



NATIONAL YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

NEW OPERATIONAL CRITERIA FOR 2018

The National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) Youth Leadership Development Programme is an exciting self-development programme for young people between the ages of 13 and 30 years old. It is a holistic, balanced and non-competitive programme of voluntary leisure time activities, designed to provide our young people with a platform to develop personal qualities and skills to make a difference to themselves, their communities and the world. The new NYAA programme is designed in line with the Ministry of Education's Levels of Attainment, focusing on effort and merit of the individual.

There are three levels in the NYAA Programme:

Bronze Level: For those who are 13 and under 30 years old
Minimum period of involvement: 6 months

Silver Level: For those who are 15 and under 30 years old
Minimum period of involvement: 12 months

Gold Level: For those who are 16 and under 30 years old
Minimum period of involvement: 18 months

The NYAA Programme has three key components, which all participants are required to complete, namely:

Service Learning (Touching Lives, Making a Difference)

This component recognizes young people's development as socially responsible citizens who understand the issues faced by the community and explore how they can contribute actively to find a solution. They can choose to undertake a Values-In-Action project or any community service projects of their interest.

Objective:

To learn how to give useful service to others in the community and to understand the meaning behind voluntary service.

Bronze: At least 20 hours of regular activities spread over a minimum period of 4 months.

Silver: At least 40 hours of regular activities spread over a minimum period of 8 months.

Gold: At least 60 hours of regular activities spread over a minimum period of 12 months.

Outdoor Appreciation (To be at Ease with Nature)

Outdoor learning supports the development of confidence building as young people are placed in unfamiliar environments outside of the classroom. It also develops young people's problem-solving skills, enhances teamwork, strengthens understanding of the natural environment and inculcates in young people a sense of stewardship for our environment.

Objective:

To be at ease with nature and develop stewardship for our environment.

Bronze: At least 15 hours of outdoor activities with a specific learning goal.

Silver: At least 24 hours of outdoor activities with a specific learning goal.

Gold: At least 36 hours of outdoor activities with a specific learning goal.

Healthy Living (Physical & Mental Wellness)

Healthy living aims to develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle that allows us to get through our daily activities. It also hopes to develop a healthy body and mind. Our behavior has a significant impact on our wellness and adapting healthy habits with a balanced diet and exercise while avoiding destructive habits such as tobacco, drugs and alcohol will improve both our physical and emotional well-being.

Objective:

To develop physical and mental wellness through healthy living

Bronze: At least 24 hours of regular activities spread over a period of 6 months.

Silver: At least 32 hours of regular activities spread over a period of 12 months.

Gold: At least 48 hours of regular activities spread over a period of 18 months.

For Gold Level Only

For the NYAA Gold Level, participants are required to undertake the fourth component:

Community Leadership Initiative (Creating an Impact, Delivering Change)

This component challenges participants to take on leadership roles in their own community service projects. Participants are to identify a need in our community and through the understanding of cultural differences, find solutions to contribute effectively to bring about a positive outcome. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase their leadership skills as they work in partnership with people from various backgrounds to undertake a community project that will not only broaden their horizons but also trains them into culturally sensitive, service-oriented and holistic leaders. The newly remodelled section hopes to see more student/youth-initiated activities that bring positive and meaningful contributions to the community, be it on the national or international level.

Objective:

To build leadership skills while serving the needs of the community.

The Gold Level participant can embark on the initiative individually or in small groups.

How to participate in the NYAA Programme?

Young people who have reached the age of 13 can enroll in the NYAA Bronze Level through their school/organisation.

For those who have reached the age of 15, they can enroll directly in the NYAA Silver Level.

For those who have reached the age of 16, they can enroll directly in the NYAA Gold Level.

The cut off age for all three level of Awards is 30 years old. They must complete and submit their reports and reflection before the age of 30 years old to be eligible for the Award.

Each level of the National Youth Achievement Award is autonomous and participants do not have to start with the lowest level of the Award. They can choose to enter the level that is suitable for their age.

Participation Fees

Bronze Level: S\$7.00, Silver Level: S\$12.00 and Gold Level: S\$17.00

They can pay the registration fee directly through the school/organisation or by cheque.

Implementation of the New Structure

The new structure will take effect from January 2018. Schools/organisations can continue to sign up using the traditional method of filling the registration form until the online system is ready in June 2018. The NYAA is currently computerizing the NYAA programme and will develop an online system and application to streamline the registration process and assist participants in the programme.

The online system will be introduced to the schools/organisations once it is ready. Meanwhile, participants can keep their own log, record and reflection in MS Word format, Excel or any format of their choice while participating in the activities. No record book and diary will be issued during the initial period. The participants registered will be transferred to the online system when it is ready.

Developmental Report

The participant is responsible for keeping their own record towards the completion of the NYAA Programme, with the date, photos and reflections on the activities they have partook during their learning journey. The submission of log, reports and learning reflection can be done through the online portal or mobile application platform. However, they have to ensure that their submission is properly recorded and backed up to ensure that they are not lost during the online submission. Neither the NYAA Council nor the school/organization are responsible for the loss of records submitted by participants.

Authorisation of the National Youth Achievement Award

Once the participants have completed and fulfilled the basic requirements of the three components (for Bronze and Silver Level); or four components (for Gold Level), with reports and records duly submitted to the NYAA Council for verification and endorsement, a certificate will be awarded by the National Youth Achievement Award Council.

NYAA Presentation Ceremony

NYAA Council organises two National Award Ceremonies annually for the NYAA Bronze and Silver Award recipients usually in May and September each year. The Bronze and Silver Awards will be presented by a Politician or another suitable, eminent Guest-of-Honour at an Award Presentation Ceremony.

The NYAA Gold Award, which is the pinnacle of the NYAA Programme, is presented by the President of the Republic of Singapore in the 3rd or 4th quarter of the year.

Upon request by the school, NYAA can also co-organise the NYAA Bronze and Silver Awards Ceremony at the school. The NYAA Council will help to invite a Guest-of-Honour for the Award Ceremony, preferably a Member of Parliament of the constituency where the school is located or any other suitable person to grace the occasion as Guest-of-Honour.

Note: Students who are enrolled in the old structure will continue to complete the programme under the old structure.

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