

Greater New York Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
Adventist Youth Ministries Department



Adventist Youth Leadership Certification

(AYLC)

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

A. OBJECTIVE

Adventist Youth Leadership Certification (AYLC) is designed for youth, young adults, and adults. Its objective is to assist the leader in training, to develop knowledge, personal spiritual discipline, leadership skills, and a practical approach to Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the XXI Century, within and outside the Adventist community in the Greater New York Area.

B. FEES

Each potential graduate must make the following payments prior to examination day:

- Graduation fee \$35
- Uniform: Blue blazer with name embroidered in the inside \$109 (subject to change)

C. Each candidate can only graduate from one (1) GNYC Adventist Youth Ministries course at a time.

II. PRE-REQUISITES

Be at least 16 years of age by graduation.

Be a baptized member of a Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Be a member of the leadership team for at least one of the following:

Adventist Youth Society, Teens Club, Young Adult or Small Group Ministry, Youth Council, Youth Choir, Collegiate Ministry, Youth or Young Adult Elder, Youth or Young Adult Sabbath School, Adventist Youth Emergency Services Corps (AYES), Local Church NSO Representative, Youth Media Ministry or Conference AY Coordinators Advisory, Passion Play.

III. IN-SERVICE TRAINING

A. Serve as a member of at least one of the following ministries in your church or area for a minimum of 8 months, at the time of the graduation.

<input type="checkbox"/> Adventist Youth Society	<input type="checkbox"/> Teens Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Choir Leader
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth or Young Adult Sabbath School	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Church NSO Representative
<input type="checkbox"/> Collegiate Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Council
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth or Young Adult Elder	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult or Teen Small Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference AY Coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/> Adventist Youth Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Adventist Youth Emergency Services Corps	
<input type="checkbox"/> Passion Play	

B. Complete both group projects before graduation:

Organize and execute an AY program (5-7 persons per group). Instructor will assign the church. If the class does not have enough students, they can join another area for this project. *Include a program outline in your binder.*

Lead or assist a team in planning the execution of your Area's Youth Mission Project or Praise and Prayer Experience. If your area is not having one before graduation, you must join another area. *Include event outline and/or flyer in binder.*

C. Within the eight (8) months, prior to graduation, lead or assist a team in the planning and operation of at least four (4) of the following. For advanced credit you must complete the four (4) mentioned above, plus an Advanced Requirement. *Include event program outline and/or flyer where possible.* :

- ___ Youth or Young Adult Week of Prayer
- ___ Youth or Young Adult Week of Evangelism
- ___ Two (2) Youth or Young Adult Sabbath
- ___ A Teen, Young Adult, or Collegiate Weekend Retreat
- ___ A Sports League with evangelistic purpose (*minimum of 8 weeks*)
- ___ Two (2) outreach or witnessing events outside of the walls of the church
- ___ Two (2) local mission projects
- ___ Initiate a Teen, a Young Adult, or a Collegiate Small Group, which meets once a week, for the entire year, till graduation ***Advanced**
- ___ A Domestic or International Mission Trip (*minimum of 7 days; must be with the GNYC Youth Department*) ***Advanced**
- ___ Serve for a Week as a Summer Camp Staff Member at your own cost at Camp Berkshire (*minimum of 3 consecutive days*) ***Advanced**
- ___ Participate in the Passion Play “THE RISEN” in any area (*must be approved by Passion Play director.*) ***Advanced**

D. Within the 8 months, prior to graduation, fulfill the following requirement:

- ___ Visit a church of a different language group in the Greater New York Conference.
- ___ Visit three churches of three different language groups in the Greater New York Conference.
***Advanced**

Include the bulletin of the church(es) visited in your Binder with the speaker or church pastor’s signature. Include a one-page reaction paper for each church attended explaining how the service(s) is/are similar or different than your own church’s service. Do not write what the sermon is about not summarize what happened. Please write about your reaction to the service. Attending Sabbath service is recommended.

IV. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

- ___ Dedication Service
- ___ Conference Adventist Youth Ministries Leadership Congress (*Include ID tag*)
- ___ Spiritual Retreat
- ___ At least 1 Conference Campmeeting (must attend the program in the Youth Tent)
- ___ At least 3 Conference Campmeetings (must attend the program in the Youth Tent)
***Advanced**

Pathfinder and Adventurer camporees are not valid.

Include dedication certificate, congress booklet, signed spiritual retreat booklet and campmeeting bulletin(s) in your binder. The bulletin(s) must be signed by the corresponding instructor at the campmeeting.

- ___ Attendance to 85% of the total 23 hours of classes. You will not get credit for a workshop if you are 15 minutes late.

___ Attendance to 100% of the total 25 hours of classes and a minimum final grade of 85%. You will not get credit for a workshop if you are 15 minutes late. ***Advanced**

V. SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

A. Complete the following Courses. Completed courses must be signed by the instructor:

1. ___ 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
2. ___ Official Seventh-day Adventist Statements on Issues of Relevance
3. ___ Denominational History

B. Complete the following seminar and workshops (1 hour of each). Completed workshops and seminars must be signed by the instructor:

1. ___ Need for Adventist Youth Ministries
2. ___ Leadership Styles
3. ___ Communication Styles
4. ___ Reclaiming Lost Youth & Young Adults
5. ___ Contemporary Issues
6. ___ Youth Evangelism
7. ___ Small Group Ministry
8. ___ Youth and Spirituality
9. ___ Adventist Youth Emergency Services & Disaster Response
10. ___ How to lead an Effective AY Society
11. ___ Teen Ministry
12. ___ Young Adult Ministry
13. ___ Music in the Church/Praise & Worship
14. ___ Spiritual Gifts
15. ___ Adventist Education
16. ___ Child Abuse

C. Complete four seminars or workshops in the following areas. Completed workshops and seminars must be checked and initialed by Adventist Youth Ministries Director. ***Candidates for the Advanced AY Leadership Certification must complete six (6) seminars or workshops** in the following areas (1 hour of each):

1. ___ Public Campus Ministries
2. ___ Using Technology in Youth Ministries
3. ___ Gang Related Issues
4. ___ Recreation, Sports, Outdoor Ministry, Christian Camping
5. ___ Sexuality & Dating
6. ___ Public Speaking
7. ___ Ministry in a Cross Cultural Setting
8. ___ Church Practice & Procedures: How to present Youth Plans to the Church Board?
9. ___ Parent & Teen Relationship
10. ___ Mentoring
11. ___ How to chair a Board, Committee, Taskforce Team
12. ___ Using Drama and Skits in Ministry
13. ___ Public Relations (How to advertise and promote your ministry?)
14. ___ Finances

VI. KNOWLEDGE OF CONFERENCE VARIOUS MINISTRIES FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

A. Explain the function of the following ministries. **DO NOT SUMMARIZE EACH MINISTRY or COPY FROM THE WEBSITE. Please answer these questions in your own words: How do these ministries work in your local Conference Does the ministry exist in your church? If so, how can the Children, Youth, and Young Adults of your local church benefit from them? If not, why and how can the ministry be implemented?** This assignment must be included in your binder. *No more than one 1 paragraph per ministry and no more than three (3) pages for the entire assignment.*

1. ___ Adventist Youth Society
2. ___ Bible Bowl
3. ___ National Service Organization
4. ___ Adventist Youth Emergency Services Corps
5. ___ Collegiate or Public Campuses Ministry
6. ___ Teens Ministry
7. ___ Young Adult Ministry
8. ___ Adventurer Ministry
9. ___ Pathfinder Ministry
10. ___ Master Guide
11. ___ Pathfinder Leadership Award
12. ___ Pathfinder Instructor Award
13. ___ Adventurer Leadership Award
14. ___ Adventurer Instructor Award
15. ___ Camp Ministry
16. ___ Mission Trip Ministry
17. ___ Adventist Youth Media Ministry
18. ___ Adventist Youth Preach Ministry
19. ___ Passion Play Ministry

VII. PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

A. Read the following books of the Bible and enter the date in which you read each chapter in your Bible Daily Reading Record. Also prepare a journal of your favorite chapter in each Bible book you read; your entry does not need to be longer than a paragraph (3-4 lines). Mention **one** (1) chapter and why is it your favorite chapter in the entire book. This assignment is intended to have the candidate read at least one chapter per day, thus creating the habit of reading the Bible daily. **Please do not copy an established Bible Daily Reading Record. Type up your own.** *Include both Bible Reading Record and Journal in the binder. The books must be read before turning in your binder.*

1. ___ Genesis (50 chapters) ***Advanced**
2. ___ I Samuel (31 chapters)
3. ___ II Samuel (24 chapters)
4. ___ Proverbs (31 chapters)
5. ___ Daniel (12 chapters)
6. ___ Gospel of Matthew (28 chapters)
7. ___ Gospel of Mark (16 chapters) ***Advanced**
8. ___ Gospel of John (21 chapters)
9. ___ Acts (28 chapters)

10. ___ I Timothy (6 chapters)
11. ___ II Timothy (4 chapters)
12. ___ Revelation (21 chapters) *Advanced

B. Read one (1) of the following books written by **Ellen G. White**, and write a two-page reaction paper.

1. ___ *Desire of Ages*, White, E. G.
2. ___ *Evangelism*, White, E. G.
3. ___ *The Great Controversy*, White, E. G.

C. Read one (1) of the following books on **Leadership** and write a two-page reaction paper.

1. ___ *Teamwork 101: What Every Leader Needs to Know*, Maxwell, John C.
2. ___ *People Skills: How to Assert Yourself, Listen to Others, and Resolve Conflicts*, Bolton, Robert
3. ___ *Descending Into Greatness*, Hybels, Bill and Wilkins, Rob

D. Read one (1) of the following **Devotional Books** and write a two-page reaction paper.

1. ___ *Steps to Christ*, White, E.G.
2. ___ *A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders*, McNeal, Reggie
3. ___ *Majesty: Experiencing Authentic Worship*, Kidder, S. Joseph

E. Read one of the following **Youth Ministries Books** and write a two-page reaction paper.

1. ___ *Purpose Driven Youth Ministries*, Fields, Doug
2. ___ *The Seven Cries of Today's Teens*, Smith, Timothy
3. ___ *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church...and Rethinking Faith*, Kinnaman, David

Ellen G White books can be purchased at the Adventist Book Center. The other books can be found on Amazon. Some are available in Kindle edition.

*All reports must be **no more nor less than two full pages each**. The reports should state your personal views/opinions about the book and how you can adapt it to your life and/or ministry. Did you like the book? Why or why not? Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not? Do not summarize the book.*

VIII. Adventist Youth Leadership Certification Final Project or Dissertation.

Submit a project which contains the following:

A. Prepare a written plan for an entire year (January-December) for one of the following three ministries:

1. ___ **Adventist Youth Society** Outline of programming (*4 different orders to use throughout the year*), yearly budget (*1 for the whole year; funds-expenses=net income*), themes and objectives for each youth program of the year (*52 in total*). A calendar that includes Conference events, week of prayer, week of youth evangelism, at least 2 youth Sabbaths & 2 youth baptisms, and 1 outdoor youth evangelistic program. *There should be four SEPARATE documents included in the binder: outlines, budget, weekly programs and a calendar.*

2. ____ **Teen Small Group** A list of leaders who can help you, location to hold it, an outline of the program (*1 per month; 12 in total*), topics for the lesson of each weekly meeting (*52 in total*), and a yearly budget (*1 for the whole year; funds-expenses=net income*). Include appeals to accept Jesus, two baptism dates, and a once a month social activity for your small group.

3. ____ **Young Adult or Collegiate Small Group** A list of leaders who can help you, location to hold it, an outline of the program (*1 per month; 12 in total*), topics for the lesson of each weekly meeting (*52 in total*), and a yearly budget (*1 for the whole year; funds-expenses=net income*). Include appeals to accept Jesus, two baptism dates, and a once a month social activity for your small group.

B. Create and Submit for one of the following:

1. ____ **Write two (2) original programs for the AY Society.** *Please label each program with the title below.*

a. ____ One (1) skit or drama or One (1) educational program for an indoor program

b. ____ One (1) outreach program in the community or One (1) program for young people who have left the church (with a spiritual focus) for an outside of the walls of the church program.

Please include references where possible. Must be originals.

2. ____ **Four (4) different Bible lessons for a Teen Small Group**, on four different topics, which are relevant to teens in the XXI century. Each one must end with an appeal to do something good; at least one must have an appeal to be baptized and follow Jesus for life.

3. ____ **Four (4) different Bible lessons for a Young Adult or Collegiate Small Group**, on four different topics, which are relevant to Young Adults or University students in the XXI century. Each one must end with an appeal to do something good; at least one must have an appeal to be baptized and follow Jesus for life.

C. Create a list of fifteen (15) Teens and/or Young Adults (ages 13-35), in your church and name the ministry, among the various Adventist Youth Ministries in your church, which could be a match for each to serve in.

Please include first and last name. The ministry must be one of the ministries listed in Section III or VI.

D. Identify ten (10) non-Adventist, preferably non-Christians, Teens or Young Adults in your community or the community surrounding your church. What method and which ministry, among the various Adventist Youth Ministries in your church, would you use to share Christ and reach each person for God? *Please include first and last name. The ministry must be one of the ministries listed in Section III or VI. The method should be an action. For example, ministry is AY Society, method is invite them to attend a special youth program.*

E. Help one (1) Teen or Young Adult (ages 13-35) to come to Jesus, through baptism during this year and mentor him or her as they become part of your local Seventh-day Adventist Church. ***Advanced**

Binders: *All written assignments must be part of the binder. Headers and footers are required. Obtain template from your instructor. Please use the following format: double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. DO NOT INCLUDE THIS SYLLABUS IN THE BINDER. Binders must have dividers for each section (provided by the instructor).*

To receive an Advanced Certification, you must have a 100% in attendance and a minimum of 85% on the binder and final exam.

Recommended book: “Youth Ministry Handbook and Leadership Training Manual”
You can download it at <http://gcyouthministries.org>

Recommended websites:

Greater New York Youth Department: www.gnycyouth.com

Atlantic Union Youth Department: www.auyouth.com

North American Division Youth Department: www.adventistyouthministries.org

General Conference Youth Department: www.gcyouthministries.org

Plagiarism policy: Copying any elements of another candidate’s binder or cheating of any kind during the exam is completely unacceptable. Each element of the binder should be expressed in the candidate’s own words. Each candidate must be able to complete the final exam using his/her own efforts in an honest manner. Any plagiarism or cheating may result in the candidate’s ineligibility to graduate.