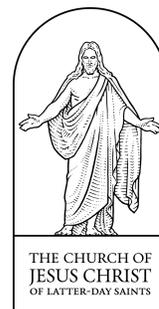


## Notice

Date June 11, 2021

To The following leaders in the United States and Canada: Area Seventies; Stake, Mission, and District Presidencies; Bishoprics and Branch Presidencies; Members of Stake and Ward Councils; Stake and Ward FSY Representatives



Copies General Authorities; General Officers

From Priesthood and Family Department (1-801-240-2134)

Subject For the Strength of Youth (FSY) Conferences Schedule for Stakes in the United States and Canada

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The Church is going to begin holding FSY conferences in the United States and Canada. (See the notice “For the Strength of Youth (FSY) Conferences in the United States and Canada,” July 19, 2019.) These conferences were postponed in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the desire to allow youth and leaders to reconnect on a local level. Beginning in 2022 and 2023, all stakes in the US and Canada will attend FSY conferences every other year.

Please review the enclosed information about attendance, costs, registration, calling stake and ward FSY representatives, recommending young single adult counselors, and other topics. Some information has changed from previous years. See [FSY Assignments for Stakes in the United States and Canada](#) to learn when your stake will attend FSY. Due to volume and logistical complexity, changes cannot be made to the stake assignments.

Leaders should share this information with youth, parents, and young single adults as needed.

We encourage stake and ward leaders, including youth class and quorum presidencies, to plan youth conferences, Young Women camps, and Aaronic Priesthood camps in 2021 where possible. (See the letter from President M. Russell Ballard titled “Youth Activities and FSY Conferences in 2021,” Jan. 15, 2021.)

## Recommending Young Single Adult Counselors for FSY

June 11, 2021

Enclosure to the June 11, 2021, notice “For the Strength of Youth (FSY) Conferences Schedule for Stakes in the United States and Canada”

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We encourage local leaders to identify potential young single adult FSY counselors. All FSY counselors must have a strong testimony of the Savior and His restored gospel and promote principles consistent with Church doctrine. Leaders might also consider potential counselors’ ability to help youth understand the scriptures, willingness to uphold dress and appearance standards, reliability, communication skills, humility, and positive attitude.

### Counselor Responsibilities

The responsibilities of FSY counselors are demanding, requiring skills in teaching, leadership, and ministering. For example, counselors will:

- Be responsible for a group of approximately 10 youth, promoting their temporal and spiritual well-being throughout the conference.
- Lead daily devotionals and other discussions in both formal and informal settings.
- Provide motivation and correction, when needed, in a kind, uplifting way.
- Organize and play active games, walk long distances, and participate in dances.

Counselors will receive orientation and instruction before beginning their responsibilities.

### Recommendation and Application Process

Young single adults ages 19–30 who are worthy of a temple recommend and meet the qualifications listed on the [Qualifications and Responsibilities](#) page are eligible to serve as volunteer, unpaid FSY counselors. Counselors can be from any stake in the US and Canada—no matter if their stake is participating in FSY that year or not.

We encourage bishoprics to prayerfully consider which young single adults in their ward meet the qualifications, giving special consideration to recently returned missionaries. Currently serving missionaries who could serve at FSY after their missions can apply online with permission from their mission president. Mission release dates should not be adjusted for service at FSY.

Bishoprics should recommend all eligible YSAs in their ward regardless of the YSAs' interest in serving. Once YSAs are recommended, an automatic message will be sent to the email address listed in their Church Account inviting them to apply. Based on information in the application and a background check, counselors will be invited to participate.

### **Availability Requirements**

Bishops in the United States should recommend counselors for the 2021 pilot sessions in Leader and Clerk Resources (LCR) under **Applications > For the Strength of Youth > Counselors**. Applications for 2021 are now open. Applicants will be asked to identify which FSJ conference(s) and location(s) they are available to participate in. Counselors can volunteer for one or more conferences. They must be available for the entire conference and the weekend before the conference begins. They will also need to complete preparation experiences leading up to the conference. Room and board will be provided for the duration of the conference; however, counselors must provide their own transportation to and from the conference unless otherwise noted by FSJ staff. Applications for 2022 will be opened toward the end of the third quarter.

# Frequently Asked Questions about FSY in the United States and Canada

June 11, 2021

Enclosure to the June 11, 2021, notice “For the Strength of Youth (FSY) Conferences Schedule for Stakes in the United States and Canada”

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## 1. What is FSY?

For the Strength of Youth (FSY) conferences are modeled after Brigham Young University’s Especially for Youth (EFY) conferences. These five-day events have been held extensively outside the United States and Canada for a number of years. Youth may attend beginning in the year they turn 14 and until the year they turn 18. Youth who are graduating from high school the year they plan to attend and who will not be older than 18 by December 31 will register at a later date than other youth if space is available. Each stake will be invited every other year.

FSY conferences include activities, devotionals, and classes designed to help strengthen faith in Jesus Christ and provide opportunities for youth to grow spiritually, socially, physically, and intellectually. FSY conferences in the United States and Canada will be provided by the Church and held locally with the support of BYU. Areas outside of the US and Canada will continue holding FSY conferences under the direction of the Area Presidency.

To see a list of stakes in the United States and Canada scheduled to attend FSY in 2022 and even years thereafter, and in 2023 and odd years thereafter, go to the [FSY Stake Schedule](#).

## 2. Are stakes scheduled for FSY responsible to plan the conference?

Ward and stake leaders are not responsible to plan the conference, to secure FSY locations, or to provide speakers. If assistance is needed, area leaders may call upon local leaders.

Ward and stake leaders are responsible for helping youth register and for arranging transportation to the FSY conference as described in question 9 below. They are also responsible for recruiting volunteer YSA counselors. See the enclosed document “Recommending Young Single Adult Counselors for FSY.”

### **3. Is it necessary for stakes to provide adult leaders to attend FSY conferences?**

Young single adults will fill logistical and leadership roles at FSY conferences. A limited number of adults will attend FSY as session directors and teachers. The majority of the adults serving in these positions will be full-time seminary and institute employees. Area leaders will reach out to local leaders if their assistance is needed. All local leaders are encouraged to prepare youth for FSY and to talk to them about their experiences when they return home.

All stakes and wards, including young single adult units and units not participating in FSY in 2022, should call an FSY representative by September 2021. Please enter that member into the Leader and Clerk Resources (LCR) system so that FSY staff or the stake FSY representative can coordinate with him or her. It is recommended that stakes ask a member of the stake presidency or stake Young Women presidency to serve in this calling. It is recommended that wards ask a member of the bishopric or ward Young Women presidency to serve in this calling. The calling may also be independent of other callings. In LCR, this calling can be found under **Organizations > Other Callings > For the Strength of Youth**. If no FSY representative is called by September 2021, FSY staff will work with the stake Young Women or Young Men president, and the stake FSY representative (or acting stake FSY representative) will work with the ward Young Women president or first counselor in the bishopric. (For YSA units, FSY staff will work with the stake Relief Society president or stake president, and the stake FSY representative will work with the ward Relief Society or elders quorum president.)

Stake FSY representatives of geographic stakes are encouraged to hold a “Before You Go” activity before the summer begins and a “Taking It Home” activity after the summer is over. See the [Stake FSY Activity](#) page for more information.

### **4. Who will serve as FSY counselors?**

Young single adults ages 19–30 may volunteer to serve as counselors at one or more conferences. To understand the role of local leaders in identifying young adult counselors, see the enclosed document “Recommending Young Single Adult Counselors for FSY.” About 600 volunteer counselors are needed for 2021, and about 15,000 volunteer counselors will be needed for 2022 and beyond.

### **5. Does FSY replace youth conference, Young Women camp, and Aaronic Priesthood camp?**

In the year that youth attend FSY, their stakes should not hold other large events, such as a youth conference or trek. Stake or ward Aaronic Priesthood and Young Women camps and other regular activities may continue as normal. Camps should be scheduled at times that do not conflict with scheduled FSY conferences.

## **6. Do all youth from a stake attend the same FSY conference?**

Invited stakes will be assigned a date when youth from their stake may begin to register (if they have been approved by a member of their bishopric). In 2022, stake and ward leaders may express an interest in having all of their youth attend the same session, or, stakes and wards can choose to allow youth to register for any available week or session. Information about how stakes and wards can express interest in having all of their youth attend the same session will be released in coming months.

## **7. Will BYU hold EFY for youth whose stakes are not assigned to attend an FSY conference in a particular year?**

Traditional five-day EFY conferences will no longer be held. EFY Special Edition and EFY Express will still be available. For more information, see [efy.byu.edu](http://efy.byu.edu).

## **8. At what ages are youth eligible to participate in FSY conferences?**

Youth may attend FSY conferences scheduled for their stake beginning in the year they turn 14 until the year they turn 18. Each stake will be invited every other year. Youth who are graduating from high school the year they plan to attend and who will not be older than 18 by December 31 will register at a later date than other youth if space is available.

## **9. What are the guidelines for travel to the conference?**

Individuals whose stake center is located less than 2.5 hours away from the conference will be required to provide their own ground transportation to the conference location. If a large number of youth from a stake will attend the same conference, stake leaders may arrange for commercial transportation, following the guidelines in *General Handbook: Serving in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, 20.6.24, ChurchofJesusChrist.org. FSY staff will provide transportation for those who live more than 2.5 hours from a conference.

## **10. Do youth stay overnight at FSY, or do they come home at night?**

FSY conferences will typically be held at college or university campuses. Youth will stay overnight in the campus dorms. If there are concerns about a youth staying overnight, a parent or guardian may check out their youth at night and check them back in each morning. See the question “*What do I do if I need to leave during the week?*” on the [FSY FAQ website](#).

## **11. How much will FSY cost?**

Each participant will be asked to pay \$75 USD (\$100 CAD). In addition, the ward will pay \$75 USD (\$100 CAD) from the local unit budget allowance (LUBA) for each individual. The bishop may also use LUBA to help individuals when necessary. If desired, wards may use the annual fundraising effort to help offset the cost (see *General Handbook*, 20.6.8). See the [LUBA Billing Information](#) page for more details.

## **12. How and when can youth register for FSY?**

Youth in stakes scheduled for an FSY conference in 2022 will be invited to begin registering online within the first quarter of 2022.

## **13. What responsibilities do stake and ward leaders have for helping youth register?**

Stake and ward leaders should encourage and help youth to register for FSY. Bishops should consider the financial circumstances of the youth in their ward and determine if there is a need to provide assistance so that all who are eligible can attend an FSY conference.

## **14. When will the schedule of FSY sessions be released?**

See [FSY Assignments for Stakes in the United States and Canada](#) to learn when your stake will attend FSY. The schedule of specific sessions is typically released toward the end of the third quarter of the year before the FSY conference will be held. This is when hosting campuses are comfortable making commitments for dates and numbers of youth.

## **15. Where can I get more information about FSY?**

Go to [fsy.ChurchofJesusChrist.org](https://fsy.ChurchofJesusChrist.org) for more information.