



# World Youth Alliance Internship Program

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## PROGRAM INFORMATION GUIDE

Working with World Youth Alliance as an intern provides you with an opportunity to gain knowledge and hands-on experience in development and advocacy work. This guide provides an overview about the mission and vision of the organization, as well as information about the program.

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# World Youth Alliance



## We are the World Youth Alliance

Our mission begins with the fundamental notion that the person possesses inherent and inviolable dignity—an idea that can be understood and acknowledged by people of all cultural and ideological backgrounds. WYA envisions a world in which human dignity is the foundation for policy and program implementation. This world understands that progress entails a commitment to person-centered solutions and sees the human person not as an object to be discarded at will, but a being with infinite potential for excellence.

At the heart of our work, we acknowledge: (1) the inherent **dignity** of every person, (2) the importance of the **family** as the basic unit of society, and (3) the need for **holistic development**.

Now present in six regions around the world, WYA is an international non-government organization composed of young people committed to promoting the dignity of the human person and building solidarity among youth from all nations. We now have over one million members in over 160 countries through affiliated organizations. Membership is free and open to youth aged 10 to 30 who believe in our advocacy and sign the WYA Charter.

## This is our story

In 1999, the World Youth Alliance was founded at the United Nations in New York City. At a conference on Population and Development, 32 young people were brought into the negotiations and given the floor. They stated that they represented all three billion of the world's youth and demanded the following: abortion as a human right, sexual rights for children as young as 10 years old, and a deletion of parents' rights.



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At a conference convened to discuss the needs of the world's people, basic needs such as access to clean water, education, nutrition, health care, and employment were not addressed. As a reaction of conscience, Anna Halpine and a few others went back into the assembly the next morning and distributed flyers which stated that these young people did not represent all the youth of the world.

Anna called for a discussion on topics addressing basic rights and necessities. The statement was well received by many and she was requested to maintain a permanent presence at the UN, as well as to work with youth from the delegates' countries, resulting to the World Youth Alliance.

## About the WYA Internship Program

The World Youth Alliance Internship Program is an opportunity for young people who are inspired by the ideas and work of World Youth Alliance to contribute practically to its regional and international projects and to study more closely the ideas which have formed the organization. The program focuses on three aspects: project management, training, and network building. As an intern, you can:

- Gain relevant skills and professional training in developing projects rooted in our advocacy;
- Gain a network of like-minded and passionate individuals, as well as grow your network of professional contacts from different fields and industries;
- Gain practical and theoretical knowledge about international, regional, and national policy-making;
- Practice how to effectively communicate and articulate these ideas to different communities through various mediums;
- Learn more about human dignity and how this relates to global topics and current issues such as human rights, economic and social development, health, and many others;

...and ultimately, work with a clear and firm sense of **purpose**.

## WYA Internship Program Schedule

Apply for any of the regional internships [here](#). Each regional office has their own internship batches and offers a unique experience for learning and growth.



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# Internship Types

Interested applicants may choose between two (2) internship\* types:

## 1. Project Management Intern

Interns under this category will gain first-hand training and know-how in managing WAY's Programs under our work in Advocacy, Education, and Culture. Program Development Interns will be mentored by WAY regional staff in the planning and implementation of the region's programs such as the [Certified Training Program](#), [Human Dignity Curriculum](#), [FEMM](#), as well as other cultural projects. Each intern batch will also be given the opportunity to pitch and implement their own project for the organization. If accepted for this category, interns will be asked to choose a focus area (specialization):

a) **Advocacy & Education**, b) **Operations**, or c) **Marketing & Communications**.

Program Development Interns are expected to possess admirable project management skills and strong communication/public speaking skills, among other skills necessary to get programs up and running. Applicants with relevant experience in event management, and marketing; with high awareness of social issues; and with a heart for the person, are highly valued. If you possess these qualities and have a strong interest in our advocacy, then this internship is for you.

## 2. Marketing, Design and Social Media Intern

Interns under this category will gain first-hand experience in producing effective communication materials through various mediums. Interns will work with the WYA regional staff and the global Multimedia Manager in handling digital design, video production, photo and video documentation, and other similar work.

Marketing Interns are expected to possess extensive knowledge and relevant experience in effective visual communication, graphic design, and branding. Previous experience in web development and/or video production are highly valued. Apart from the application requirements listed below, design intern applicants are required to submit and present a portfolio of their best works.

*\*Accepted Interns from both categories are required to complete the [WYA Certified Training Program](#) and will be asked to do administrative work.*



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## Inside the Program

### Project Management

Interns will work on projects suited to their interests, skill set, and expertise, under the supervision and mentorship of WYA staff. Depending on the internship type, interns will be assigned specific projects which they will either lead or support alongside staff and co-interns. WYA programs cover the areas of **Advocacy**: participation in local and international policymaking and monitoring, campaign development, and topic-awareness; **Education**: planning and implementing the WYA Events, FEMM, Human Dignity Curriculum, and other seminars, training sessions, and group discussions; and **Culture**: get-togethers, music, art, and film events, cultural tours, and alumni parties.

Ultimately, the desired outcome of each project is the formation of individuals who embrace a worldview that situates the worth of every person at the center of development and whose lives reflect a greater commitment to defending and promoting this essential truth.

### Training

All interns will receive extensive training on human dignity and human rights philosophy through the WYA Certified Training Program. The CTP is a short course designed to provide comprehensive training on the context, ideas, and work of WYA. It presents a summary of philosophical, historical, and modern-day texts that focus on the dignity of the person and human rights. The CTP concludes with a final exam which will assess the trainee's mastery of the material. Completing the CTP will earn the trainee official WYA Certification, opening advanced opportunities for the WYA Member.

### Network-building

Our internship is a platform that allows interns to meet new contacts and establish professional and friendly relations with people from different fields, industries, and countries. Interns are occasionally assigned to attend events outside the WYA regional office and represent the organization in various engagements. Interns are also assigned to present the WYA advocacy to different audiences and communities from the grass-roots level, corporations, civil society organizations, government, and other institutions.

In addition to the above, interns will also be assigned to do administrative work such as writing business letters, filing documents, managing online accounts, and others.



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## Application Process

Before applying, we strongly encourage you to visit our [webpage](#) or [Facebook page](#) to know more about the organization and see if our programs and advocacy are the right fit for you.

### **Application Requirements:**

1. Properly completed application form
2. Portfolio (for Marketing Candidates)
3. Resumé with a 1x1 ID picture for reference
5. Two letters of recommendation addressed to the Regional Program Officer

You will receive a confirmation receipt via email upon submission of the application form. Incomplete applications will not be processed and only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview. Please address and send your requirements to the respective regional director of the region you are applying for, which will be indicated on the application form.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. What kind of interns are we looking for?**

This is open to university students, recent graduates, and young professionals. We seek individuals with strong communication and organizational skills, relevant experience in project management, initiative to get the work done, and an infectious passion for our advocacy.

### **2. Who can apply and how many interns do you accept for each batch?**

This is open to youth from all over the world within the ages of 18 to 30 years old. Internships are voluntary and may be done on a part-time (max. of 20 hours a week) or full-time basis for a period of 15 weeks. We accept an average of 3 to 5 interns per batch.

### **3. Do I have to be a WYA Member in order to be eligible for the internship?**

Yes. You can become a member by signing the [WYA Charter](#) or by completing the internship application form.



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#### **4. I'm invited for an interview, but I live in another country. How will that go?**

We will conduct the interview through Zoom video call. We will coordinate with you regarding the interview schedule.

#### **5. Do I need to pay for the internship?**

No. There is no fee to participate in the Regional Internship Program. We also do not provide any monetary compensation for airfare, visa application, accommodations, or personal expenses which includes meals and transportation to and from the office.

#### **6. Is it a paid internship?**

No. Working for WYA is purely voluntary. Our interns and volunteers do not receive monetary compensation from the organization.

#### **7. How will my schedule be like if I am a student?**

WYA prioritizes full time intern applicants; however, we also accept part time interns. Regular office hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Part time interns are required to clock in a minimum of 20 hours per week.

#### **8. Do you offer fully online internships?**

Yes, we do. This will depend on the region that you are applying for, so kindly check the application form or send an email to the regional office.

#### **9. What does a normal day (or week) look like?**

Each day varies depending on the activities and training schedules for each particular internship batch. In a week, interns will have 1-2 training lectures and group discussions as part of the Certified Training Program where WYA staff or WYA Certified Members will lead a discussion. On other days, interns may be asked to attend engagements outside the office such as manning a WYA booth or giving talks in schools or universities, attending conferences and seminars, assisting in the implementation of the Human Dignity Curriculum or other programs; meet with partners, prepare materials for events, and accomplish administrative work such as prepare reports, answer emails and calls, manage databases, and others.

And because WYA values a healthy balance between work and play, interns may also expect spending time getting to know their co-interns and the WYA staff through get-togethers, non-work-related office activities such as restaurant-hopping, film viewing, outdoor trips, and other activities that fit the interest of the group.



## 10. What else should I expect from the internship?

The training sessions will make up a bulk of the first half of your internship, so expect to do a lot of reading and learning, articulation of ideas through group discussions and public speaking exercises, alongside your project management tasks. As a close-knit organization that values relationship-building, skills and values formation, and one-on-one mentorship, goal setting, and performance reviews.

## 11. What do intern alumni do after the internship?

The direction our alumni take after completing the internship program varies depending on their chosen career path. A good number of our WYA Alumni, however, proceed to represent WYA in national, regional, and international forums and conferences; join the international internship program of WYA (mostly at the WYA Headquarters in New York or at the WYA Europe office in Brussels, Belgium), become youth leaders or active WYA volunteers in our programs, or open their own WYA Chapter. Other alumni proceed to take a law degree or Master's Degree in development studies, diplomacy, economics, or other related field; or proceed to work in other like-minded Non-Governmental Organizations, government offices, or other institutions involved in social impact and innovation.

## 12. Whom do I ask for my letters of reference?

It's valuable to know that we ask for recommendation letters to help us assess your character and skills when it comes to working professionally. Your letters should therefore come from people who can attest your skills and work experience. These may come from your professor, supervisor, mentor, co-worker, coach, or others. It should not come from family members.

## 13. Can I do an internship in another region of WYA?

Only WYA Certified Members—those who have successfully completed the WYA Certified Training Program (CTP)—are qualified to apply for and be accepted in another regional internship outside one's own. Aside from the internship program, WYA members may also take the [CTP online](#), through the Global program.



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