622

Each Additional Household Member, add..... \$691 \$8,288

V. Free/Reduced Priced Meals:

A portion of the camp fee for YOC eligible children is paid by the Department of Education's Summer Food Program. The free/reduced priced meal income guidelines are listed in part IV above.

The National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application.

The information that you send will be used to determine or prove your child's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. It may also be shared for the same purpose with other agencies sponsoring USDA child nutrition programs or with federal and state educational programs as permitted in federal nutrition program regulations.

VI. Permission:

My child named in this application has my permission to attend the Horseshoe Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp on the dates confirmed by Horseshoe. I understand that first aid will be available at the camp; that the camper will be closely supervised and that if a serious illness or injury develops, medical and/or hospital care will be given; however the camp staff are not responsible in case of accidental injury or illness. I further understand that in case of serious injury or illness I will be notified but if it is impossible to contact me, I give permission for emergency treatment or surgery as recommended by attending physicians.

VII. Applicant Statement:

I certify that I have read or had read to me all statements on this form and that the information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that if I deliberately give any false information or withhold any information related to my situation, I am liable for prosecution for fraud. I understand that any information I have given is subject to verification by an authorized representative of the local sponsoring agency and the Department of Health and Human Resources.

I support my son/daughter's application and participation in this program at Horseshoe. I certify that my son/daughter is amenable to discipline and free from habits or attitudes which would make him/her an undesirable camper. I also authorize Horseshoe (Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association) to have and use the name, photographs, slides, digital images, or video tape of the person named on this application as may be needed for its records or public relations programs including its web site and news releases.

<p>_____ Signature of Interviewer</p>	<p>Required:</p> <p>_____ Signature of Parent or Guardian</p> <p>_____ last 4 digits of SSN</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
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In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

Affirmative Action Survey: Funding agencies require periodic report on the sex, ethnicity, and disability status of the applicants. This data is for analysis and affirmation action only. **Submission of this information is voluntary. Check all that apply:**

<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

FOR HORSESHOE USE ONLY:

Approval _____ Disapproval _____ Date _____

Health History Form may be attached to this application or submitted at registration on opening day of the camp. Submission of health history and signed parent's authorization are required for camper to be admitted to the Horseshoe Program.

Horseshoe Leadership Center, a partner with the Monongahela National Forest and the USDA, is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

West Virginia's Youth Opportunity Camps at Camp Horseshoe are life-changing experiences for low income boys and girls.

Abigail Kubasek
Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Kent State University

Miss Kirsten was laid out by a guardian to be trouble with a capital "T". I took this as an invitation to make sure she had one amazing week. Instead of trouble, I found a sweet, misunderstood young lady. She told me that at camp we "handle her better" than school or home. While this simultaneously broke my heart and made me proud, what mattered was not the past. Kirsten deserved to know she was not trouble, but resilient, strong and lovable. As the week progressed, she grew immensely, not only making friends but excelling in activities, especially sports. You could visibly see her smile and her confidence blossom as she learned more about herself than the label others had given her. She left camp a different young lady.

James Sullivan
Columbus, OH
Ohio State University

It is not uncommon to hear at the first meal of camp, dinner, that this was the first time a camper ate all day. Camp provides the basic needs and then expounds upon it to develop values and habits of success. Every day a camper can count on Breakfast at 8am, Lunch at 12:30pm and Dinner at 6pm. We sit together at the dinner table as a family and talk about our day. We listen to each other and want the best for one another. Camp Horseshoe is a place of love.

Nikki Ellis
Logan, WV
Alderson Broaddus University

We get children like Sidney, who at first did not want to come and was so introverted, but once she was here, made new friends and participated in the activities. This camp is very important to children like Sidney because they learn life skills such as communication, citizenship, and community. Camp Horseshoe changes their odds in life and changes their perspectives through love.

Anna Cronin
Shepherdstown, WV
Fairmont State University

As a Spanish instructor, I have had the pleasure of sharing culture and foreign language with children who primarily speak English. Kaileigh was just one of my outstanding students. As a camper she brightened the room with laughter and a helping hand. In addition, she aided her peers in understanding Spanish. During her time at Horseshoe, Kaileigh expressed a strong desire to gather funds to attend two other Horseshoe camps and later become a volunteer. Overall, Kaileigh has become an active member of her community.

Jason Gainer
Bridgeport, WV
Grafton High School

I want to personally thank you for signing the budget bill allowing the Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp to happen. We help so many people with the camp that is provided with the dollars that you and the legislature provide us. I am asking that you will continue this camp for next year, as it helped kids find out that they are important. I always remember the story in the Bible when Jesus tells the children to come. I want the camp to be like Jesus and tell kids to "come".....

For a Better Life

YOC helps low income, disadvantaged boys and girls build self-control, develop confidence, learn to better relate to others, improve social skills, and find hope for a better future. YOC promotes more healthy lifestyles by teaching good personal hygiene, good nutrition habits, physical activity, and school success. YOC works to help children direct their lives to achieving their potential.

Positive Role Models

College age counselors and high school volunteers provide cabin life and program leadership throughout our twenty-four hour a day six-day YOC experience. Children learn from the positive example of our staff. The impact of the staff will influence their attitudes and response to need throughout their life.

New Skills

A full range of activities from the arts and music to sports and recreation, swimming, nature, reading, fishing, hiking, campfires, and more offer opportunities to learn new skills.

Good Nutrition and Nutrition Education

Nutritious meals are an essential element of the Camp Horseshoe experience. There's plenty of delicious home cooking with an emphasis on sharing, conversation, good manners, and a positive atmosphere. Meals are a natural time for nutrition education. Many of our children come to Horseshoe for the food. For some, Horseshoe is the only place they get three meals a day.

West Virginia's Potential

YOC is prevention, intervention, and direction into positive activities, attitudes, and aspirations. YOC shows boys and girls good things they can say "yes" to and supports them in doing "good" with their lives. YOC is an investment in West Virginia's future.



Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp
Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association
Horseshoe Leadership Center
"A Special Place to Grow"



3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons WV 26287 - 304-478-2481
David A. Cooper, Executive Director
Emily Huguenin, Assistant Director

10/30/2020

Hello YOC Partners:

Please find enclosed our 2020 Youth Camp Summary and photos of youth who participated in our summer camp programs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected nearly every aspect of life for Americans. Many youth-serving organizations found it necessary to cancel their summer programming. Since evidence shows that one week at a Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp (YOC) can positively change the trajectory of a child's life, the OH-WV YLA made a commitment to provide in-person programming as safely as possible for children who need camp now more than ever. This year's camps looked different than any other year in 45 years of offering the Governor's Youth Opportunity Camp. Some big changes were reduced capacity, socially distanced activities, and mask wearing. As you can tell from the smiles behind the masks, the children who attended had a wonderful time learning, growing, and making friends. This summer was a reminder to all of us that today's kids need camp more than ever!

We are thankful to our staff, volunteers, families, and partners who helped make the 2020 summer season successful, safe, and effective for the children in attendance. We are confident that the guidelines we have in place will ensure that 2021's summer camps a safe place for even more children to explore, learn, and grow.

Included in this packet is one copy of the brochure and application to register youth, please look over the information and share with your staff and other youth organizations. We will send additional forms and information in early February. Families can begin registering youth as early as February 1, 2021. If additional information is needed earlier than February 1, let us know. We are here to answer any questions you may have, please call or e-mail, we are happy to help.

Camp Horseshoe's Youth Opportunity Camp has camperships for low income 7 – 12 year old West Virginia youth. There are 4 weeks to choose from, an eligible child can attend one week FREE. YOC eligibility is automatic for children receiving TANF, SSI, SNAP, or Protective Services. All others must meet income criteria listed in section IV of the camper application.

Thank you for all you do for the youth of West Virginia.

Sincerely,

Sharon

Sharon Cassidy,
Administrative Coordinator
sharon@yla-youthleadership.org