



# Young Nonprofit Fellowship: Syllabus

**APPLY NOW:** <https://forms.gle/AjY5tiYbocPGyHWv9>

**Application Deadline:** Rolling until closed **Mar 29, 2026**

**Program Goal:** To connect high school students with a passion for our community with nonprofits. These students will intern and execute projects while learning life skills they can take with them.

**Who are the *Young Nonprofit Fellows*?:** As a Young Nonprofit Fellow, you will be able to get experience in a professional setting, learn important skills, and explore careers related to the nonprofit sector. This is all while making a meaningful, long-term impact toward a cause you are passionate about. To complete your fellowship, you will plan a large-scale project, known as the Impact Initiative, for your nonprofit to benefit the community, among others. [Youth Ambassadors of Service](#), previously known as General Services Foundation, will be there as a resource to help complete your fellowship project and internship tasks.

## Program Leads:

Position	Name	Email
YNF Program Manager	TBD	<a href="mailto:fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org">fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org</a>
YNF Peer Mentor	TBD	<a href="mailto:fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org">fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org</a>
YNF Peer Mentor	TBD	<a href="mailto:fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org">fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org</a>
YNF Fellowship Assistant	TBD	<a href="mailto:fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org">fellowship@youthambassadorservice.org</a>

**Required Materials:** The only supplies you will need (unless your nonprofit states otherwise) will be your computer, a stable internet connection, and our assigned reading. We will be providing/fundraising for materials for any projects as they come.





**Fellowship Norms:** The Young Nonprofit Fellowship is a year-long fellowship that requires you to put your best effort and passions forward. Remember that through this fellowship, you are supporting a nonprofit, so it is important that you are:

- Willing to work and collaborate with teams and other people
- Punctual and responsible for meetings and assignments provided by the nonprofit
- Take a lead and put effort into your Impact Initiative
- Empathetic, cordial, and understanding to anyone and everyone you meet!
- Be respectful, self-aware, confident
- Are willing to improve and build upon strengths constantly
- And finally, we are committed to being passionate about your projects and working with your nonprofit!

### **Main Categories for Fellowship Completion:**

- **Internship:** Where you will be interning with your host nonprofit. You will be expected to complete day-to-day tasks with them.
- **Impact Initiative:** The project Youth Ambassadors of Service assists you in hosting to benefit your host nonprofit. You utilize your passions to bring this together. We provide seed funding and instruction for you to pull this together. You will also host a coin drive and item drive to learn valuable transferable skills.
- **Article:** Each fellow will have a piece on them in an article. You will be working with our content developer to draft this article on your successes, experiences, and projects.
- **Impact Showcase:** At the end of the program, each intern will present at a showcase to present their work to loved ones, nonprofits, and supporters.
- **Book:** We will be reading and conversing on a book each semester of the fellowship. The Fall semester will be focused on *Atomic Habits* by James Clear and *The Third Door* by Alex Banayan. You will analyze these texts and implement what you learn throughout your fellowship.
- **Participation:** Key piece to all five previous categories. Following our [leadership principles](#) and having a high level of involvement is expected of fellows.
  - This includes but is not limited to: meeting attendance, reading of our required book, weekly assignments, involvement in the five pieces above, and communication with your nonprofit and mentor.
  - Failure to communicate three unexcused in-person event absences means a YNFER cannot graduate as a fellow in our program.
  - **Important Note:** *In the event that a YNFER decides to conclude their fellowship prior to graduation, they forfeit their eligibility to serve as an intern with their designated nonprofit. Should the YNFER express a desire to persist in their collaboration with the nonprofit, their role will be transitioned from 'intern' to 'volunteer' with the nonprofit.*





### Important Application Dates:

- January 31, 2026: High School Full-Year Application & Recommendations Open
- April 27, 2026: High School Full-Year Application & Recommendations Close
- May 2026: Interview Dates
- June 14, 2026: Finalist Day
- June 27, 2026: Notification of Pairing with a Nonprofit
- August 5, 2026: 2-Week Trial for Nonprofits with Their Fellows Ends
- August 24, 2026: Onboarding Orientation Module Due for YNF Participants
- August 23, 2026: Connection Day
- September 8, 2026: Internship Start
- May TBA, 2027: End of Internship & Impact Showcase

### Host Nonprofits (still TBD but examples from last year, below):

- Snow Approach Foundation
- HOPE North Carolina
- Designed for Joy
- Families Together
- Gigi's Playhouse
- Loaves & Fishes
- Seasons Village
- Musical Empowerment
- The Daniels Center
- United Arts Wake County
- Women's Center
- WomenNC
- Givehart (PixelVerse)
- Youth Ambassadors of Service

We expect to have 30-40 roles in the fellowship this coming cycle.

### Late/Missing Assignments:

- **Late Work Policy:** 5 points off every day the assignment is late
- Youth Ambassadors of Service will work with you if you need an extension. *Please provide us a 48-hour advance notice via a private comment on the Google Classroom Assignment.*
  - *For some of the larger assignments, including the impact initiative proposal and final draft of the article, we may not be able to provide extensions.*
  - For smaller assignments, we can provide extensions.
- If a YNFER neglects to communicate about an assignment before its due date and presently has or allows their assignment(s) to remain missing three times, they will be disqualified from being considered a fellow.





- Work with your nonprofit if you are out of town for specific dates or if you will be behind on something. They hold you to a high standard as well.

**Important Policies:**

- **In-Person Event Policy:** Failure to communicate three unexcused in-person event absences 48 hours in advance or by the deadline disqualifies any YNFers from graduating as a fellow in our program. Last-minute communication that you cannot attend an event (if you are not sick or in an emergency) is unexcused.
- **Meeting Policy:** Make sure to inform your peer mentor at least 2 hours in advance if you cannot make a meeting. Failure to communicate beforehand or missing/being late to 3 biweekly meetings will disqualify any YNFers from graduating as a fellow in our program.
- **Performance Review:** In late January and early February, each YNFER's performance throughout the year, both in the fellowship and internship, will be evaluated. Those performing below average will be placed on probation and may not be considered for continued fellowship if their actions are not shown to improve.

To get a better understanding of the week-to-week regarding assignments, please refer below. This is tentative and will change (assignments will be added during the later weeks per your feedback). **These tasks do not include the day-to-day of your internship and Impact Initiative, as that differs per fellow.** All assignments open on Monday at 8 AM and are due Saturday at 11:59 PM. Additionally, Main Meetings are from 2-4 PM at Raleigh Founded - North St. We follow the WCPSS Traditional Calendar and will not have assignments due during Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, Spring Break, and Finals Week.

Quarter	Month	2026-27 Assignment Deadlines/Important Dates
Quarter 1 Item Drive	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ September 8: Myers Briggs &amp; Gallup Personality Test</li> <li>➤ <i>September 8: Start of Internship</i></li> <li>➤ September 15: Researching Your Cause Assignment</li> <li>➤ September 22: Creating Your Item Drive</li> <li>➤ September 15 - 26: Meeting with Intern Director &amp; Peer Mentor</li> <li>➤ September 29: Creating Your Elevator Pitch Assignment</li> <li>➤ September 29: What is a Community Needs Assessment?</li> <li>➤ <b>September TBA: Main Meeting #1</b></li> </ul>



	<p><b>October</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ October 6: Nonprofit Certification Course Assignment</li> <li>➤ October 6: What Are The 5 Streams of Funding</li> <li>➤ <b>October TBA (9am-2pm): Book Harvest Volunteering</b></li> <li>➤ October 13: Professional Email Writing Assignment</li> <li>➤ October 13: How to Budget</li> <li>➤ October 20: Creating a Resume Assignment</li> <li>➤ October 27: Creating a LinkedIn Profile</li> </ul>
<p><b>Quarter 2</b> Coin Drive (Benefiting YAS)</p>	<p><b>November</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ November 3: Creating Strong Graphics</li> <li>➤ November 10: Creating a Cover Letter Assignment</li> <li>➤ November 10: How to Create Policies</li> <li>➤ November 17: Required Reading, Item Drive Check-In, and SMART Goals Check-In</li> <li>➤ November 24: Creating Your Coin Drive</li> <li>➤ <b>November TBA: Main Meeting #2</b></li> <li>➤ <i>November 24-28: Thanksgiving Break</i></li> <li>➤ December 1-12: Check in with the Intern Director</li> </ul>
	<p><b>December</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Make-up: December TBA (5pm - 9pm): For Children Partners Volunteering</b></li> <li>➤ <b>December TBA (3pm - 5:30pm): Dorcas Ministries Volunteering</b></li> <li>➤ December 8: Problem Solving Assignment</li> <li>➤ December 8: What is program evaluation?</li> <li>➤ December 15: Half-Year &amp; A&amp;A Marketing Assignment</li> <li>➤ <i>December 22- 31: Winter Break</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Quarters 3 &amp; 4</b> Impact Initiative</p>	<p><b>January</b></p>	<p><b><i>Some 2026 Assignments are to be determined.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>January: Starting YNFer Mid-Year Performance Reviews</i></li> <li>➤ <i>January 1-4: Winter Break</i></li> <li>➤ January 5: Impact Initiative Pitch</li> <li>➤ <i>January 11-16: Finals Week</i></li> <li>➤ January 19: Seminar Prep &amp; Final Required Reading Assignment</li> <li>➤ <b>January TBA: Main Meeting #3</b></li> </ul>



	<p><b>February</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ February: Ongoing YNFER Mid-Year Performance Reviews</li> <li>➤ February 2: (Assignment Break) Finalize Impact Initiative Idea</li> <li>➤ February 9: Article Brainstorming Exercises</li> <li>➤ February 16: How to Start a Nonprofit Pt. 1 – When to Start a Nonprofit</li> <li>➤ <b>Feb TBA (2pm - 4pm): A Place at the Table Volunteering</b></li> <li>➤ February 23: How to Start a Nonprofit Pt. 2 – Selecting, Evaluating, &amp; Executing Programs</li> </ul>
	<p><b>March</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ March 2: How to Start a Nonprofit Pt. 3 – Five Streams of Funding</li> <li>➤ March 9: How to Start a Nonprofit Pt. 4 – Staff, Board, Policies, &amp; Governance</li> <li>➤ March 16: Understanding Nonprofit Board Governance</li> <li>➤ March 16: Article Brainstorming and Reflection</li> <li>➤ March 23: Article Interview &amp; Revision</li> <li>➤ March 23: Basics of Grant Writing</li> <li>➤ <b>March TBA: Main Meeting #4</b></li> <li>➤ <i>March 28-31: Spring Break</i></li> </ul>
	<p><b>April</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ April 1-6: Spring Break</li> <li>➤ April 6 - April 17: Meeting with Intern Director &amp; Peer Mentor</li> <li>➤ April 13: Think About the Impact Showcase</li> <li>➤ <b>April Volunteering: TBA</b></li> <li>➤ April 20: Article Final Draft Assignment</li> <li>➤ April 27: Journal to Yourself</li> </ul>
	<p><b>May</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ May 1: End of Internship</li> <li>➤ <b>Makeup Volunteering: TBA</b></li> <li>➤ May 18: College/Job Recommendations (Optional)</li> <li>➤ May 18: Reporting Impacts &amp; Feedback</li> <li>➤ <b>May TBA (11 AM - 2 PM): Impact Showcase</b></li> </ul>

