



Youth Leadership Academy Application 2026 - Assessment Rubric

To be used for long-form responses

Scoring Scale:

- 4 = Excellent / meets all criteria / high degree of effectiveness
- 3 = Good / meets most criteria / considerable effectiveness
- 2 = Satisfactory / meets some criteria / some effectiveness
- 1 = Needs Improvement / meets few criteria / limited effectiveness
- 0 = No response

1. *Why are you interested in applying to the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)? Please write or speak about your interest in global citizenship, sustainable development, or global issues. (max. 150 words) (max 1.5 mins/90 seconds)*

Score	Description
4	Shows a high degree of interest in global citizenship, sustainable development, or global issues and has goals. Connects personal interests and goals to the YLA program.
3	Shows considerable interest in global citizenship, sustainable development, or global issues.
2	Shows some interest in global citizenship, sustainable development, or global issues.
1	Shows limited interest in global citizenship, sustainable development, or global issues.
0	No response.

2. *Please describe your leadership experience or potential. This may include formal roles (e.g., student council, clubs) or informal actions (e.g., community initiatives, mentoring peers). (max. 200 words) (max. 2 mins/120 seconds)*

Score	Description
4	Shows a high degree of leadership experience or potential. Provides excellent supporting examples that demonstrate initiative, collaboration, inclusion, and impact on others or the community.
3	Shows considerable leadership experience or potential. Provides good supporting examples.
2	Shows some leadership experience or potential. Provides satisfactory supporting examples.
1	Shows limited leadership experience or potential. Provides few or no supporting examples.
0	No response.



3. *What are your personal growth areas? How can the YLA contribute to your development as a young leader? (max.150 words) (max. 1.5 minutes/90 seconds)*

Score	Description
4	Shows an excellent understanding of personal growth areas and how the YLA experience can strengthen leadership skills. Shows an excellent understanding of how those leadership skills support future goals.
3	Shows a good understanding of personal growth areas and how the YLA experience can strengthen leadership skills. Shows a good understanding of how those leadership skills support future goals.
2	Shows a satisfactory understanding of personal growth areas and how the YLA experience can strengthen leadership skills. Shows a satisfactory understanding of how those leadership skills support future goals.
1	Shows a limited understanding of personal growth areas and how the YLA experience can strengthen leadership skills. Shows a limited understanding of how those leadership skills support future goals.
0	No response.

4. *What is one global issue you care about? Why do you care about it? (150 words) (max.1.5 minutes/90 seconds)*

Score	Description
4	Identifies specific global issues and provides an excellent explanation for why they matter. Shows a high degree of personal engagement through experiences, values, or actions.
3	Identifies general global issues and provides a good explanation for why they matter. Shows considerable personal engagement through experiences, values, or actions.
2	Identifies general global issues and provides a satisfactory explanation for why they matter. Shows some personal engagement through experiences, values, or actions.
1	Identifies vague global issues and provides a limited explanation for why they matter. Shows limited personal engagement through experiences, values, or actions.
0	No response.

5. *What is one problem or challenge people face in your community? What may be the cause(s)? What are the impacts? (200 words) (max.2 minutes/120 seconds).*

Score	Description
4	Provides an excellent explanation of a community challenge, its possible cause(s), and its impacts.
3	Provides a good explanation of a community challenge, its possible cause(s), and its impacts.
2	Provides a satisfactory explanation of a community challenge, its possible cause(s), and its impacts.
1	Provides a limited explanation of a community challenge, its possible cause(s), and its impacts.
0	No response.



6. *Have you ever designed, implemented, or supported a sustainable action project before? If so, what was the project and what was your role in it? If not, how do you envision yourself taking action in a sustainable way?(max.200 words) (max.2 minutes/120 seconds)*

Score	Description
4	Shares an excellent description of a sustainable past action project <i>or</i> a well-developed, realistic vision for future action. Explains the project or idea's purpose, impact, and the specific role they played or would play. Shows an excellent understanding of sustainability.
3	Shares a good description of a past sustainable action project <i>or</i> a vision for future action. Shows a good understanding of sustainability.
2	Shares a satisfactory description of a past sustainable action project <i>or</i> vision for future action. Shows a satisfactory understanding of sustainability.
1	Shares a limited description of a past sustainable action project <i>or</i> vision for future action. Shows a limited understanding of sustainability.
0	No response.

Clarity of Communication	
Satisfactory	Communicates ideas clearly, using appropriate language and structure. The responses are easy to follow, with minimal confusion or ambiguity.
Unsatisfactory	Communication lacks clarity or appropriate language and structure. The responses are difficult to follow and are presented in a way that causes confusion or ambiguity.