

North Pacific Yearly Meeting Youth Opportunity Fund INFORMATION

The Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) supports spiritual growth among the Central, Junior, and Young Adult Friends of North Pacific Yearly Meeting (NPYM) – that is, among young Quakers from middle-school age to about 35. YOF grants are intended to help young people in NPYM take part in events, activities, and other experiences that will nurture their spiritual lives and encourage Spirit-led action.

Examples

YOF grants can help pay for registration, travel, and other costs to attend events such as:

- New Year's Gathering of Young Friends
- Junior Friends Camp or Winter Gathering (ski trip)
- Friends General Conference Gatherings
- Friends Committee on National Legislation Spring Lobby Weekend
- Annual sessions of other yearly meetings
- Training opportunities, conferences, and other events sponsored by Friends organizations
- Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting's silent retreat, Way of the Spirit, and other spiritual retreats

The YOF can also provide funds to support:

- Personal or group study (such as books or other materials for discussion groups)
- Spiritual development for a Quaker youth or young adults group
- Traveling in the ministry
- Creative expression
- Other activities or experiences that contribute to spiritual growth as a Friend

Grant Details

- YOF grants are available for groups as well as individuals, using the same application process.
- Typically, a grant to an individual can be approved up to \$750, a grant to a group up to \$1,500.
- Award amounts depend on the number of applicants and the total funds available for the funding cycle.
- New applicants have priority over those who have received YOF support in the past.
- When the grant will not cover the full cost of the event or activity, the Youth Committee may be able to suggest alternative resources.
- Recipients should plan to share the benefit of their YOF-supported experience with their Friends' community, for example by making a presentation, leading a discussion, or teaching a First-Day School lesson for a monthly meeting; leading an interest group at a quarterly or yearly meeting; or writing an article for *Western Friend*.

Application Process, Due Dates

- Applications must be in writing. Applicants may send their applications by e-mail or U.S. mail (see addresses on form). Electronic communication is preferred.
- The form is available online at <https://npym.org/?q=content/youth-opportunity-fund>. The PDF can either be completed and sent electronically or printed out, completed by hand, and mailed.
- Applicants may use another format if they answer all questions and provide signatures.
- Funding cycles:
 - Spring: Applications due April 15; decisions announced by May 1; funds sent by May 15.
 - Fall: Applications due Sept. 15; decisions announced by Oct. 1; funds sent by Oct. 15.

Questions?

The NPYM Youth Committee administers the Youth Opportunity Fund. Contact the Committee via youth_committee_clerk@npym.org for further information.