

**2027 Sample Application:
If applying to Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS)**

PAGE 1: Eligibility

PLEASE NOTE: The YYAS application is designed to save as you go, and you do NOT need to complete it all in one sitting. If you scroll down to the bottom of the page and click "Continue" OR if you click on any other application page title (e.g., Eligibility) on the left-hand menu, then it will auto-save your work.

Please review the eligibility criteria for Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) provided below.

Please read this carefully and answer the questions below to verify your eligibility. On the next page, you will be able to indicate the specific session you are applying to.

Questions about Eligibility? Please [contact YYAS](#).

Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS)

In order to apply to YYAS, applicants MUST fulfill ALL of the following requirements:

- **Age:** Be at least 14-18 years old by 15 July 2027
- **English Fluency:** Be able to participate in a rigorous academic curriculum conducted in English
- **Citizenship:** Be a citizen or permanent resident of an African country (or refugee residing in an African country)
- **School Location:** Currently attend school in an African country
- **HAVE** at least one term to one full year of secondary school to complete **after** 31 August 2027
- **NOT** have graduated from secondary school
- **NOT** be a university student
- **NOT** be a YYGS or YYAS alumnus/a (If YYAS alumnus/a, you can apply to YYGS if eligible)

Required Components:

- Activities list
- One 400-word essay and two short answer responses
- Transcript or grade reports for each year of secondary school
- One Recommender (who will complete YYAS Recommendation Form ONLY)
- National Exam scores, if available, should also be submitted

The Early Action deadline for YYAS is 20 October 2026, and the Regular Decision deadline for YYAS is 20 January 2027.

All required components must be submitted by **20 January 2027 at 11:59pm EST**.

Eligibility Verification: YYAS

- ☐ No, I DO NOT meet ALL of the YYAS requirements.
- ☐ Yes, I meet ALL of the YYAS eligibility requirements listed above.

Dual Application to YYAS & Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS)

YYAS applications from students who will be between 16-18 years old by 18 July 2027 have the option to be reviewed and considered for both YYAS and YYGS.

YYAS runs in July or August 2027, and offers both a 9-day residential program (in Rwanda) for 110 students and 6-day online program (virtually via Zoom) for 240 students. YYAS is designed for secondary school students between the ages of 14-18 living on the African continent. YYAS tuition is free (\$0) for all admitted students, though for the residential program most students book their own travel arrangements (with YYAS staff assisting students in connecting to fundraising resources).

YYGS is a two-week program in June and July of 2027, and takes place residentially on Yale's campus in New Haven, Connecticut, USA. YYGS offers need-based [financial aid](#) (up to full tuition coverage) to qualified high-

achieving, low-income (HALI) students between 16-18 years old, and helps those students fundraise where needed as well. YYGS typically offers admission to around 1,950 applicants.

Please review the options below and select whether or not you would like to be considered for both YYAS and YYGS.

- ☐ YES, please consider me for both YYAS and YYGS.*
☐ NO, please consider me for only YYAS.

*** Please note that all dual applicants applying to both YYGS and YYAS will be required to complete the YYGS Financial Aid form within this application. If you have any questions about this, please register to view our free [YYGS Financial Aid webinar](#) and/or [contact YYGS](#).**

PAGE 2: Session Selection

YYAS Session Preferences

YYAS College Prep Workshop (online; 6 days)*:

15 July 2027 (Thursday) - 20 July 2027 (Tuesday)

YYAS Leadership Summit (residential in Rwanda; 9 days):**

7 August 2027 (Saturday) - 15 August 2027 (Sunday)

*** YYAS Workshop (online):** The YYAS Workshop will offer admission to ~240 students, and is open to students across all countries in Africa. To participate, students must be able to access Zoom and Google Classroom on their own mobile phone, tablet, and/or computer with reliable internet for the duration of the program. The program will primarily focus on career exploration, preparing for the university application process, and making the transition from secondary school to university. Given the limited duration of the program, YYAS has strict attendance expectations where students are unable to miss even one day of the program. Students who successfully finish the program will receive a pdf YYAS Certificate of Completion that can be added to college and university applications. **The YYAS Workshop (online) is entirely free of charge.**

**** YYAS Summit (residential in Rwanda):** The YYAS Summit will offer admission to ~110 students, and is open to students across all countries in Africa. Students will reside on a residential school campus in Rwanda for nine (9) days. The program will primarily focus on the same college prep topics as the online workshop in addition to leadership, innovation, design, and 21st century skills. Given the limited duration of the program, YYAS has strict attendance expectations where students are unable to miss even one day of the program. Students who successfully finish the program will receive a pdf YYAS Certificate of Completion that can be added to college and university applications. **The YYAS Summit is tuition-free (\$0) and provides free housing, meals, and all academic curriculum materials.**

TRAVEL: For the YYAS Summit (residential in Rwanda), each student must be able to travel to and from Rwanda, which they will coordinate and pay/fundraise for themselves.

Please [contact YYAS](#) if you have questions regarding assistance in traveling to/from the YYAS Summit and/or regarding connecting to fundraising resources.

After reviewing the information (above), please indicate for which sessions of YYAS you would like to apply (select one):

- ☐ YYAS Workshop Online
☐ YYAS Summit in Rwanda
☐ Both YYAS Workshop Online and YYAS Summit in Rwanda

If you prefer to apply for both, which session is your FIRST CHOICE preference? (select one)

- ☐ YYAS Workshop Online
☐ YYAS Summit in Rwanda

Please explain why you are interested in the YYAS Workshop (online) and how you would be able to access the program, and please provide as much detail as possible.

Please explain why you are interested in the YYAS Summit (residential in Rwanda) and how you would be able to access the program, and please provide as much detail as possible.

Please review the following statements (below).

- I have informed my parent/guardian of the YYAS Session Preferences I indicated on this page
- I have informed a teacher or adviser (an adult) at my school of the YYAS Session Preferences I indicated on this page
- I understand that YYAS does not provide any financial aid nor technology assistance to attend the program

Please type your full name to e-sign (below) to affirm you understand and commit to all statements (above).

For Dual Applicants - YYGS Session Preference

Below are the 2027 YYGS session offerings grouped by the dates when each session runs. You may click on the hyperlinked titles to review session descriptions. Please indicate up to three (3) session topics and three (3) date preferences.

Questions about Session/Date Preference? Please [contact YYGS](#).

Session I: June 20 – July 2, 2027

[Innovations in Science & Technology \(IST I\)](#)

[Politics, Law, & Economics \(PLE I\)](#)

[Solving Global Challenges \(SGC I\)](#)

Session II: July 4 - July 16, 2027

[Innovations in Science & Technology \(IST II\)](#)

[Politics, Law, & Economics \(PLE II\)](#)

[Solving Global Challenges \(SGC II\)](#)

Session III: July 18 - July 30, 2027

[Innovations in Science & Technology \(IST III\)](#)

[Politics, Law, & Economics \(PLE III\)](#)

[Solving Global Challenges \(SGC III\)](#)

Topic Preference

How many session preferences would you like to indicate?

- ☐ 1 - Please consider me for my first choice session ONLY
- ☐ 2 - Please consider me for my first and second choice sessions ONLY
- ☐ 3 - Please consider me for my first, second, and third choice sessions

First Preference

- ☐ Innovations in Science & Technology (IST)
- ☐ Politics, Law, & Economics (PLE)
- ☐ Solving Global Challenges (SGC)

Second Preference

- ☐ Innovations in Science & Technology (IST)
- ☐ Politics, Law, & Economics (PLE)
- ☐ Solving Global Challenges (SGC)
- ☐ I want to be considered for my first choice only.

Third Preference

- ☐ Innovations in Science & Technology (IST)
- ☐ Politics, Law, & Economics (PLE)
- ☐ Solving Global Challenges (SGC)
- ☐ I want to be considered for my first and second choices only.

Please explain why you chose the session(s) above, including your reasoning for how you ranked each session. (100 Words)

SHORT ANSWER: We know students have many options for academic enrichment programs to which to apply. **Please explain why you chose to apply for YYGS specifically AND why you would be a great fit for the program.** What will you contribute to YYGS, and what do you hope to take away from YYGS and bring back to impact your community? (100 Words)

Date Preference

Which dates are you AVAILABLE to attend YYGS? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Session I (June 20 – July 2)
- ☐ Session II (July 4 - July 16)
- ☐ Session III (July 18 – July 30)

Which session dates would be your FIRST CHOICE preference to attend YYGS? Please select only one.

- ☐ Session I (June 20 – July 2)
- ☐ Session II (July 4 - July 16)
- ☐ Session III (July 18 - July 30)

Please explain your responses above, including both your availability across all three session dates as well as your first choice session dates. (100 Words)

PAGE 3: Personal Information

Name

First (Given/Prénom):

Middle (If any):

Last (Surname/Family Name):

Addresses

Please provide both your permanent and mailing address (below). If you are adding an address internationally (outside of the United States), then please choose your country in the dropdown list, and you can leave the postal code blank if needed.

- **Permanent Address:** This is your official home where you and your family live.
- **Mailing Address:** This is where you currently receive letters and packages. It may be where you stay as a boarding or exchange student, or it could be the same as your permanent address.

Please click "Add Address" twice (below) to enter contact information - first to add permanent address, second to add mailing address.

Type

[Add Address](#)

Email Address

Current Email

Telephone Numbers (example +1 123 456 7890)

YYAS needs to have two different phone numbers for you. “Home Phone” should be a phone number for your parent/guardian (ideally a cell phone, but landline is okay), and “Mobile Phone” should be a phone number for you (ideally a cell phone you will have with you during the program).

Please put the current phone number for these (including +country code and spaces), and then it is okay if you need to edit them later regarding SIM card usage or any other updates.

Home Phone

Mobile Phone

Biographical Information

Birthdate

Citizenship Information

Primary Citizenship

Dual Citizenship (if applicable)

OPTIONAL: Please explain further anything else you want the application reviewer to know about your citizenship status noted in responses (above). For example, if you are a permanent resident in any country (e.g., in United States, in Hong Kong), or if you have unique family circumstances/arrangements.



PAGE 4: Family Information

Parent/Guardian 1

Please enter information for the adult who is primarily responsible for your custody and care. This is likely your parent or legal guardian, but may be another adult.

Given that the majority of applicants are typically 16-17 years old (minors), please note that our staff needs you to provide this information for an adult who can be included on most communications to you.

Relationship

☐ Mother

☐ Father

☐ Guardian/Other

Parent/Guardian 1: Name

First (Given)

Middle (if any)

Last (Surname)

Is parent/guardian 1 living?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If “No,” Please Note: Parent/Guardian 1 contact information needs to be for a living adult who current assists (in any way) with your care and can be included in communications to you.

If you have a parent/guardian who is deceased, please enter their information in the Parent/Guardian 2 section below (including if more than one Parent/Guardian is deceased, you can note that in description there).

OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like YYAS to know regarding unique custodial arrangements among one or more of your parent/guardians?

Parent/Guardian 1: Home Address

- ☐ Same as my permanent address
☐ Same as my mailing address
☐ Add a new address

Parent/Guardian 1: Contact Information

Email*

***NOTE: Please provide the best email address for YYAS/YYAS staff to use to send important materials that will need to be completed by your parent/guardian.**

Primary Phone Number

Primary Phone Type

- ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work

Add alternative phone number?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Education Level

- ☐ Graduate/Professional Degree
☐ Bachelor Degree
☐ Some College/University
☐ High School Graduate
☐ Some High School or Less

Is parent/guardian 1 employed?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If "Yes," please describe the nature of parent/guardian 1's employment and any/all ways they earn an income, in your own words in as much detail as possible, including job title(s) and organization(s)/company(ies) where relevant. For example, "works full-time as a biology teacher at Fairview Middle School during the academic year, in the summer works part-time at a restaurant and sells vegetables from garden at a weekly farmer's market."

If "No," please explain the situation in detail, and whether or not parent/guardian 1 currently earns any kind of income/wages. For example, "previously worked as a software engineer at Microsoft, was recently laid off, and currently collects unemployment benefits from government" or "chose to resign 5 years ago from working as a teller at a local Chase Bank in order to be a stay-at-home parent/guardian and provide childcare."

OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like us to know about parent/guardian 1? If needed, you can provide any information that was not covered in the previous questions.

Parent/Guardian 2

If you only have knowledge of one parent/guardian, please select 'No Parent/Guardian 2'. Otherwise, please complete this section.

Relationship

- ☐ Mother
- ☐ Father
- ☐ Guardian/Other
- ☐ No Parent/Guardian 2

Parent/Guardian 2: Name

First (Given)

Middle (if any)

Last (Surname)

Is parent/guardian 2 living?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like YYAS to know regarding unique custodial arrangements among one or more of your parent/guardians?

Parent/Guardian 2: Home Address

- ☐ Same as my permanent address
- ☐ Same as my mailing address
- ☐ Add a new address

Parent/Guardian 2: Contact Information

Email

Primary Phone Number

Primary Phone Type

- ☐ Cell
- ☐ Home
- ☐ Work

Add alternative phone number?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Education Level

- ☐ Graduate/Professional Degree
- ☐ Bachelor Degree
- ☐ Some College/University
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some High School or Less

Is parent/guardian 2 employed?

- ☐ Yes*
- ☐ No

If "Yes," please describe the nature of parent/guardian 2's employment and any/all ways they earn an income, in your own words in as much detail as possible, including job title(s) and organization(s)/company(ies) where relevant. For example, "works full-time as a biology teacher at Fairview Middle School during the academic year, in the summer works part-time at a restaurant and sells vegetables from garden at a weekly farmer's market."

If "No," please explain the situation in detail, and whether or not parent/guardian 2 currently earns any kind of income/wages. For example, "previously worked as a software engineer at Microsoft, was recently laid off, and currently collects unemployment benefits from government" or "chose to resign 5 years ago from working as a teller at a local Chase Bank in order to be a stay-at-home parent/guardian and provide childcare."

OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like us to know about parent/guardian 2? If needed, you can provide any information that was not covered in the previous questions.

PAGE 5: Household Information

General Information

Whom do you live with permanently?

- ☐ Parent/Guardian 1
☐ Parent/Guardian 2
☐ Parent/Guardian 1 and 2
☐ Other

Total number of adults age 19 or older currently living in your home?

Total number of children (including you) age 18 or younger currently living in your home?

Please use this space to describe the total number of people currently living in your home (if you feel this could use further explanation).

Do you have any siblings?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, how many siblings?

- ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 or More

Sibling Information (will be asked for each sibling)

Name:

Relationship

- ☐ Brother ☐ Sister ☐ Half-brother ☐ Half-sister ☐ Step-brother ☐ Step-sister

Age:

Education level

- ☐ Graduate/Professional Degree
☐ Bachelor Degree
☐ Some College/University

- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some High School or Less

Is this sibling a YYAS or YYAS alumnus/a?

- ☐ Yes, they are a YYAS alumnus/a
- ☐ Yes, they are a YYAS alumnus/a
- ☐ Yes, they are an alumna/us of both YYAS and YYAS
- ☐ Yes, but I can't remember which program they did
- ☐ No, they never participated in YYAS or YYAS
- ☐ I don't know

Additional Household Members

Any additional relatives/members in your household?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If “Yes,” please list additional members (Name, Relationship, Age)

Other Household Information (Optional)

OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like us to know about the members of your household? If needed, you can provide any information that was not covered in the previous questions.

PAGE 6: Education Instructions

On the next page, you **MUST** take these actions:

How to Add Transcript(s): Enter contact information for at least one “School Official” who YYAS staff will contact in order to have them send us your Official Transcript.

What is an Official Transcript, and what information does YYAS need?

An Official Transcript is a document(s) provided by your school that includes a list of courses and grades received from U.S. Grade 9 (or equivalent) to present. YYAS requires* that any Official Transcript(s) provided must:

- **Previous Courses:** Include all courses taken and grades received from U.S. Grade 9 (or equivalent) to present. Typically, this will include all courses taken/grades received to date (including while you were ages 14, 15, and/or 16 years old).
- **Current Courses:** Include any courses in which you are currently enrolled.
- **Date Received:** Be submitted by your school official(s) to YYAS by 20 January 2027 at 11:59pm EST. YYAS reviews on a rolling basis, and our Early Action deadline is 20 October 2026.

*If your school is unable to provide any of this information (above), please contact us.

What should I do if I have attended more than one school?

- **If your current school can provide a full transcript** from U.S. Grade 9 to present, then you should only add your current school to the application.
- **If your new school does not have your past records** and you have switched schools since Grade 9 (age 13/14), then please add information for both your previous school(s) AND current school.

Additional Information: Share your current grade level, graduation date, and any awards received. YYAS also offers the option to upload an Unofficial Transcript in this section.

How is an Unofficial Transcript different from an Official Transcript?

- **Unofficial Transcript:** An Unofficial Transcript is provided by the student themselves. In Education Part I, students have the option to upload their own transcript each time they add a school (this is not required).
- **Official Transcript:** See "What is an Official Transcript?" definition (in the Part I section above). An Official Transcript is provided by a School Official.
- **School Official:** A "School Official" is any adult (typically 25 years of age or older) who works at your school (typically a teacher, guidance counselor, principal, registrar, or other administrator). in Education Part I, you must provide contact information (including an email address) for at least one such School Official. YYAS then emails the School Official a unique link to securely upload your Official Transcript directly to your application.
- **YYAS can only accept Official Transcripts via uploads to the unique link emailed to a School Official;** we do not accept mailed transcripts nor any transcripts via Parchment**.

****For schools that use Parchment,** students and/or School Officials typically have the transcript sent to themselves, and then they upload it themselves via the unique links provided by YYAS.

Please [contact YYAS](#) if you have additional questions about grade level, graduation date or awards.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Below please find a few key reminders about submitting transcripts.

- **Transcripts can be received AFTER your application is submitted** (our software automatically attaches them to your file). You do not need to wait for your transcript in order to submit your portion of your application.
- **To be eligible to be reviewed, an application must have an Official Transcript or Unofficial Transcript submitted.**
- **Common Example:** While the application software requires you to provide contact information for a School Official in Education Part I, if that School Official does not ultimately end up submitting your Official Transcript, then in order for your application to be reviewed, you would need to submit an Unofficial Transcript (either in Education Part I prior to application submission, or via your Applicant Status portal after application submission).

PAGE 7: Education Part I – Transcript and Additional Information

On this page, be sure to carefully read the instructions below and then complete each section. If you have any questions or need any further information, please review the instructions on the previous "**Education Instructions**" page and/or contact us.

IMPORTANT Step-By-Step Instructions: How to (1) add Institutions/Schools and (2) add contact information for a School Official(s) to submit an Official Transcript.

Step 1: Add High School/Secondary School Information

- Click the "Add School" link to enter your school information. If your school does not appear in the drop-down list, please enter the information manually and click save.
- Please only include the schools you attended for U.S. grades 9, 10, and 11 (or the international equivalent). You may enter up to four (4) schools.

- If you need assistance calculating your grade point average (GPA) on an unweighted 4.0 scale, you can use online tools to assist, such as this [GPA calculator by country](#)
- You also have the option to upload an unofficial copy of your transcripts for each school.

Step 2: Add school official

- After submitting your school information, click the “Add School Official” link to provide contact information for school administrators, principals, or guidance counselors who will submit your official transcript online.

Step 3: Send official transcript request

- When you click “Send to School Official,” the person you selected will receive an email with instructions on how to submit your official transcript online to YYAS.

Step 4: Confirmation

- Please verify with your school official that they have received our email and successfully submitted your transcript.
- You will receive a confirmation email once YYAS has received your transcript from your school official.
- If you listed more than one school, please speak with all school officials regarding the status of your respective transcripts.

Questions about Education? Please [contact YYAS](#).

Coursework & Transcripts

Institution	Dates Attended
Add Institution	

School Official	School	Status
You must add your institution before you may add your school official.		

PAGE 8: Education Part II

School Information

Please provide information (below) for the following school:

[School Name Automatically Imported From Previous Page]

Where is your school located?

- ☐ Rural (FAR from a city)
- ☐ Suburban (NEAR a city)
- ☐ Urban (IN a city)
- ☐ Other

Please select the answer that best describes your school?

- ☐ Public/Government
- ☐ Private
- ☐ Mission/Religious
- ☐ Other

How do you attend this school?

- ☐ Boarder (e.g., I live at the school in dorm-style housing)
- ☐ Exchange (e.g., I live with a host family, commute to and from school)
- ☐ Day Student (e.g., I live with my family, commute to and from school)

Grade Level & Graduation Date

What GRADE LEVEL will you be on the following date: 20 January 2027?

- ☐ Sophomore (U.S. grade 10 or equivalent)
- ☐ Junior (U.S. grade 11 or equivalent)
- ☐ Senior (U.S. grade 12 or equivalent)

What month and year will you GRADUATE high school/secondary school?

Please explain further anything else you want the application reviewer to know about your age, current grade level, and/or graduation date. If you attend school internationally (outside of the United States), it is helpful to note any specific details related to your country's education system and your current status within it.

Awards (Optional)

OPTIONAL: List a maximum of five (5) previous awards, honors, scholarships, fellowships, and/or recognitions along with the date(s) they were received. In the description of each award, if possible, please note the level of recognition achieved, such as school-level (e.g., Dean's List) or national-level (e.g., National Science Fair in your country).

If you would like to skip this question and enter zero (0) awards, then please leave the questions here blank.

***Please Note:** If you choose to list awards, for each one you will be asked to note the year and month you received the award, the name of the award, and a short description (140 characters).

PAGE 7: English Fluency Test Scores (Optional)

Instructions: Submitting English Fluency Test scores is not a requirement to apply. This portion of the application is **optional**.

If you choose to submit your English Fluency Test scores, you must upload a copy of your score results and report your score information below. YYAS accepts the [Cambridge English Language Assessment](#) (Cambridge English), [Duolingo English Test](#) (Duolingo), [International English Language Testing System](#) (IELTS), [Pearson Test of English Academic](#) (PTE Academic), and/or [Test of English as a Foreign Language](#) (TOEFL).

Applicants who do not attend an English-medium school (a school that teaches all of its core subjects in English) are encouraged to submit these scores if they are available; however, this is not a requirement.

If you choose to submit your English Fluency Test scores, then you may submit as many test scores as you like.

Questions about English Fluency Tests. Please [contact YYAS](#).

Date	Type
Add Test	

Acceptable formats are .pdf, .doc, and .docx. If you would like to submit multiple score reports, please combine them into a single .pdf file or word document and upload the file.

PLEASE NOTE: YYAS will only accept Cambridge English, Duolingo, IELTS, PTE Academic, and/or TOEFL scores, and any/all other score reports submitted will be deleted.

PAGE 8: Recommendations

General instructions: YYAS asks for ONLY one (1) recommendation, and will not accept any additional recommendations. Students enter contact information for a Recommender (below), and then YYAS sends the Recommender a unique link to complete our Recommendation Form. Once completed and submitted, our application software attaches the Recommendation to the student's application file. All Recommenders must follow this process to use the form, as **YYAS does not accept Recommendation Letters that are mailed or emailed in.**

We encourage students to connect with teachers, guidance counselors, coaches, adult club leaders (e.g., youth group leader, choir director, math club supervisor), employers, and/or school officials to provide their recommendations. **The longer the recommender has known you, the better their recommendation will be.**

Please click "Add Recommender" below. Your recommender will receive an email containing a link to complete a standardized recommender form. The recommendation **MUST** be submitted by your recommender to ensure confidentiality and authenticity. **You may not submit your own recommendation.**

You should follow up with your recommender and kindly remind them of your request as the deadline approaches. Please have your recommender check their spam folder if they cannot find the email. You will receive an email confirmation after your recommendation has been submitted.

Our Early Action deadline is 20 October, and the final deadline to submit is **20 January 2027 at 11:59 PM EST.**

Recommendations from parents/guardians, siblings, relatives, family friends, and/or paid

private tutors/counselors will NOT be accepted.

Questions about recommendations? Please [contact YYGS](#).

Name	Status
Add Recommender	

PAGE 9: Activities List

To help us better understand your life outside of the classroom, please start by listing one experience that is most meaningful to you. This can be an **extracurricular activity, community involvement, family responsibility, or other pursuit**.

Activity 1

Type

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Academic | ☐ Debate/Speech | ☐ Religious |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Environmental | ☐ School Spirit |
| ☐ Athletics | ☐ Family Responsibilities | ☐ Science/Math |
| ☐ Cadet Corps/Junior R.O.T.C. | ☐ Foreign Language/
Foreign Exchange | ☐ Student Government/Politics |
| ☐ Community Service/
Volunteer Work | ☐ Internship/Career-Oriented | ☐ Theater/Drama |
| ☐ Computer/Technology | ☐ Journalism/Publication | ☐ Work (Paid) |
| ☐ Cultural | ☐ LGBT | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Dance | ☐ Music | |

Date Started (Month, Year)

Date Ended (Month, Year) – If Applicable

Currently participating in this activity?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Hours per week

Activity/Organization Name (65 characters maximum)

Position (65 characters maximum)

Description (130 characters maximum)

Why is this activity most meaningful to you? (100 words maximum)

Additional Activities

In addition to the activity that is most meaningful, you may include up to 2 additional activities that have been particularly important to you.

Number of additional activities?

- ☐ 1
☐ 2
☐ N/A - Not Applicable

Additional Activity 2 and/or 3 (will be asked for each)

Type

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Academic | ☐ Debate/Speech | ☐ Religious |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Environmental | ☐ School Spirit |
| ☐ Athletics | ☐ Family Responsibilities | ☐ Science/Math |
| ☐ Cadet Corps/Junior R.O.T.C. | ☐ Foreign Language/
Foreign Exchange | ☐ Student Government/Politics |
| ☐ Community Service/
Volunteer Work | ☐ Internship/Career-Oriented | ☐ Theater/Drama |
| ☐ Computer/Technology | ☐ Journalism/Publication | ☐ Work (Paid) |
| ☐ Cultural | ☐ LGBT | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Dance | ☐ Music | |

Date Started (Month, Year)

Date Started (Month, Year) – If Applicable

Currently participating in this activity?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Hours per week

Activity/Organization Name (65 characters maximum)

Position (65 characters maximum)

Description (130 characters maximum)

PAGE 10: YYAS Essays

Complete the following essays. The word limits are noted next to each prompt.

****NOTE**** We strongly suggest writing your essays first using writing software (e.g., Microsoft Word, Text Editor, drafted as an email), then copy and paste into the spaces below. If you time out of your login on this page, then you risk losing the essays you have written here, so be sure to save them somehow before clicking "Continue" at the bottom of the page.

****AI NOTICE**** While some students may choose to use ChatGPT or other AI tools to assist them, your essay must be your own work, which should help YYAS learn more about you.

****PLAGIARISM NOTICE**** Your written responses **MUST** be solely your own work and ideas. [Plagiarism](#), either full or in part, will result in your application being withdrawn.

Essay 1

African societies have proverbs that have distinct meanings and define the wisdom passed down from generation to generation. For example, in Swahili culture along the East African coast, many colorful kanga cloth include a 'jina' (name), which is the Swahili proverb, such as "Ya kale hayapo, zingatia uliyonayo" which translates to "The past isn't there, reflect on what you have."

With this in mind, **please choose ONE (1) of the following options as your essay prompt:**

- **Option A:** Create a new proverb that embodies a decision you made in your life that has made an impact and tell us the story of that decision.
- **Option B:** Pick a proverb from your culture that embodies a decision you made in your life that has made an impact and tell us the story of that decision.

(300-400 words)

Short Answer 1

How have you responded to a significant change in your life? (150-200 words)

Short Answer 2

Describe an ordinary moment that taught you an extraordinary lesson. (150-200 words)

PAGE 11: Need-Based Financial Aid

For YYAS ONLY applicants who request to attend YYAS Summit (Residential in Rwanda)

For students (who do not live in Rwanda) that would experience financial barriers in traveling to Rwanda if they were offered admission to participate in the YYAS Summit, the opportunity is given to request a Travel Grant.

This section of the application is quite long (it includes many very easy questions), so we encourage you to create an online application in order to review those questions.

For ALL Dual Applicants ONLY – YYGS Financial Aid

Previously, you indicated that you wanted to be considered for both Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) and Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS).

Please find information and questions below regarding whether or not you would like to be considered for financial assistance to be able to attend YYAS or YYGS, if offered admission.

Please note that this information will NOT be reviewed in determining admit, waitlist, or deny offers (as we read need-blind), but rather if offered admission, this information would be used to put together a financial aid package.

For YYAS, the information you provide below will be reviewed in consideration of whether or not an admitted student is eligible for a Travel Grant for the residential program.

For YYGS, the information you provide below will be reviewed in consideration of whether or not an admitted student is eligible for a financial aid package and/or Scholarship for the residential program.

You can learn more about this in our [YYGS & YYAS Dual webinar](#) and in our [YYGS Financial Aid webinar](#). Thank you!

About YYGS Financial Aid

YYGS provides need-based financial aid, which is offered as a discount on tuition covering up to 100% of tuition. Students with any type of demonstrated financial need are encouraged to apply for YYGS need-based financial aid below.

Demonstrated financial need is considered separately from each student's eligibility and application materials, and **students are encouraged to provide us with as much information as possible** (the information you provide will be kept confidential).

Though our programs cannot meet all requests for financial aid, we strive to meet as many requests as we can in a given year.

If you choose to apply for financial aid, YYGS will ask you to provide a Statement of Need and Supporting Documentation, which can include:

- Parent/Legal Guardian's **Tax Return** for most recent year available (2025 or 2026) - *Preferred*
- Parent/Legal Guardian's **Bank Statements** (2026-2027)
- Parent/Legal Guardian's **Employment Status/Income** (e.g., Paystub, Letter from Employer)
- Parent/Legal Guardian's **Additional Income** (e.g., Alimony)
- Supporting Documentation: **SNAP, TANF, and/or Federal Free or Reduced Lunch** - *U.S. Only*

YYGS reserves the right to request more documentation, if necessary, to help us best understand your demonstrated need.

Questions about Need-Based Financial Aid? Please [contact YYGS](#).

Would you like to apply for financial aid to YYGS?

Would you like to apply for need-based financial aid to YYGS?

- ☐ Yes, I would like to be considered for need-based financial aid (partial- or full-tuition discount)
- ☐ No, I do not wish to be considered for need-based financial aid

If you responded “NO” to the question (above), then:

I understand by clicking 'No' in this application that I waive my right to request financial aid at any later time in the YYGS application/admissions process.

NOTE: There is NOT a separate application for financial aid, so you must apply for it in this section of the overall YYGS application.

If you responded “YES” to the question (above), then:

Assistance with Request

The Financial Aid request page is one place in the YYGS application where students are encouraged to get help from a trusted adult in completing this form with as much detail as possible (though it is okay to complete it by yourself, if needed). It is also permitted for a family member to complete this request page by themselves, if there is sensitive financial information that they wish to keep private from their child.

To help us better process your request, please indicate (below) who is completing this Financial Aid request page.

- ☐ ONLY the student applicant (with no help provided)
- ☐ ONLY the parent/guardian or family member (with no help provided)
- ☐ Student applicant with help from Parent/Guardian or Family Member
- ☐ Student applicant with help from Mentor (non-family member, such as teacher, coach, pastor)
- ☐ OTHER

If "Other," please explain:

Please note the FULL NAME(S) of the person(s) who is completing (or assisting with completing) this financial aid request:

Please note below the RELATIONSHIP to the student of the person(s) who is completing (or assisting with completing) this financial aid request. For example "student's mother" or "student's teacher."

Travel

Given that YYGS 2027 will be residential, all participants must be able to travel to New Haven, Connecticut, USA. Students CANNOT attend the program remotely.

YYGS financial aid is given as discounts to offset tuition, but students fundraise and/or pay to arrange travel for themselves (including any costs needed to get a passport and/or travel visa).

Please begin by reviewing our [Visa & ESTA](#) and [Arrival & Departure](#) webpages.

Then, please answer the following questions (below) so that we can best determine what costs you anticipate incurring specifically related to paying for and arranging your own travel.

Do you currently have a Passport?

- ☐ Yes, I have a passport
- ☐ No, I do not have a passport
- ☐ I live in the USA and would not need a passport to attend YYGS

Do you currently have any kind of travel visa that allows you to travel to and from the USA?

- ☐ Yes, I have a travel visa
- ☐ No, I do not have a travel visa
- ☐ I live in the USA and/or would not need a travel visa to attend YYGS

If you do not have a passport and/or travel visa currently, then you will be asked to anticipate whether or not you anticipate needing one to travel to and from YYGS, and if so, what the cost of this would be, and how you anticipate securing one by May 5, 2027.

As noted on our [Arrival & Departure](#) webpage, the grand majority of students attend YYGS by booking roundtrip airfare to JFK airport in New York City and then booking roundtrip GoShuttle transportation to Yale's campus. Most students travel alone as 16 and 17 year olds, though a few students choose to have a family member accompany them.

Please indicate how you plan to travel to and from YYGS, what costs you anticipate for this, and any other important considerations related to your travel specifically (200 word max).

Statement of Need

****NOTE** We suggest writing your Statement of Need first using writing software (e.g., Microsoft Word, Text Editor), then copy and paste into the spaces below.**

Please describe your demonstrated financial need, including any circumstances regarding your household financial status that we should take into account when your financial aid application is reviewed.

This is typically a narrative describing (in as much detail as possible): who lives in your household(s), what source(s) of income do you all have, what routine and/or unique expense(s) do you incur, and/or why would paying for YYGS tuition present a significant financial barrier for you and your family.

Please feel free to include any special or "nontraditional" circumstances and details. You can also contact YYGS with any questions about whether or not any information should be included.

Parent/Guardian's Supporting Documentation

Applicants requesting Financial Aid **MUST** provide **at least one** of the following types of Supporting Documentation (see below).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide as many pieces of Supporting Documentation as possible to demonstrate their financial need, and to describe any special circumstances within each section.

Tax Return

Can you provide a copy of your parent/guardian(s) recent (2025 or 2026) Tax Return?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

You can upload multiple files, including supporting documentation for multiple parent/guardian(s).

Please explain what information this Tax Return supporting documentation provides and what currency amounts are shown - either in foreign currency (please specify) or U.S. Dollars (USD).

Bank Statement

Can you provide copies of recent Bank Statements (2026 or 2027), and/or do you have a letter from a bank stating the amount of funds available?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

You can upload multiple files, including supporting documentation for multiple parent/guardian(s).

Please explain what information this Bank Statement supporting documentation provides and what currency amounts are shown - either in foreign currency (please specify) or U.S. Dollars (USD).

Employment Status/Income

Can you provide supporting documentation (e.g. Paystub, Letter of Employment, Unemployment Benefits) regarding the employment status and income of at least one of your Parent/Guardian(s)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

You can upload multiple files, including supporting documentation for multiple parent/guardian(s).

Please explain what information this Employment Status supporting documentation provides and what currency amounts are shown - either in foreign currency (please specify) or U.S. Dollars (USD).

Proof of Income

Can you provide any Additional Income supporting documentation? (e.g., Alimony)

☐ Yes

☐ No

You can upload multiple files, including supporting documentation for multiple parent/guardian(s).

Please explain what information this Tax Return supporting documentation provides and what currency amounts are shown - either in foreign currency (please specify) or U.S. Dollars (USD).

General Information

In the past 2 years, were you awarded a need-based scholarship/award to offset school fees?

☐ Yes

☐ No

How much did you receive in need-based scholarship/awards per year? Enter the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR U.S. Dollars (USD) (e.g., €100 for one year, \$200 USD each year for 4 years).

You can upload multiple files, including Scholarship/Award/Loan supporting documentation.

Currently, does your family (at the permanent address of your parent/guardian) RENT or OWN their home?

- ☐ Pay Rent (to Landlord)
- ☐ Pay Mortgage (Owns home)
- ☐ Both
- ☐ Don't Pay Rent or Mortgage

What is the total cost of the RENT (not including utilities) per month? Enter the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR U.S. Dollars (USD) (e.g., €100 per month, \$2,000 USD per month).

What is the total cost of the MORTGAGE per month? Enter the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR U.S. Dollars (USD) (e.g., €100 per month, \$2,000 USD per month).

Please estimate your family's TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME for each of the last 3 years. We suggest asking your parent/guardian or a school counselor for help with this. Questions? Please [contact us](#).

Total household income for 2026 (before taxes) - Please estimate the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR in U.S. Dollars (USD):

Total household income for 2025 (before taxes) - Please estimate the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR in U.S. Dollars (USD):

Total household income for 2024 (before taxes) - Please estimate the amount(s) in foreign currency (please specify) OR in U.S. Dollars (USD):

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Tuition for YYGS Residential is \$7,500 USD. **What is the maximum U.S. Dollar amount you and/or your family might be able to contribute towards tuition?** Please provide an USD estimate, and [contact YYGS](#) with any questions.

MAXIMUM TOTAL TUITION (U.S. Dollar amount) you and/or your family could contribute:

Please explain your tuition responses (above). We encourage you to share as much information as possible about what you and/or your family could or could not contribute and why. (200 word limit)

Agreement

☐ I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is true, correct, and accurately lists all amounts and sources of income received in the timeframes specified.

PAGE 12: Additional Information

The following questions help us to better understand your background and interests.

Access to Technology

Please describe the frequency of your access to the internet (Choose ONE):

- ☐ Consistent: you can access the internet most days at your home or school
- ☐ Moderate: you can access the internet at a computer lab, library, or office during specific times
- ☐ Limited: you have no personal access, but can use it at an internet café, or through a relative or friend
- ☐ No access: you have no access to the internet, and do not use it regularly for educational or communication

Do you have access to any of the following technologies (Choose all the apply):

- ☐ Computer (desktop, laptop, or tablet) WITH internet
- ☐ Computer (desktop, laptop, or tablet) WITHOUT internet
- ☐ Mobile Phone (such as a smartphone) WITH internet
- ☐ Mobile Phone (such as a flip phone) WITHOUT internet
- ☐ Other

Gender

Please Select ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Prefer to self-describe

Self-describe:

Gender Pronouns

Please Select ☐ He/Him/His ☐ She/Her/Hers ☐ They/Them/Theirs ☐ Prefer to self-describe

Self-describe:

Past Academic Programs

Are you a YYAS and/or YYGS Alumni?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If “Yes,” please specify the session/location and year you attended:

Have you attended any other academic summer program in the past?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If “Yes,” which program(s)?

Language Skills

(You may enter up to three languages)

Language 1

Language proficiency

- ☐ Native
- ☐ Fluent
- ☐ Conversational
- ☐ Intermediate
- ☐ Beginner

Add a second language?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

For students whose native language is not English, please describe your experience with all aspects -- reading, writing, listening, and speaking -- of the English language. Examples of experience are formal schooling, immersion program, life experience, etc. (200 word max)

Heard About

How did you hear about YYAS? Please check all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ After-School Program/Club | ☐ Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, etc.) |
| ☐ Community-Based Organization (CBO)/Nonprofit/NGO | ☐ Yale Student/Yale Alumni/Other Yale Connection |
| ☐ Alumni of YYGS | ☐ YYAS Website (African Scholars) |
| ☐ Alumni of YYAS | ☐ YYGS Website (Global Scholars) |
| ☐ Parent/Guardian/Family | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Teacher/Counselor/School Official | |
| ☐ Google/Search Engine | |

Please summarize how you heard about YYAS in your own words.

HALI Access Network

If you participate in an organization that is part of the HALI Access Network please identify the organization below:

- ☐ Abaarso School ☐ African Leadership Academy ☐ African Science Academy
☐ Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village ☐ Ashinaga ☐ Bridge2Rwanda ☐ Build Nigeria ☐ CIYOTA ☐ CMETrust
☐ Daraja Rwanda Initiative ☐ Education Matters ☐ Edulcod Togo ☐ EFAC ☐ Elimisha Kakuma
☐ Equity Group Foundation ☐ Haile Manas Academy ☐ Imagine Scholar ☐ KaRwanda's Dream ☐ KenSAP
☐ Kucetekela Foundation ☐ Leading Change Africa ☐ Makomborero ☐ Nolbed Foundation ☐ Open Dreams
☐ OurMoon ☐ Pestalozzi Zambia ☐ Rwamagana Leaders' School ☐ Rwanda Girls Initiative
☐ School of St Jude ☐ SHOFCO ☐ Smart Liberia ☐ The Aga Khan Academy ☐ Tujenge Africa Foundation
☐ Ushindi Education Initiative ☐ UWC East Africa ☐ UWC Waterford ☐ WAAW Foundation
☐ Zawadi Africa Education Fund ☐ Other

Yale Connection

Do you have any connections to Yale? (e.g., previously participated in a program at Yale; attended a Yale-sponsored event; parent/guardian, sibling, or relative affiliated with Yale)

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Please explain your connection with Yale.

PAGE 13: Student Conduct

Students are required to report any Student Conduct issues (noted below) to YYAS by completing this section of the application. Our staff understands that such issues can arise in a variety of circumstances, and the information you report will be considered in your application with this in mind.

If you report any issues in this section, you may still be able to participate in YYAS. However, failure to report any Student Conduct issues (if applicable) to YYAS will result in your application being denied or withdrawn.

Disciplinary Violations

Have you ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at any school, summer program, or job, whether related to academic misconduct or behavioral misconduct, that resulted in your probation, suspension, removal, dismissal, or expulsion?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If “Yes,” please provide the approximate date of the incident(s) and explain the circumstances.

Felonies, Misdemeanors, and Infractions

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, or other crime?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If “Yes,” please provide the approximate date of the incident(s) and explain the circumstances.

****NOTE** Should you be admitted to the program and your responses to either of the questions above change between the time of application submission and time of attendance (i.e., a new student conduct issue arises for you during that time), you have a responsibility to inform YYAS staff at African.scholars@yale.edu (please see note at top of page).**

PAGE 14: Certification by Applicant

Applicant: By signing below, I declare that I have spoken with my custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) about my application to the YYAS program and that I have made my custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) aware of all relevant aspects of the program, including dates, tuition (if applicable), and student responsibilities.

My signature certifies the accuracy and completeness of the information provided. The essays I have submitted are my own work and all the information in my application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and honestly presented.

If accepted to the program, I also agree to abide by all laws, including federal, state, and local as well as Yale University and program policies including, but not limited to, adherence to meeting times, curfews, and codes of conduct.

I understand that any violations of Yale policies may result in immediate dismissal from the program and return transportation expenses will be at the expense of myself/parent/legal guardian with no refunds, including housing or tuition fees.

In place of your signature, please type your full legal name:

Page 15: Review

Please review your application components (below), and be sure to go back and complete any missing information. Once you complete all required information, you can click **Submit Application*** at the bottom of the page.

If you are still waiting for a School Official to submit your Transcript(s) and/or for a Recommender to submit the Recommendation Form, then you can still click **Submit Application** and track these materials in the Applicant Status Portal.

***Please Note:** After you click "Submit Application," you can no longer edit nor view your application, and you will automatically be taken to your YYAS Applicant Status Portal.

Questions about Review? Please [contact YYAS](#).

We have detected the following errors with your application.
These errors must be corrected before submission.

Section	Required Field or Error
e.g., "Essays"	e.g., "Missing one or more essays"

SAMPLE - DO NOT SUBMIT