



**Division on
Ministries with
Young People**

**MEMBERSHIP
SELECTION
PROCESS**

Young People's Ministries

**(Discipleship Ministries)
of the United Methodist Church**

Discipleship Ministries is an agency of The United Methodist Church

© 2016 Discipleship Ministries. All Rights Reserved.

What is the DMYP?

Purpose

The purpose of the *Division on Ministries With Young People* is to empower young people as world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ, to nurture faith development, and to equip young leaders by

1. Developing youth/ young adult spiritual leaders of local congregations to transform lives by making disciples of Jesus Christ;
2. Challenging The United Methodist Church to embrace, confirm, and celebrate God's call on the lives of young people;
3. Cultivating and nurturing life-giving ministries where influence and worth are not limited by age or experience;
4. Advocating for the issues and concerns of young people in the church and the global community;
5. Empowering young people to work as agents of peace, justice, and mercy;
6. Building a network of support and providing resources that connect the diverse experiences of youth and young adults in local ministries and communities across the globe.

(Paragraph 1202, *The United Methodist Book of Discipline*)

Membership

The following pages describe the roles of Youth, Young Adult and Adult Worker members on the *DMYP*. Plus, we offer some instructions/suggestions for Jurisdictions, Central Conferences, their youth and young adult councils and nominating groups on how to gather names for DMYP representatives and formally select them for these roles.

DMYP Membership Selection

DMYP Membership Selection

What Is DMYP?

The Division on Ministries with Young People is a representative body of the Global UMC. They work together with Young People's Ministries staff of Discipleship Ministries to connect youth and young adults to God, the church, and the world.

Who are the members?

The Division on Ministries with Young People is made up of:

- One youth, 12-18, from each Jurisdiction in the United States (sixteen or younger at the time of election) and one youth, 12-24, from each Central Conference.
- One Young Adult, 18-30, from each Jurisdiction in the United States and one young adult, 25-35, from each Central Conference.
- One adult worker from each Jurisdiction and Central Conference.
- Two members from the UM Student Movement steering committee.
- Three additional members to provide inclusiveness and balance.

When do they meet?

There is an annual meeting of the whole division:

- 2016 October 4-8 – Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- 2017 July 16-20 – Epworth-By-The-Sea, St Simons Island, Georgia, USA
- 2018 July 11-15 – Johannesburg, S.A. (tentative)
- 2019 July 20-24 – place to be announced

There is an additional Executive Table Meeting in the spring each year:

- 2017 – March 11-14 – Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- 2018 – March 4-7 – Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- 2019 – March 10-13 – Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- 2020 – March 8-11 – Nashville, Tennessee, USA

How are Jurisdictional and Central Conference members chosen?

USA:

- Youth are chosen through a selection process designed by the Jurisdictional youth leadership structure.
- Young Adults are elected by the Jurisdictional Conference (between 18-28 years of age). This is in addition to any persons chosen as representatives to the GBOD Board of Directors.
- Adult Workers are also chosen by the Jurisdictional Conference. This is in addition to any persons chosen as representatives to the GBOD Board of Directors.

Central Conferences:

- Youth are chosen by the youth organization of each central conference and affirmed by their bishop.
- Young Adults are chosen by the young adult organization of each central conference and affirmed by their bishop.
- Adult Workers are appointed by the central conference nominating committee and affirmed by their central conference and bishop.

What is the timeline?

Central Conference members should be submitted no later than June 4 to enable visa and travel arrangements to be made to the first meeting.

Jurisdictional names should be submitted no later than August 4 to ensure that there is time for travel arrangements to be made.

Who should receive the names and contact information?

Lee Ann Rice (lrice@umcdiscipleship.org) should receive names, email addresses, and telephone contact information by the deadline.

What if I have questions?

Contact your regional staff person (contact info available at umcyoungpeople.org/about/our-staff).

Refer to the attached detailed document.

Contact mratliff@umcdiscipleship.org.

Section 2

Other Notes

Through some conversations with leaders in our Jurisdictions/Central Conferences we have gleaned the following suggestions that hopefully add some clarity to the process:

1. The process for **nominating/selecting DMYP members is parallel to that of electing members to United Methodist Agency Boards**. This means a Jurisdiction/Central Conference will need to complete this process in addition to the process of electing representatives to, for instance, the General Board of Discipleship.
2. Nominating and **selecting both primary and alternate Youth, Young Adult and Adult Worker DMYP representatives can help** if for any reason the primary persons can not complete their 4-year term. This list of alternate representatives is not prescribed by the Book of Discipline and does not function in the same way as alternate delegates to General Conference.
3. Youth Members should be nominated/selected **by each jurisdiction's/central conference's young people's organization through a process** appropriate to that context. This process should allow youth to choose their own representation on the DMYP.
4. Formal nomination and election of **Young Adult and Adult Worker DMYP representatives happens through the formal nominations process at the Jurisdictional Conference**.
5. **Jurisdictions might solicit names for Adult Worker members to the DMYP from a number of groups** like: the youth and/or young adult organizations of the jurisdiction, a cohort of Directors of Connectional Ministries, or other groups involved with young people's ministries.
6. The process for nominating/selecting candidates to serve on the DMYP should be **completed in time for those nominations/selections to be formally acted upon, received or approved** by the Jurisdictional Nominations process at Jurisdictional Conference.

Please send questions about this process to your YPM Regional Staff person, contact information available at: umcyoungpeople.org/about/our-staff

Job Descriptions of DMYP Members

Section 1

Youth Member

The Youth Network of the DMYP consists of 12 youth - 1 youth selected by the youth organization of each central conference according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 24*; 1 youth 16 or younger at the time of selection, selected by each jurisdictional youth organization. (¶ 533)**

Persons must also be a member of The United Methodist Church.

**Editorial error set the upper limit to age 35. This should be age 24. The correction will appear in the 2016 BoD.*

*** It is the responsibility of the jurisdictional youth ministry organization to select one youth member to the Division on Ministries with Young People of Discipleship Ministries (General Board of Discipleship) for a four year term. In cooperation with the jurisdictional conference selection of a young adult to the Division on Ministries with Young People (DMYP), there should be communication with the jurisdictional youth ministry organization to ensure that either the youth or young adult representative will be a racial/ethnic young person.*

Responsibilities:

1. All members will be **expected to attend and participate fully in all 4 of the annual division meetings of the quadrennium**. Information about time and location of meetings will be shared when available.
 - a. The **initial meeting** happens in conjunction with Discipleship Ministries' (General Board of Discipleship) first board meeting, and is planned for **October 4-8, 2016**.
 - b. The other three will happen according to the attached schedule. The **third meeting** of the quadrennium (2018) will happen **in conjunction with the Global Young People's Convocation (tentatively scheduled for July 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa)**.
 - c. DMYP will provide a letter to assist you in communicating with school administration, work supervisors, senior pastors, or bishops about the importance of this work and ministry.

2. Attend the annual Executive Table meeting in addition to the four DMYP meetings **if** you are elected to a position that requires this.
3. Several members of the Youth Network will be selected to serve on **Grant and Scholarship Review committees**. Duties will include:
 - a. Spending some time the month prior to the committee meeting reviewing applications and making notes to discuss at the meeting.
 - b. Meeting electronically or in person prior to the annual DMYP meeting to review, discuss, rank and select grant and scholarship recipients for Youth Service Fund and Grants for Ministries with Young People grants, and the Global, Richard S. Smith and David W. Self Scholarships.
4. All members will **serve as a member of a table (sub) group** within the DMYP to carry out the mission of the Division.
5. **Fulfill assigned responsibilities between DMYP annual meetings**. Tasks may include participating in conference calls; giving feedback on a specific program or material of the DMYP; representing the DMYP at local, annual conference, jurisdictional or national/international events.
6. **Participate regularly in ministries with young people in your local community** and communicate the work of the DMYP in your area.
7. All members need to **provide vital input related their ministry context** as the DMYP seeks to be effective throughout the global church.
8. **Communicate in a timely manner** with other division members and DMYP staff when necessary. This includes prompt return of emails and phone calls, answering requests of DMYP staff, meeting the agreed upon deadlines for all responsibilities, as well as making travel arrangements in a timely manner.
9. If elected as the chair of the youth network, chair of a table group, member of the Executive Table, or as a member of Grant and Scholarship Review committees, those responsibilities are in addition to the ones listed here.
10. DMYP members will increase their knowledge of issues related to the DMYP and young people across the world during their time on the Division.
11. Complete other tasks as necessary and assigned.

Section 2

Young Adult Member

The Young Adult Network of the DMYP consists of 1 young adult elected by the young adult organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference up to the age of 35) and 1 young adult elected at each jurisdictional conference*. There are also 2 members of the United Methodist Student Movement steering committee (2008 Book of Discipline, par. 1207.1.d.2, ¶1412.2.g) elected as additional members. There may also be additional young adult members nominated by the Division to ensure inclusiveness and expertise. Members will serve one 4 year term.

**To be eligible to be elected, persons in the U.S. must be between the ages of 17 and 28 at the time of election with attention given to the diverse audiences young adults may represent. Persons must also be a member of The United Methodist Church.*

Responsibilities:

1. All members will be expected to attend and participate fully in all 4 of the annual division meetings of the quadrennium. Information about time and location of meetings will be shared when available.
 - a. The **initial meeting** happens in conjunction with Discipleship Ministries' (General Board of Discipleship) first board meeting, and is planned for **October 4-8, 2016**.
 - b. The other three will happen according to the attached schedule. The **third meeting** of the quadrennium (2018) will happen in conjunction with the Global Young People's Convocation (tentatively scheduled for **July 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa**).
 - c. DMYP will provide a letter to assist you in communicating with school administration, work supervisors, senior pastors, or bishops about the importance of this work and ministry.
2. Attend the annual Executive Table meeting in addition to the four DMYP meetings **if** you are elected to a position that requires this (see attached schedule).

3. Several members of the Young Adult Network will be selected to serve on Grant and Scholarship Review committees. Duties will include:
 - a. Spending some time the month prior to the committee meeting reviewing applications and making notes to discuss at the meeting.
 - b. Meeting electronically or in person prior to the annual DMYP meeting to review, discuss, rank and select grant and scholarship recipients for Grants for Ministries with Young People grants, and the Global, Richard S. Smith and David W. Self Scholarships.
4. All members will **participate in a table (sub) group** within the DMYP to carry out the mission of the Division.
5. **Fulfill assigned responsibilities between DMYP annual meetings.** Tasks may include participating in conference calls or online meetings; giving feedback on a specific program or material of the DMYP; representing the DMYP at local, annual conference, jurisdictional or national/international events.
6. **Participate regularly in ministries with young people in your local community** and communicate the work of the DMYP in your area.
7. All members need to **provide vital input related their ministry context** as the DMYP seeks to be effective throughout the global church.
8. **Communicate in a timely manner** with other division members and DMYP staff when necessary. This includes prompt return of emails and phone calls, answering requests of DMYP staff, meeting the agreed upon deadlines for all responsibilities, as well as making travel arrangements in a timely manner.
9. If elected as the chair of the young adult network, chair of a table group, member of the Executive Table, or as a member of Grant and Scholarship Review committees, those responsibilities are in addition to the ones listed here.
10. DMYP members are encouraged to increase their knowledge of issues related to the DMYP and young people across the world during their time on the Division.
11. Complete other tasks as necessary and assigned.

****In cooperation with the jurisdictional election of a young adult to the Division on Ministries with Young People (DMYP), there should be communication with the jurisdictional youth ministry organization to ensure that either the youth or young adult representative will be a racial/ethnic young person.***

Section 3

Adult Worker Member

The Adult Worker Network of the DMYP consists of 12 adult workers; “1 adult from each central conference, appointed by the central conference nominating committee; 1 adult from each jurisdiction, elected by the jurisdictional conference...” (by action of 2012 General Conference, petition #20244).

An eligible division member must be a member of The United Methodist Church and active in some form of ministry with young people in the United Methodist Church.

Responsibilities:

1. All members will be expected to attend and participate fully in all 4 of the annual division meetings of the quadrennium. Information about time and location of meetings will be shared when available.
 - a. The **initial meeting** happens in conjunction with Discipleship Ministries’ (General Board of Discipleship) first board meeting, and is planned for **October 4-8, 2016**.
 - b. The other three will happen according to the attached schedule. The **third meeting** of the quadrennium (2018) will happen in conjunction with the Global Young People’s Convocation (tentatively scheduled for **July 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa**).
 - c. DMYP will provide a letter to assist you in communicating with school administration, work supervisors, senior pastors, or bishops about the importance of this work and ministry.
2. Attend the annual Executive Table meeting in addition to the four DMYP meetings **if** you are elected to a position that requires this (see attached schedule).
3. Several members of the Adult Worker Network will be selected to serve on Grant and Scholarship Review committees. Duties will include:
 - a. Spending some time the month prior to the committee meeting reviewing applications and making notes to discuss at the meeting.

- b. Meeting electronically or in person prior to the annual DMYP meeting to review, discuss, rank and select grant and scholarship recipients for Youth Service Fund and Grants for Ministries with Young People grants, and the Richard S. Smith and David W. Self Scholarships.
4. All members will **serve as a member of a table (sub) group** within the DMYP to carry out the mission of the Division.
5. **Fulfill assigned responsibilities between DMYP annual meetings.** Tasks may include participating in conference calls; giving feedback on a specific program or material of the DMYP; representing the DMYP at local, annual conference, jurisdictional or national/international events.
6. **Participate regularly in ministries with young people in your local community** and communicate the work of the DMYP in your area.
7. All members need to **provide vital input related their ministry context** as the DMYP seeks to be effective throughout the global church.
8. **Communicate in a timely manner** with other division members and DMYP staff when necessary. This includes prompt return of emails and phone calls, answering requests of DMYP staff, meeting the agreed upon deadlines for all responsibilities, as well as making travel arrangements in a timely manner.
9. If elected as the chair of the adult worker network, chair of a table group, member of the Executive Table, or as a member of Grant and Scholarship Review committees, those responsibilities are in addition to the ones listed here.
10. DMYP members will increase their knowledge of issues related to the DMYP and young people across the world during their time on the Division.
11. Complete other tasks as necessary and assigned.