



Frequently Asked Questions

NEW LEADER COHORTS

What exactly am I signing up for?

When you register for the New Leader Cohort, you are signing up for an 18-month learning experience with a small group of YFC leaders that includes three face-to-face gatherings, monthly Zoom meetings, individual online trainings and the completion of assignments. Your full participation is required if you intend to pursue a YFC Credential.

What is a Cohort and who will be in mine?

Cohorts are groups of people who gather to learn together, both from the training materials provided, and from each other! This learning approach has been proven to be transformational and applicable. Cohorts will include a small group of participants from your geographical region* who serve in a variety of YFC positions and facilitated by trained, veteran YFC leaders.

*Please only sign up for the New Leader Cohort closest to you.

What is a YFC Credential and why get credentialed?

Credentialing is the word that describes a specific level of training completion. Credentialing ensures that leaders have achieved a certain level of training in areas that are important for their own personal and spiritual growth, the safety of teenagers we work with, and the effectiveness of the ministry model. YFC uses Credentialing to help leaders be more prepared for their roles. While there is much more to learn after Credentialing, the first 18 months are prescribed for all staff and will result in a YFC

Credential. Upon completion of credentialing, staff can then start the work to become licensed ministers through YFC if they choose.

Who gets credentialed?

Full-time ministry leaders are expected to complete credentialing within the first two years of YFC service. In addition, part-time leaders, and leaders not in direct ministry with young people are invited and encouraged to register and learn alongside full-time ministry staff. Credentialing is required of full-time staff because YFC holds a standard of ministry excellence that includes layers of training. In addition, completion of credentialing allows leaders to participate in new levels of leadership and/or pursue a Ministry Licensure.

What if I can't make one of the in-person gatherings – is there a virtual option?

Full participation, including attendance of face-to-face gatherings is required for completion of your credentialing. Training will include both in person and online learning, making these few face-to-face gatherings integral to your experience in the New Leader Cohort. There is not a virtual option to replace them. We recognize there is no perfect timing for events, however, the annual movement wide calendar was thoughtfully considered in selecting the timing of our in-person gatherings.

What should I do to get ready for New Leader Cohort?

The New Leader Cohorts kick off in July 2023. After that, the monthly zoom calls will get started as well. MyTrailhead is the Learning Management System (LMS) that we use in Youth For Christ. MyTrailhead offers an integrative learning experience combining reading, videos, discussion questions, quizzes and more to help you retain what you are learning. MyTrailhead will be the key platform for you to engage with during your 18 months as part of a New Leader Cohort. If you haven't already,

- Complete *YFC New Leader Orientation* on [myTrailhead](#) (go to Knowledge Base > click Training). The YFC New Leader Orientation trail offers three modules, "Welcome to Youth For Christ," "YFC's Cultural Attributes," and "Creating Safe Environments."
- Complete *3Story® Overview* on myTrailhead.

Is there a way to track progress?

Yes! When staff complete any online training modules in myTrailhead, they will receive a badge. Supervisors can view their staff's training progress and event attendance right in the Leader Journey System.

What is the cost to participate in New Leader Cohorts?

Tuition for the 18 month Cohort experience is \$1,400 paid for by your local Chapter. The \$1,400 one-time payment will be charged on the Chapter's June 2023 monthly invoice. There will be no cancellations or refunds. This cost includes lodging, food, and materials for the three in-person gatherings.

The New Leader Cohort full experience includes:

- In-Person Gatherings:
- A three day, regionally based gathering for the New Leader Cohort Kickoff in July 2023
- One day gathering, January 29, 2024, before National Leadership Conference (NLC)
- One day gathering, February 3, 2025, before XL Summit.
- Monthly Cohort Zoom Calls
- Online courses, group discussions and assignments

NOTE: The Cohort registration fee does not include any costs associated with XL Summit or National Leadership Conference. (For example, the New Leader Cohort fee does not include registration to XL Summit or NLC or hotel fees for nights of lodging during those events, etc.)

What happens if the staff member leaves YFC during the course of their 18 month training cycle?

If the unfortunate circumstance arises and a staff member leaves YFC, in general, this is a non-refundable one-time payment. As always, we encourage Chapters to have a

conversation with the [Events Team](#) to determine the best interdependent way forward.

If this cycle of New Leader Cohorts doesn't work for me this year, when is the next opportunity to join?

The next New Leader Cohort cycle begins July 2024 and follows the same pattern: a New Leader Cohort Kickoff retreat in July, a one-day pre-conference gathering before XL Summit 2025 and concludes with a one-day pre-conference gathering before the National Leadership Conference 2026.

Who should I contact if I have more questions?

Please contact the [Leader Formation](#) team if you have more questions about the New Leader Cohort process overall.

FORMER CREDENTIALING SYSTEM

What happened to YFC Institute?

Believe it or not, we are phasing out Institute as we have known it for 50 years! It is a beloved event and many of us will miss gathering in this way. However, we know due to travel uncertainty, contract restrictions, and expenses, we must pivot to a new way of delivering the training we used to deliver over 8 days at the Inverness hotel. YFC believes we learn at a deeper level in cohorts. Most of the content from YFC Institute will now be delivered via zoom calls in this group style of learning. In addition, our new online learning system, myTrailhead, delivers excellent learning experiences.

Is the "Ministry Certification" going away?

Yes, it is. We are encouraging part-time staff and volunteers who wish to be credentialed to pursue the same path of YFC Credentialing as full-time leaders.

What about the Ministry License?

The YFC Ministry License process is still active. More information can be found on the [YFC training website](#).

I still have a couple of questions...

Program related questions: training@yfc.net

Cost, Travel and Venue related questions: events@yfc.net