



COLORADO
School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety
700 Kipling St., Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center's (CSSRC) Youth Advisory Group Call for Applicants

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC/Center) is housed within the Colorado Department of Public Safety and was created in 2008 by the Colorado legislature. The Center provides school safety support to all Colorado schools pre-k through 12th grade and higher education. CSSRC offers free resources and training related to safe learning and positive school climates. Please visit our website for more information about us and our current resources for safe and positive schools: cssrc.colorado.gov

Council Name: Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES²

Mission: YES² provides feedback and recommendations to the Colorado School Safety Resource Center Advisory Board, Director and other partner agencies, about issues related to school safety and positive school climates.

Who is eligible to serve on the YES²? Any youth entering grades 9 through 12 in the 2022-2023 school year is eligible to serve.

YES² is interested in students with:

- Passion and energy for contributing to safe and positive school environments for all students
- Leadership potential and developed/developing peer social skills in order to convey the Council's recommendations and feedback
- Consideration for the input of others and the ability to respect differing perspectives
- Availability to attend scheduled meetings coordinated by the CSSRC
- Ability to work collaboratively with adults and peers
- Ability to make and keep commitments to follow through on projects and assignments
- Ability to adhere to expectations and guidelines, including school behavior

Key Responsibilities for YES² Members:

- Commit to nine months of time to attend regularly scheduled meetings
- Able to attend **at least** five (5) of seven (7) one to two-hour virtual meetings to be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7PM: Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14, and March 14, as well as the full-day Student-Staff Summit in December 2022 and the Advisory Board Meeting on April 4, 2023 at 1:30PM.
- Able to attend a team-building and orientation training in July of 2022.
- Able to learn about youth safety and positive environment needs and assets in school districts throughout Colorado
- Able to offer suggestions and make collective recommendations



- Help support and promote school safety and positive environments to youth and adults
- Work under the direction of the YES² facilitators and CSSRC Director or designee
- Provide input and unique perspective to the work of the CSSRC
- Promote awareness within their school district and community of the CSSRC
- Help in the recruitment and retention of other YES² members

Stipend: Consultation fee of \$15 per hour for YES² meeting attendance and reimbursement for mileage/travel expenses as appropriate and authorized.

Training: The YES² facilitators will offer a team-building training and school safety overview for all selected members. This training will be held virtually in July, 2022.

Application Process: Youth are required to submit the following:

- 1 - A Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES² Advisory Group Application
- 2 - Parent/Guardian Permission to Apply Letter
- 3 - Two Confidential Reference Forms completed by a teacher, coach, or community leader who knows you well and is not related to you

Applications and all other necessary paperwork can be obtained from the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) website and returned to: Margaret Ochoa, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Specialist at margaret.ochoa@state.co.us.

The Application Deadline is **Friday, May 27, 2022**.

Appointment Process: The CSSRC will review applications, conduct interviews, and make official appointments to the YES² by **Friday, June 24, 2022**. All appointments are final and are within the discretion of the Director of the CSSRC. **All are encouraged to apply.** The CSSRC honors and respects diversity and does not discriminate based upon gender, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation. If appointed, you will have the option to submit a letter of intent for the next school year.

Questions? If you have any questions about YES² or the appointment process, please contact the Center at 720.415.0575 or margaret.ochoa@state.co.us.





COLORADO
School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety
700 Kipling St., Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION TO APPLY LETTER *(For The Colorado School Safety Resource Center's - Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES² Youth Advisory Group)*

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child is applying to participate in *The Colorado School Safety Resource Center's (CSSRC) - Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES², Youth Advisory Group*. The CSSRC was created by the Colorado Legislature in 2008, and is housed within the state of Colorado's Department of Public Safety.

The CSSRC collaboratively assists local schools and communities to create safe and positive school environments for all Colorado students in pre-k through 12th grade and higher education schools. The CSSRC supports schools and local agencies in their efforts to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and crisis situations. The CSSRC provides free consultation, resources, training, and technical assistance related to safe learning, positive school climates and early intervention. Please visit our website for more information about us and our current resources for safe and positive schools: cssrc.colorado.gov

Application Process: Youth are required to submit the following:

- 1 - A Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES² Advisory Group Application
- 2 - Parent/Guardian Permission to Apply Letter - signed and dated.
- 3 - Two Confidential Reference Forms completed by a teacher, coach, or community leader who knows the student well and is not related to the student.

Applications and all other necessary documents can be obtained from the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) website and returned to Margaret Ochoa, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Specialist, at margaret.ochoa@state.co.us

If selected to serve with this advisory group, your child will be asked to participate in a peer group of other students from around the state to offer feedback and recommendations to the CSSRC related to issues of school safety and positive environments. The YES² group will be supervised by employees of the CSSRC with at least two employees present. The CSSRC believes that the collaborative work between members of the YES² and the CSSRC can benefit your child by being part of a state group working on school safety issues, helping your child learn how to work well on a diverse team, and learning how to critically think about and express ideas that are important to them. Appointments are for one year.

Service on the YES² council requires the ability to attend approximately seven team meetings to be held throughout the year. The length of these meetings will vary between an hour and two hours. All team meetings are expected to be held virtually. They are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM on Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14, and March 14. Council members must be willing to miss a sports practice, work shift, or class in order to attend at least five team meetings. Additionally, team members must make a commitment to attend the Student-Staff Summit in December, and the Center's Advisory Board Meeting on April 4, 2023. The Student-Staff Summit will be a one-day conference.

CSSRC staff expect to host an in-person orientation. If that team orientation occurs, YES² members will be reimbursed for travel and meals. If traveling from more than 50 miles outside of the Denver metro area, lodging will also be provided. Members will need to have the support of a parent or guardian to travel and stay overnight if living outside the Denver metro area. For those traveling from out of town,

a parent or guardian will be required to chaperone the student during the evening and when the student is not attending the scheduled training event. Details will be sent to all selected youth.

Any in-person meeting, including the orientation, will be held in the Denver metro area.

Students will be paid a consultation fee of \$15/hour for YES² meeting attendance and reimbursement for mileage at the state rate (currently set at \$.52/mile, but subject to change). This will require a W-9 form completed for your child in order to make payment from the state of Colorado. As a state agency, it is imperative that students return their completed expense reports within 21 days of the reimbursable event so that we can submit the requests within state guidelines. Your assistance in securing signatures and guiding your student through these financial processes is greatly appreciated.

If your child would like to participate in the program, please grant your permission by signing below. Should you have any questions, please contact Margaret Ochoa at 720.415.0575.

Thank you for your time and support. We hope this program will be of great benefit to everyone involved.

Sincerely,

Christine R. Harms, M.S.
CSSRC Director

I give permission for my child, _____, to participate in the Colorado School Safety Resource Center's Youth Engaged for School Safety (YES²) advisory group.

During my child's participation in any YES² Program event or activity, an employee of the Department of Public Safety may photograph and/or record (video) the event or activity and my child's image may be used by the CSSRC for school safety promotional purposes. I agree to release to and authorize the CSSRC to use any photograph/video containing my child's image, as described above, in print or electronic media including, but not limited to, the CSSRC public website and social media platforms, to promote school safety.

I understand the nature and expectations of YES² and will use my best efforts to support its mission. I reserve the right to withdraw my child from the program at any time.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

email _____

cell _____

Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC)

Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES²

Advisory Council Application

Name: _____

Preferred Pronouns: _____

Birth Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

School Currently Attending: _____ **Current Grade:** _____

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Parent/Guardian cell: _____

1. If you could describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

2. What are some important issues you feel students are facing regarding school safety and positive learning environments?

3. Service on the YES² council requires the ability to attend approximately seven team meetings to be held throughout the year. The length of these meetings will vary between an hour and two hours. All team meetings are expected to be held virtually. They are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM on Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14, and March 14. Council members must be willing to miss a sports practice, work shift, or class in order to attend at least five team meetings. Additionally, team members must make a commitment to attend the Student-Staff Summit in December, and the Center's Advisory Board Meeting in April of 2023. The Student-Staff Summit will be a one-day conference. The Advisory Board Meeting is on April 4, 2023 at 1:30PM. Team members must make a commitment to attend the Student-Staff Summit in December, and the Center's Advisory Board Meeting on April 4, 2023. The Student-Staff Summit will be a one-day conference.

4. Are you able to commit to these events? Please explain.

5. What clubs, activities, groups etc. have you been involved with in the last two years? (Please note any leadership position(s) you have held.)

6. If you were chosen to participate on the youth council, how would you be an asset to the team? What strengths would you bring to the table? Additionally, what challenges would you have working as part of a state-wide team?

I _____, the parent/guardian of
(Parent/Guardian name)

(YES² Team Member Name)

authorize the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) to contact my (child/youth for whom I am responsible) for publicity/media interviews regarding their work on the Youth Engaged for School Safety (YES²) Council, including, but not limited to interviews regarding the Student-Staff Summit in December of 2022. Such interviews and photographs/videos may be used only for legal purposes such as publicity, advertising, illustration and web content.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Confidential Reference Form for Application for Membership to the YES² *

**Youth Advisory Group – Youth Engaged for School Safety - YES²
Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC)**

Please have a teacher, coach, or community leader who knows you well (who is not related to you) complete this form. Thank you for your time!

This form will be reviewed by the CSSRC staff and selection committee only. The information provided will not be shared with the applicant.

***Directions for References:** The applicant has chosen you to provide information about his/her suitability to serve on the Youth Advisory Group for the Colorado School Safety Resource Center, YES². Your information is crucial to our decision-making, so we ask that you be completely candid and thorough in your assessment. We believe that the best way to accomplish this is for your input to be treated as confidential. Therefore, we ask that you not share this form with the applicant, and that you place your completed form in an envelope with your signature across the seal.

Mail to:

Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Attn: Margaret Ochoa, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Specialist
700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000
Lakewood, CO 80215

You may also email this form to Margaret.Ochoa@state.co.us
Please return the form ASAP.

Name of Applicant: _____ **School:** _____
Reference Name: _____
Reference Email: _____ **Phone #:** _____
How do you know the Applicant? _____
How long have you known the Applicant? _____

Please evaluate the Applicant by marking the appropriate box:

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Don't Know
Demonstrates age-appropriate maturity					
Demonstrates follow-through					
Is dependable and reliable					
Is on-time, with good attendance					
Is accepting of diverse populations					
Is willing to hear different views					
Can lead or follow as needed					
Possesses a positive attitude					
Demonstrates self-motivation					
Is creative and innovative					

<Over>

