

## Press Release

## Governor McCrory Invites High School Students to Apply for 46th Annual Youth Legislative Assembly

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**Raleigh, N.C.** - Governor Pat McCrory is inviting North Carolina high school students to apply for the 46th Annual Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA).

"Our Youth Legislative Assembly program gives North Carolina students who are interested in government a head-start in learning the process and developing the necessary skills needed to succeed as future leaders," said Governor McCrory. "Our administration is proud to continue this long tradition of preparing the future of our state."

The Governor's <u>Youth Advocacy & Involvement Office</u>, under the N.C. Department of Administration, is now accepting applications for the conference to be held April 1-3, 2016, in Raleigh. Applications will be accepted through February 19, 2016, on a first come-first serve basis.

The YLA teaches high school students about the laws governing North Carolina's citizens as well as the lawmaking process. Students draft, debate and vote on mock legislative bills while developing skills in research, interviewing, group facilitation and policy writing. As the bills are debated, the students practice communicating their ideas, opinions and experiences in a team-building environment. At the conclusion of the three-day program, the participants have a better understanding of the lawmaking process as well as enhanced written and oral communication skills.

YLA provides the opportunity for North Carolina's youth to engage with peers from across the state in a structured, positive, youth-focused environment. The YLA program is open to students in North Carolina who are in good standing at a public, private, charter or home school. The 2015 program served 220 students from 95 schools in 49 counties who are represented in the video below.

For more information please email YLA Coordinator Erica Gallion at <a href="mailto:erica.gallion@doa.nc.gov">erica.gallion@doa.nc.gov</a> or call 919-807-4406.