



# CONNECT CELEBRATE CREATE

## YMCA175

Global Youth Event  
LONDON | AUG. 4-8, 2019

Organized by  ymca europe



# YMCA175 GLOBAL YOUTH EVENT

## KEY DETAILS AND FAQs

This resource is for U.S. YMCA staff, volunteers and program participants interested in attending the YMCA175 Global Youth Event. **To receive the latest YMCA175 news and announcements, [sign up here](#)** for email updates. For more information, [visit Exchange](#) (for Y staff and volunteers only) or [www.ymca.net](http://www.ymca.net) (for the public).

### KEY DETAILS

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Aug. 4-8, 2019</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>London, England</b>
<b>Registration Fees</b>	<p><b>Note that standard registration includes daily admission for the full event, lunch, dinner, and travel card for London.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard registration <b>with hostel accommodation</b> for four nights: \$610 (estimated based on current exchange rates)</li> <li>Standard registration <b>without hostel accommodation</b>: \$455 (estimated based on current exchange rates). Note: this registration option allows you to select from a range of 2- to 4-star hotel packages separately at a discounted group rate for the nights of Aug. 4-7. You will be prompted to book your accommodations during the registration process.</li> </ul>
<b>Registration Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each participating YMCA should identify a Delegation Leader using this online form: <a href="http://bit.ly/YMCA175leaders">bit.ly/YMCA175leaders</a></li> <li>Delegation Leaders may register their Y's delegates at <a href="https://ymca175.com">https://ymca175.com</a></li> <li>Registration will remain open through June 2019, pending space availability</li> </ul>
<b>Venue/Lodging</b>	The event venue is <a href="#">ExCeL London</a> . A variety of lodging options suitable for all delegation budgets will be available. For planning purposes, if you are <b>not</b> selecting registration with included hostel accommodation – or are adding additional nights to your stay – note that hotel rates typically range from \$115-\$180 per night and hostels from \$30-\$65 per night.
<b>Getting There</b>	<p>Three airports are within proximity of ExCeL London:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heathrow Airport (60 minutes by public transit, approx. \$15/person one-way)</li> <li>Gatwick Airport (90 minutes by public transit, approx. \$15/person one-way)</li> <li>London City Airport (10 minutes by public transit approx. \$10/person one-way)</li> </ul>
<b>Questions?</b>	Email Y-USA at <a href="mailto:YMCA175@ymca.net">YMCA175@ymca.net</a>
<b>Stay Connected</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay connected and watch for updates on social media with <b>#YMCA175</b></li> <li>Join the <a href="#">YMCA175 email list</a> for updates</li> </ul>

# FAQS

## Event information

### WHAT IS YMCA175?

YMCA175 is a global youth event that will bring together more than 5,000 young leaders (ages 16-35) from around the world to **connect** with one another to build relationships and strengthen cross-cultural understanding, **celebrate** 175 years of the YMCA's impact on youth and communities around the world, and **create** solutions to address social challenges.

### WHERE AND WHEN DOES THE EVENT TAKE PLACE?

YMCA175 will take place August 4-8, 2019 in London, England – the birthplace of the YMCA! Delegations should plan to arrive in London by August 3, as there will be a U.S. delegation meeting on the morning of Aug. 4.

### WHO IS ORGANIZING YMCA175?

YMCA175 is organized by YMCA Europe, hosted by YMCA England & Wales, and in partnership with the World Alliance of YMCAs and YMCA of the USA.

### WHO IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE?

The YMCA is a global organization with a presence in 119 countries and all YMCA national movements are invited to participate. Event organizers are expecting more than 5,000 young leaders from around the world to participate!

### WILL THE U.S. YMCA PARTICIPATE?

Yes! All YMCAs across the U.S. are invited to participate and organize a delegation from their local community. YMCA of the USA – the national resource office for the U.S. YMCA Movement – has convened a U.S. YMCA175 Planning Committee comprised of both national and local staff to coordinate the U.S. Y Movement's participation in this event. The U.S. delegation is expected to include more than 500 youth leaders and volunteers, who are reflective and representative of the communities we serve nationwide.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN YMCA175?

YMCA175 is a unique experience that will benefit participants well beyond the actual event. Delegates will:

- Expand their global perspective, strengthen cultural competencies and develop leadership skills.
- Participate in learning sessions to explore issues impacting youth and meaningfully contribute their ideas, talents and voice to create change.
- Meet peers from around the world and connect to a global network of Y changemakers.
- Contribute to the strategic direction of the YMCA's global youth agenda.
- Be a part of a historic celebration of the YMCA's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of advancing social progress worldwide.

## Registration

### HOW DO YMCA DELEGATIONS REGISTER?

First, determine who will serve as your Y's YMCA175 Delegation Leader. That person should register with YMCA of the USA using this online form: [bit.ly/YMCA175leaders](http://bit.ly/YMCA175leaders). Once that is completed, Your Y's Delegation Leader can begin to register delegates at <https://ymca175.com>. They will also receive monthly emails from Y-USA with information and resources to help them organize and prepare their delegation.

### WHO IS MY DELEGATION LEADER?

[Click here](#) to access a list of all registered YMCA175 Delegation Leaders. If your Y does not appear on this list, work with your association to determine your Y's Delegation Leader, and have that person register with YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) as soon as possible. The Delegation Leader will serve as the primary point of contact to receive information and updates from Y-USA, and is responsible for registering delegates through the event registration site hosted by YMCA Europe.

### I AM A DELEGATION LEADER. HOW DO I REGISTER MY DELEGATES?

Before you begin your registration process, please read through YMCA Europe's [Terms and Conditions for YMCA175](#). Registration will take place through YMCA Europe's event site (<https://ymca175.com>). Please note that all **U.S. delegates should coordinate their registration with their local YMCA**. Individuals who are not affiliated with a YMCA will not be allowed to register.

## **WHAT IS THE REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR DELEGATION LEADERS?**

There is a two-part registration process. Please wait to register until you have a solid estimate of the size of your delegation.

**Part 1:** The Delegation Leader will be prompted to enter their information and provide the estimated size of their delegation. This places a temporary hold for that group's registrations. The Delegation Leader will not be asked to submit delegates' information or payment at this time and, if they later decide they need fewer registration holds, they will not be charged or penalized for the holds they cancel. The Delegation Leader's registration will be sent to Y-USA for approval. This ensures that Delegation Leaders are officially affiliated with a U.S. YMCA association.

**Part 2:** Once the Delegation Leader is approved, they will receive an email prompt from YMCA Europe inviting them to submit payment and information for each of the delegates in their group. The approval process is put in place so that YMCA Europe and Y-USA may ensure that Delegation Leaders are affiliated with a U.S. YMCA association. Delegation Leaders may return to the registration site as many times as needed to add/edit names and complete payment for their delegates.

## **CAN I REGISTER MY DELEGATION EVEN IF I DON'T KNOW ALL OF MY DELEGATES' NAMES?**

Yes. Once you are approved as a Delegation Leader in Part 1, you will have access to your account and the ability to edit your delegation profile. You will be able to add/remove delegate names and demographic information.

## **WHAT IS THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE?**

Registrations will be processed through June 30, 2019 or until spaces run out.

## **IS THERE A MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DELEGATES?**

No. There is no minimum or maximum number for delegations. You are encouraged, however to observe a ratio of "adult leader" to team member that is manageable and safe according to your association's guidelines for group activities and trips. Y-USA recommends an "adult leader" to teen ratio of 1:5 and 1:8 for older delegates.

## **WHEN IS PAYMENT DUE?**

After your registration is approved, you will receive an email invoice from YMCA Europe to submit payment. Payment is due to YMCA Europe immediately upon receiving your invoice. If payment is not made within ten days, YMCA Europe will release your reservation holds. You will have the option to pay by electronic bank transfer or with a major credit card. Be sure to call your credit card company before the transaction and inform them to expect a charge in British Pounds, so that it doesn't flag the transaction as potential fraud. Your credit card company may also ask you the approximate amount you will be charging to the card.

## **DOES Y-USA COLLECT PAYMENT?**

No. Payment will be collected directly by YMCA Europe. You will have the option to pay online via electronic bank transfer or major credit card.

## **WHAT IF MY DELEGATE ESTIMATE WAS OFF - DO I HAVE TO PAY FOR THAT NUMBER?**

You will be invoiced to pay for the full number of delegate spaces that you requested, however if your actual number changes, you only need to pay for that number. For example, if you requested (and were approved for) 15 spots, and your team count is only 13, you would pay for 13 and the 2 remaining spots would be released. If you requested 15 spots, and your team count has increased to 17, you would be able to add 2 additional spots to your delegation. Note that if you pay for 15 spots and some individuals drop out, you will not receive a refund for those individuals that dropped out. You will have the option to offer those spots to other individuals from your association or offer those spots to another delegation from the U.S. (essentially "sponsoring" someone else's registration fee).

## **HOW DO VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS AND REGISTRATION WORK?**

YMCA Europe is seeking a limited number of volunteers who possess specific skills and experience needed to help execute the YMCA175 Global Youth Event (visit <https://ymca175.com/information/> for details). To apply as a volunteer, visit the [YMCA175 registration page](#) and select the "volunteer" option. Prospective volunteers will then go through the same two-part registration process as Delegation Leaders for vetting. Volunteer applications will go to the YMCA175 Planning Committee for consideration. If accepted, volunteers may register at a discounted rate of \$235 (estimate based on current exchange rates). If a volunteer application is denied, that person will still be invited to apply as a delegate and pay the full delegate registration rate.

## **IF MY YMCA DOES NOT HAVE A DELEGATION, CAN I STILL REGISTER AND ATTEND?**

If you are an individual affiliated with a local U.S. Y, you may still attend YMCA175. You are encouraged to connect with another Y in your state. Please check the regularly updated [roster of Delegation Leaders](#) around the country and connect with other delegations in your state. If your state is not represented, please email [ymca175@ymca.net](mailto:ymca175@ymca.net) to discuss your options.

## **HOW DO I BOOK ACCOMODATIONS?**

Delegation Leaders will be prompted to book hotel or hostel accommodations as part of the registration process.

For **hotel bookings**, you will be able to select from a menu of options at discounted group rates for the nights of Aug. 4 through Aug. 7, 2019. To book additional hotel nights on either end of the trip, you will need to contact Congrex, YMCA175's Hotel manager at [hotel.ymca@congrex.com](mailto:hotel.ymca@congrex.com) to make arrangements.

For **hostel accommodations**, you will be assigned a hostel in London based on your group's size. Your hostel registration includes lodging, breakfast, and bed linens (bring your own towel) for a check-in on August 4 and a checkout on August 8. All hostels have been visited and vetted by YMCA Europe to meet standards of cleanliness, convenience, and safety. For booking additional hostel nights, you will be able to make a request during the registration process.

Visit <https://ymca175.com/information/> for additional FAQs regarding accommodations.

## **HOW DO I STAY CONNECTED?**

Whether you are interested in participating as a delegate, a local Delegation Leader or a volunteer, stay connected in three easy steps:

- 1) Sign up for the [YMCA175 email list](#) ([bit.ly/YMCA175](http://bit.ly/YMCA175)) to ensure you receive the latest event information, including a monthly e-newsletter to help delegates plan for their experience
- 2) Join the [YMCA175 Facebook page](#) for the U.S. delegation
- 3) Follow YMCA175 on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)

## **WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?**

- Email: [YMCA175@ymca.net](mailto:YMCA175@ymca.net)
- Information for Y staff: [yexchange.org/GlobalEngagement/Pages/YMCA175](http://yexchange.org/GlobalEngagement/Pages/YMCA175)
- Public website (U.S.): [www.ymca.net/ymca175](http://www.ymca.net/ymca175)
- Official website of YMCA Europe: <https://ymca175.com/>