YOUTH PROTECTION - FAQs

What follows below are some answers to questions frequently asked about Youth Protection. As a general rule this **District strongly encourages all Rotarians to take the Protecting Youth Program Participants course (YPT) available in the Learning Center on the RI website.** It only takes 30 to 60 minutes and it is useful information to know regardless of whether you have plans to work with youth. **District policy is that it is mandatory for both the club President and the club Youth Services Chair take YPT**. *Note that there are a more stringent set of guidelines for clubs participating in the Youth Exchange program.*

**All clubs which intend to have any activities involving youth are required to have a Youth Services Chair who will have the following responsibilities related to Youth Protection.**

* + Inform all club members of their youth protection obligations.
	+ Oversee the use of non-Rotarian volunteers to ensure appropriate consideration of the District Youth Protection policy.
	+ Ensure that appropriate Training is provided to club members and others as needed.
	+ Ensure that any incidents are reported to the Club President and the District Governor

**YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING**

* **Must all Rotarians in a club take the course?**
	+ **No,** but it is strongly encouraged.
* **Who should take the RI’s Youth Protection Training Course?**
	+ Any Rotarian or Rotaracter who does any work or spends significant time with youth in any venue (individually or in groups, in classroom, on projects, transporting youth, etc.) should take the YPT course and follow District guidelines for periodically re-taking the course.
* **How often should I take the RI Youth Protection Training Course?**
	+ District 7670 recommends that if you do any work with youth at all, **you should take the course every other year.** Note that although you can retake the course as you originally took it, you will not be issued a new certificate of completion, nor will a record of you having retaken the course be kept.
* **If I take Youth Protection Training with some other organization, do I still need to take the RI’s Youth Protection Training Course?**
	+ **Yes**, you need to take it at least one time so that the District has a record that you have taken it?
* **Can I get a report that shows who in my club has taken the Youth Protection Training Course**
	+ A report showing your club’s members will be provided to the club President and the Youth Services Chair. The report will list any of your club members who have ever taken the course, but at present will not show anything but the initial date the course was completed. Retaking the course will not update the date originally taken. Our plans will be to distribute a copy of that report to clubs every quarter.
* **How do I access RI’s Youth Protection Training Course**
	+ Click on My Rotary & sign in
	+ Scroll down to the Learning Center box and click it.
	+ Click on "View" in the Club Leadership box
	+ Choose "Protecting Youth Program Participants"
	+ Choose "Enroll"
	+ Choose "Let's Begin"
	+ You will first see the video from the RI President.  You must watch this as part of completion criteria
	+ Take the Tutorial. There are 11 lessons and start by clicking in the circle to the right of the first "Overview"
	+ Continue through each (you can come back if you need to take a break)
	+ Download the Certificate and save the pdf and print it for your record.  Note that RI has the record at this time.

NOTE: If you have taken the tutorial in the past, you can retake the course, but you will not receive an updated certificate nor will RI record that you have taken it again.

**TRANSPORTING YOUTH**

* **How many Rotarians must be in the car when Rotarians are transporting youth to a Rotary event.**
	+ If it is only one child, there should be two adults in the vehicle. The Rotarian should have taken RI’s YPT. The second adult could be either another Rotarian or a responsible non-Rotarian adult.
	+ If it is multiple children, one YPT trained Rotarian is enough
* **Do I need to get permission from parents prior to transporting youth**
	+ If a Rotarian is transporting students within **your local community** and if they are older than 12, then you are not required to have their permission in advance. But you are required to ensure that the parent is aware that you are transporting their child. Asking the student if their parents are aware is sufficient for teenagers.
	+ If a Rotarian is transporting children younger than 13 **anywhere**, you should have permission from their parents.
	+ If a Rotarian is transporting youth **outside of their own local community** (for example to RYLA or to a student conference) then you should have written permission from the parents in advance.

**WORKING WITH YOUTH IN A SCHOOL FACILITY**

* **If you are engaging with youth in a classroom (examples would be delivering dictionaries or presenting Junior Achievement classes), do all Rotarians need to have taken RI’s YPT?**
	+ If you are **working in a whole class environment**, then **NO** YPT is not required but it is strongly encouraged.
	+ If you are **working one on one with students or with small groups of students**, then **YES**, YPT is required

**INVITING YOUTH TO YOUR CLUB**

* **Must all members have YPT to invite youth to club meetings?**
	+ **NO,** District policy requires that both the President and the Youth Services Chair have takenRI’s YPTand it is the responsibility of all Rotarians to assure the safety ofyouth when they attend the meeting for recognition, presentations and meals etc.
* **Under what conditions should Rotarians at a meeting with students present have taken RIs YPT?**
	+ I**f their visit involves a Rotarian working individually with youth**, then **YES** that Rotarian should have taken RI’s YPT.
	+ I**f their visit involves working in small teams with Rotarians**, then **YES** at least one Rotarian should have taken YPT.

**NON-ROTARIAN VOLUNTEERS WORKING ON ROTARIAN YOUTH PROJECTS**

* **Should non-Rotarian volunteers who will be working with youth be screened and/or be required to take YPT?**
	+ **NO** - When non-Rotarian volunteers are being recruited to work with youth on any Rotarian project. It should be the responsibility of the recruiter to screen the volunteer.
	+ The District recommends that volunteers working with youth on any Rotary project take RI’s YPT, but **NO** it is not required.
	+ Any time a volunteer is working on a **Rotary project that involves an overnight stay**, then **YES**, they are required to have taken Youth Protection Training.
* **Can non-Rotarian volunteers access the Youth Protection Training course?**
	+ **YES,** Instructions are available on DACdb in the District files under Youth Protection.