

Frequently Asked Questions about FSY in the United States and Canada

Enclosure to the September 12, 2019, notice “Additional Information about For the Strength of Youth (FSY) Conferences in the United States and Canada”

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

1. What is FSY?

For the Strength of Youth (FSY) conferences are modeled after Brigham Young University’s Especially for Youth (EFY) conferences. These five-day events have been held extensively outside the United States and Canada for a number of years. Youth may attend beginning in the year they turn 14 and until their high school graduation. Each stake will be invited every other year.

FSY conferences include activities, devotionals, and classes designed to help strengthen faith in Jesus Christ and provide opportunities for youth to grow spiritually, socially, physically, and intellectually. Beginning in 2020 in the United States and Canada, FSY conferences will be provided by the Church and held locally with the support of BYU. Areas outside of the U.S. and Canada will continue holding FSY conferences under the direction of the Area Presidency.

A list of stakes in the United States and Canada scheduled to attend FSY in 2020 is available at newsroom.ChurchofJesusChrist.org. Information on scheduling for 2020, 2021, and 2022 and tentative dates and locations for 2020 is enclosed.

2. Are stakes scheduled for FSY responsible to plan the conference?

Ward and stake leaders *are not* responsible to plan the conference, to secure FSY locations, or to provide speakers. If assistance is needed, area leaders may call upon local leaders.

Ward and stake leaders *are* responsible for helping youth register and for arranging transportation to the FSY conference as described in question 9, below.

3. Is it necessary for stakes to provide adult leaders to attend FSY conferences?

Young single adults will fill logistical and leadership roles at FSY conferences. A limited number of adults will attend FSY as session directors and teachers. The majority of the adults serving in these positions will be full-time seminary and institute employees. Area leaders will reach out to local leaders if their assistance becomes necessary. All local leaders are encouraged to prepare youth for FSY and to talk to them about their experiences when they return home.

4. Who will serve as FSY counselors?

Young single adults ages 19–30 may volunteer to serve as counselors at one or more conferences. To understand the role of local leaders in identifying young adult counselors, see the enclosed document “Recommending Young Single Adult Counselors for FSY.”

5. Does FSY replace youth conference, Young Women camp, and Young Men camp?

In the year that youth attend FSY, their stakes should not hold other large events, such as a youth conference or trek. Stake or ward Young Men and Young Women camps and other regular activities may continue as normal. Camps should be scheduled at times that do not conflict with scheduled FSY conferences.

6. Do all youth from a stake attend the same FSY conference?

FSY is a five-day conference. Stakes will be invited to the conference or conferences their youth are eligible to attend. In areas with many stakes, youth may have options of choosing among several conferences. In such locations, youth and their parents may register youth for the conference that works best for their family. Youth are encouraged to register early to ensure they can attend the conference that best fits their schedule. Participation is, of course, not required.

7. Will BYU hold EFY for youth whose stakes are not assigned to attend an FSY conference in a particular year?

Traditional five-day EFY conferences will no longer be held. EFY Special Edition and EFY Express will still be available. For more information, see efy.byu.edu.

8. At what ages are youth eligible to participate in FSY?

Youth may attend FSYs scheduled for their stake beginning in the year they turn 14 and until their high school graduation. Each stake will be invited every other year. Those who have graduated from high school may not attend.

9. What are the guidelines for travel to the conference?

Individuals whose stake center is located less than 2.5 hours away from the conference will be required to provide their own ground transportation to the conference location. If a large number of youth from a stake will attend the same conference, stake leaders may arrange for commercial transportation, following the guidelines in *Handbook 2: Administering the Church*, 13.6.24. FSY will provide transportation for those who live more than 2.5 hours from a conference.

10. Do youth stay overnight at FSY, or do they come home at night?

FSY conferences will typically be held at college or university campuses. Youth will stay overnight in the campus dorms.

11. How much will FSY cost?

Each participant will be asked to pay U.S. \$75. In addition, the stake or ward will pay U.S. \$75 from the local unit budget allowance (LUBA) for each individual. The bishop may also use LUBA to help individuals when necessary. If desired, wards may use the annual fundraising effort to help offset the cost (see *Handbook 2*, 13.6.8).

12. How and when can youth register for FSY?

Youth in stakes scheduled for an FSY conference in 2020 will be invited to begin registering online within the first quarter of 2020.

13. What responsibilities do stake and ward leaders have for helping youth register?

Ward and stake leaders should encourage and help youth register for FSY. Bishops should consider the financial circumstances of the youth in their ward and determine if there is a need to provide assistance so all who are eligible are able to attend an FSY conference.