



About RYLA

RYLA

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program for community youth leaders. Young people chosen for their leadership potential are awarded the opportunity to attend an all-expenses-paid conference to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Each year, thousands of young people take part in the program worldwide.

In Rotary District 7910, young people who will be going into their Junior year of high-school in the fall are selected by their local Rotary Club to attend a three day all-expense-paid conference, organized and run by Rotarians with records of achievement.

For more information about the District 7910 RYLA program, visit our website at www.ryla7910.org.

About the ClubPack

Student selection is a critical component of the success of RYLA. Each Rotary club is responsible for selecting students who will get the most out of the program.

The ClubPack is designed to assist sponsoring Rotary clubs and their designated RYLA Chairs and committee members during the selection process.

This ClubPack and the Support Materials available on the website (www.RYLA7910.org) contain everything your club needs in order to implement a successful RYLA sponsorship. You can print a copy of the entire ClubPack manual for reference, or just customize and print individual pages, forms and documents, when you need them.

If you have guestions, contact the District 7910 RYLA Committee at 7910ryla@gmail.com



Your Step-by-Step **Guide to RYLA**

INCLUDING:

- Key Dates & Contact Info
- 1-Page Quick Reference Guide
- Detailed Club Action Plan
- Space Reservation Form

See website for Current-Year **Details and Support Materials** such as:

- Info for Schools
- Promotional Materials
- Press Releases
- Student Selection Aids
- Student Notification Letters
- Registration Instructions ...and More!

A LETTER TO YOU from the Rotary District 7910 RYLA Committee



Service Above Self.

What does that phrase make you think of?

Rotarians working toward a polio-free world? Perhaps helping to provide clean water for not just every human, but every living creature on the planet? An organization of passionate, caring, ethical members that is 1.2 million strong? In our world it is important to reach out across cultural and social boundaries. To take action and speak words as a global citizen with humility and humanity. Where will you fit into our society's future?

Great change takes time. We're not talking about time as measured in weeks or months. Not even time measured in years. As we have seen, to achieve things like these on a grand scale takes generations. What better place to start to form the future—our future—than with today's budding youth leaders?

We have available to us in District 7910 this wonderful and professional program that is a tremendous resource for giving and getting back. It offers each and every one of us an opportunity to steer the course of the future of our communities, of today's youth leaders and tomorrow's—and to build a stronger Rotary starting now. Best of all, we can literally watch it start to happen before our very eyes.

The future of Rotary is clearly in your hands. And as with most everything in Rotary, positive action is required at the club level to be able to make progress. Hundreds of hours have been invested in preparing the RYLA ClubPack you have in front of you right now. It covers what you need to know and what you need to do. Other timely important information, including customizable documents and current-year details, can be found on the RYLA website. This will enable you to drastically impact not only the future of Rotary and our world, but also the present.

Please, invest a few extra minutes to familiarize yourself with the materials provided here. It will be time well spent.

The RYLA Committee is ready, willing and able help and support your efforts. It is our intention to be available to assist you with every question that you may have about ensuring the best possible experience for your students, your club, your members, and your community.

We will do everything we can to make the process of recruiting, selecting and sponsoring students as straightforward and simple as possible. Ultimately, though, **YOU** must take the appropriate and necessary actions to ensure that the RYLA program is as successful as it possibly can be for the participants as a whole and individually for those students your club chooses to sponsor. Let's get started!

ClubPack Contents

Quick Reference Guide....3

with Key Dates, Contact Info, and Action Plan Checklist

| Club Action | Plan 4-6 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| with detailed instr | uctions |

Space Reservation Form7 Deadline: March 15

| Wrap-Up | Guide | 9 |
|---------|-------|---|
|---------|-------|---|

Support Materials

Download these from the website: www.ryla7910.org

COMMUNICATE WITH SCHOOLS

Boilerplate Letter to Schools ★ Selection Partner Info Sheet

PROMOTE & GET APPLICANTS

Promotional Flyer Call-For-Applicants Press Release ★ Student Application Form

SELECT YOUR STUDENTS

Selection Guidelines Interview Questions Interview Evaluation Form

NOTIFY APPLICANTS

Letter to Selected Attendees Letter to Designated Alternates Letter to Unselected Applicants

 \star Registration Guide

ANNOUNCE

Congratulatory Press Release

Conference Info

HELD ANNUALLY ON Friday-Saturday-Sunday, the last weekend of June

(See website for current year dates)

LOCATION: Central Mass.

(See website for current year location)

STUDENTS must arrive in time for on-site registration for all assigned sessions.

PARENTS are not invited to the closing ceremony this year due to COVID and parking issues.

ROTARIANS are encouraged to volunteer to assist at the conference. Come help out, join us for a meal, and have fun!

Key Contacts

FULL DETAILS for current year contacts, including names, mailing addresses and phone numbers, can be found at www.ryla7910.org

Treasurer

treasurer@ryla7910.org

Registrar

registrar@ryla7910.org

Volunteer Coordinator

volunteers@ryla7910.org

Tech Support

ryla7910tech@gmail.com

RYLA Committee Chair

chair@ryla7910.org

General Questions:

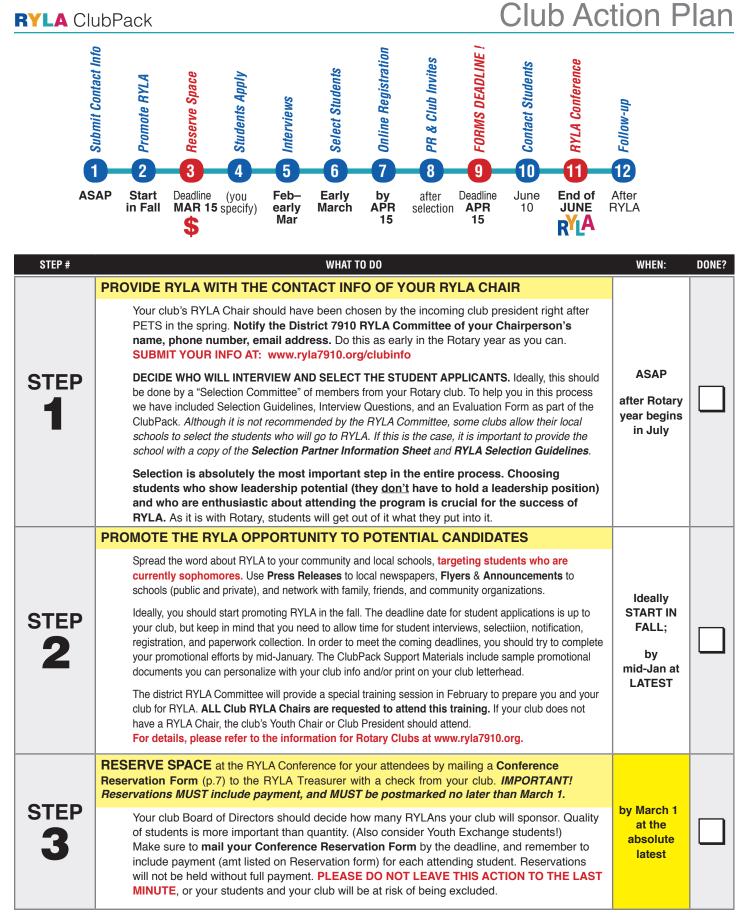
7910ryla@gmail.com

CLUB ACTION PLAN CHECKLIST

| WHAT TO DO | WHEN | DONE? |
|---|--|-------|
| PROVIDE RYLA WITH THE CONTACT INFO OF YOUR RYLA CHAIR SUBMIT INFO AT: www.ryla7910.org/clubinfo Decide who will interview & select the student applicants. If your club allows a school to select your sponsored RYLAns, provide the school with a Selection Partner Information Sheet, and a copy of the RYLA Selection Guidelines. | ASAP after Rotary year begins in July | |
| PROMOTE THE RYLA OPPORTUNITY to potential candidates by sending Flyers and Letters to local schools and sending Press Releases to local newspapers. Ideally, this should be done sometime during the fall. | Ideally START IN FALL; by mid-Jan at LATEST | |
| RESERVE SPACE at the RYLA Conference for your attendees by mailing a Reservation Form (p.7) to the RYLA Treasurer with a check from your club. <i>IMPORTANT! Reservations MUST include payment, and MUST be postmarked no later than March 1.</i> | by March 1 at the absolute latest | |
| COLLECT APPLICATIONS from interested students. A Student Application Form is provided in the Support Materials. | in advance of interviews | |
| INTERVIEW ALL APPLICANTS and evaluate them. See the Support Materials for Guidelines , Questions , and an Evaluation Form . | February to March | |
| SELECT YOUR "RYLANS" AND SUBMIT THEIR NAMES. Select your paid "Attendees" plus any number of "Alternates". After you have made your selections, YOU MUST PROVIDE THEIR NAMES TO RYLA so that we can validate their online registrations. SUBMIT NAMES AT: www.ryla7910.org/clubinfo | March to early April | |
| SEND RESPONSE LETTERS to ALL applicants. Include a Registration Guide for Attendees and Alternates, and tell them to submit their Online Registration on the RYLA website as soon as possible (by April 15 at latest). | LETTERS by April 5 Online Reg. by Apr 15 | |
| SEND OUT A CONGRATULATORY PRESS RELEASE. INVITE your RYLAns and their parents to attend a Rotary meeting. | after selecting students | |
| ENSURE that each Attendee AND Alternate has submitted the online Registration Form by April 15 | DEADLINE April 15 | |
| CHECK WITH STUDENTS 2 weeks before the conference to verify transportation, confirm their attendance for the ENTIRE weekend, and check to make sure they have no other questions. | by June 10 | |
| Someone from your club should volunteer at, or attend a portion of, THE RYLA CONFERENCE . on the last weekend of June (see website for current year dates & details) | Last weekend of June | |
| Ask your RYLAns to SPEAK AT YOUR CLUB MEETING about their RYLA experience. Provide feedback to the RYLA Committee. | After the Conference | |



RYLA WEBSITE: www.ryla7910.org



Continued...

Club Action Plan

| STEP # | WHAT TO DO | WHEN: | DONE? |
|-----------|--|--|-------|
| STEP 4 | COLLECT APPLICATIONS from interested students. A Student Application Form is included in the Support Materials. You may use the this form, or create your own. The Student Application Form can be provided to interested students on request and/or made available through the school guidance office. Make sure to specify your RYLA Chair's contact info as well as application submission instructions, and a deadline date for their submission. | in advance of Interviews | |
| STEP 5 | INTERVIEW ALL APPLICANTS and evaluate them using the interview tools in the ClubPack Support Materials, or your own selection methods. The ClubPack includes a list of Guidelines for selecting potential applicants, a sheet of Interview Questions, and an Evaluation Form. Each interviewer should be provided with a copy of these three pages, along with a photocopy of the candidate's completed Student Application Form, when they interview each candidate. Candidates must be interviewed individually. A good strategy is to set up a block of time for your RYLA Committee to interview candidates at their school. School admin may help schedule the student interviews. If a school selects students for you, you should ask them to follow RYLA's Selection Guidelines. They may also find the Interview Questions and/or Evaluation Form helpful. | February to March | |
| STEP 6 | SELECT YOUR "RYLANS" and SUBMIT THEIR NAMES TO RYLA Based on the interviews, the Selection Committee (or Selection Partner) will select the "Attendees" whom your club will sponsor this year. It's a good idea to also designate some "Alternates" in case a selected student becomes unavailable to attend. After students are chosen, YOU MUST PROVIDE YOUR SELECTED STUDENT NAMES TO RYLA so that we can validate their online registrations. SUBMIT INFO AT: www.ryla7910.org/clubinfo (Submit your student names BEFORE your students attempt to register online.) | April 5 | |
| STEP 7 | SEND RESPONSE LETTERS to all applicants. For SELECTED candidates (including Alternates), include a Registration Guide with the letter, and instruct them to submit their Online Registration on the RYLA website as soon as possible (by April 1 at the latest). You should urge them to register early, in case they run into any questions or problems during the online registration process. Sample notification letters are provided in the Support Materials. For "selected" candidates (Attendees AND Alternates), include the Registration Guide, which provides instructions for registering online. Make sure to include YOUR contact info on any materials that you distribute. NOTE that "Alternates" should proceed with online registration JUST AS IF they were Attendees we will need to have their information processed and ready to go if the opportunity arises for them to fill a vacant spot. You should tell your students to complete the Online Registration process as soon as possible. | Clubs SEND LETTERS by April 5 Selected Students REGISTER ONLINE by April 15 | |
| STEP 8 | SEND OUT A CONGRATULATORY PRESS RELEASE to local papers. INVITE your RYLAns and their parents to attend a Rotary meeting. Don't neglect to send out a press release! It's another chance to tell the community about your club's great work. Take photos of the students with their parents, with members of your club or just as a group, and submit them to local papers along with the press release. It's great for the students—and the club! A sample press release is provided in the Support Materials. Invite the future RYLAns to a Rotary meeting prior to the conference so that they may become exposed to Rotary and your club, and so they will begin to have an idea of what Rotary is about. Have a Rotarian spend some time with them explaining some of the programs that your club supports in your community. Make sure the students you are sponsoring clearly know which Rotary club is sponsoring them! | after selecting your students | |

Continued...

| STEP # | WHAT TO DO | WHEN: | DONE? |
|-------------------|---|---|-------|
| STEP 9 | CONTACT YOUR ATTENDEES AND ALTERNATES, Check on the status of the student attendees and alternate registrations using the spreadsheet link provided. In step 7, you should have provided a Registration Guide to your selected Attendees and Alternates. That sheet tells students how to complete their registration online. When they do so, they will receive complete information about the conference, as well as the link to the online Registration system. Online Registration and the Online Parent Permission forms must be completed by April 15, for all Attendees AND Alternates. | Check in with your RYLAns during early April. DO NOT DELAY! | |
| | IN EARLY APRIL, contact your conference Attendees and Alternates Check to see if they have any questions. Ask if they are prepared to participate in the <u>ENTIRE</u> program. (This is very important.) Ask if they have 1) completed the Online Registration and 2) Parent Permission. Make sure they understand these are separate steps, and they must do both. | Completed FORMS must be submitted | |
| | Verify that they have submitted these online forms by April 15. You can track who has and has not submitted these forms using the spreadsheet link provided. Forms received after April 15 risk not be considered. Please ensure that all your Attendees and Alternates and their parents submit these forms on time. <i>If forms are not submitted by this date, you will unfortunately have to inform your candidates that they will not be able to attend RYLA. No refunds will be given to the club.</i> | by APRIL 15 This is an absolute deadline! | |
| STEP 10 | CHECK WITH STUDENTS 2 weeks before the conference to confirm all details. Are they still committed to the entire weekend? They must be present for the ENTIRE program. NOTIFY THE REGISTRAR IMMEDIATELY in the event of a cancellation. Do the students have any questions? (RYLA7910.org website contains lots of advice!) Do they know where they need to be, and when? How will they be getting to and from the conference? Students are permitted to bring their own vehicles this year, or you may need to provide transportation for them. Do they know what they need to bring? They will receive this information during the online registration process. It is also on the website. Make sure they have it and are all set. | by June 15 | |
| STEP | Someone from your club should VOLUNTEER or attend the RYLA CONFERENCE Being present at the RYLA Conference is a great way to cap off your club's RYLA efforts. You can observe first-hand the difference you have helped to make in these young people's lives! For more details, visit www.RYLA7910.org/get-involved | Fri-Sat-Sun, Last weekend of June* | |
| STEP 12 | INVITE your RYLAns back to your club to talk about their RYLA experience. PROVIDE FEEDBACK to the RYLA Committee. Following the conference, you should invite your RYLAns to speak at your club. The Club RYLA Chairperson should invite feedback (from the students AND the club) about the conference and the selection process that led up to it. Any feedback should be communicated to the RYLA Committee for improvement in future years. Email feedback to 7910ryla@gmail.com or mail it to the District 7910 RYLA Committee Chair (mailing address can be found on the RYLA website). | After the Conference | |

*See www.ryla7910.org for current year dates.

Rotary Clubs:

RESERVE CONFERENCE SPACE **ASAP** FOR THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS YOU WILL BE SENDING TO RYLA

1. Complete this form.

- 2. Make your check payable to "Rotary District 7910 RYLA" for \$300 per student.
- Submit your reservation form & check no later than March 1 to the RYLA Treasurer.

SEE WEBSITE FOR CURRENT TREASURER'S MAILING ADDRESS www.ryla7910.org

IMPORTANT NOTES

Reservation forms <u>must</u> be postmarked by the deadline, and will not be accepted without full payment.

Refer to the CLUB ACTION PLAN (pages 4–6) for the next steps in selecting your students and getting them properly registered.

To ensure attendance eligibility, **Online Forms** for all Attendees AND Alternates must be submitted to the Registrar by April 15. (See Action Plan for details.)

PLEASE NOTE: If your students and their parents do not submit the appropriate online forms by April 15, your candidates will not be able to attend. No refunds will be provided.

Should a selected Attendee withdraw or otherwise be unable to attend, the RYLA Registrar should be notified immediately. Taking into account the overall status of the registration process and any Alternates submitted by the sponsoring club, the Registrar will coordinate the substitution of an eligible student alternate with the involved club RYLA chair.

SUBMIT BY MARCH 1

RYLA SPACE RESERVATION

or do this online at https://tinyurl.com/ryla-reserve

Club:

Number of Students: _____ (Student names NOT required right now)

Enclosed Check Amount:

| \$_ | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| | \$300 per student | |

Student Selection Method used by your club:

- ___ Club Members interview and select students
- ____ Local School(s) select the students

____ Other – Please describe: ___

Contact Info (Required)

Club's RYLA Chairperson

Club does not have a RYLA Chair

| Name: | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE PHONE # | Home Phone: Work Phone: | |
| PHONE # | Cell Phone: | |
| | | |

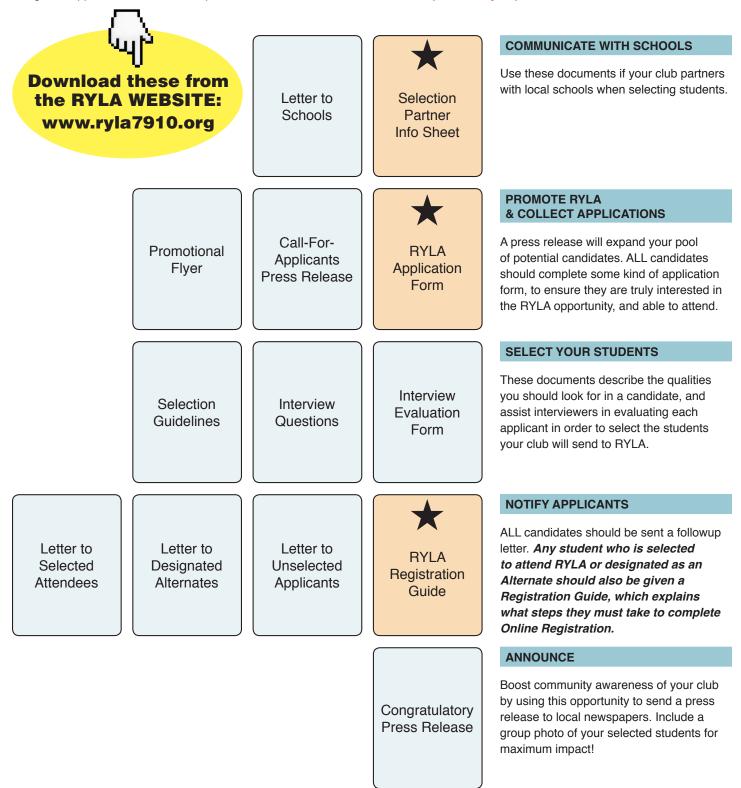
Email Address:

Club President

| Name: | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE PHONE # | Home Phone: | |
| | | |
| | Cell Phone: | |
| Email Address: | | |
| | | |
| REQUIRED Club | President's Signature: | |

RYLA ClubPack

The following Support Materials will greatly assist with your student selection process. **They can be found in the "For Clubs" section** of the RYLA7910.org website. You can customize most of these documents with your club information, or create your own documents, using our support materials as examples. *Documents marked with a star are particularly important.*



Completing the Registration Process:

ONLINE FORMS SUBMITTED BY APRIL 15

> SEE WEBSITE FOR LINKS TO CURRENT FORMS www.ryla7910.org

In recent years, the student registration process has been greatly simplified. All the data is now collected electronically via the Online Registration Form.

https://www.rotary7910.org/page/rylastudent-registration

YOU SHOULD VERIFY THAT THE STUDENT HAS ACTUALLY COMPLETED ONLINE REGISTRATION.

(Sometimes they overlook that part!) To do so, check the Status Report at: www. tinyurl.com/ryla-student-regstatus

CHANGES: If students need to make changes to the data they submitted online, they should send an email to reg-info-change@ryla7910.org

QUESTIONS? Contact the RYLA Registrar: registrar@ryla7910.org Full contact info for the current registrar can be found at www.ryla7910.org

Join Us At RYLA!

Don't miss the best part!

As a culmination of all your efforts, consider attending part of the RYLA conference. You can observe first hand the difference you have helped make in these young people's lives!

RYLA is a completely volunteer-run program. **Volunteers needed** at the conference include: Session Assistant, Session Leader, Guest Speaker, Rotary Expo Booth Sponsor, Nighttime Hall Monitor, Info Desk, Volunteer Check-in, and more. Help out for a few hours, a day, or the entire weekend, whichever you prefer. You won't regret it!

Don't want to commit to a particular task or time slot? That's okay too. **Rotarian visitors are welcome** throughout the weekend. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator for details.

The conference is the best part of RYLA... If you don't go, you're missing out on a great experience!

We Want Your Feedback!

Was the information in this packet helpful? Was there anything missing? Is there anything you think we should change? Do you have any general feedback about RYLA? If you attended part of the conference, what did you think?

Ask your RYLAns about their experience when they visit your club after the conference. Let us know what they thought about the program.

send Us Your Thoughts

via the RYLA 7910 website, or mail them to the District 7910 RYLA Committee Chair. CONTACT INFO IS ON THE RYLA WEBSITE.

...and Thanks... for helping to make RYLA a success!



RYLA WEBSITE: www.ryla7910.org

