



Yosemite Leadership Program Summer Internship Application



**YOSEMITE
LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM**

Are you Eligible?

To be accepted for a Yosemite Leadership Summer Internship, all applicants must meet the following requirements:

Eligibility Questions	Yes	No
Are you a current student enrolled at University of California (UC) Merced, or have you participated in a Youth Program in Yosemite like Youth Conservation Corps, NatureBridge, WildLink, Adventure Risk Challenge, Parks in Focus, Youth Ancestral Stewards?		
Will you be available for the full 12 weeks May 18 through Aug 7, 2026?		
Are you willing to obtain, or do you have a driver's license and a clean driving record?		
Are you willing to receive a full background check as well as drug testing?		
Are you going to be at least 18 years old on May 18, 2026?		
Are you a U.S Citizen or U.S Permanent Legal Resident?		

Sign above if you meet all basic position qualifications. (Type Initials and Date)

***Please Note, to qualify for non-competitive Direct Hiring Authority (DHA) with the federal government you must be a student during your internship and enrolled in a college course for Fall 2026. If you are graduating in Spring 2026 you are still eligible to apply for and participate in YLPSI but will not be eligible to receive DHA.**



Applicant Information

Name: _____ School: _____

Current Year in School: _____ Major: _____

Graduation Date: _____ Age: _____

School Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Personal Email: _____

If you qualify through Youth Programs in Yosemite participation, identify the program below and share a contact during your time in the program.

References: Two people who can speak about your abilities and work as a member of a team. These could be anyone other than family. Include an email address and phone number for each person and a few words about where you know them from.

Reference 1

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Reference 2

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Rank Your Internship Preferences

Rank your internship preferences from 1 (first choice) to 8 (last choice). See full position description online for more information.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <u> # </u> | Bear Diet Researcher: Wildlife Management |
| <u> # </u> | Medical Clinic Centennial Historian: Yosemite Medical Clinic/ Yosemite National Park Archives |
| <u> # </u> | Communications Intern: Marketing and Communications Team: Yosemite Conservancy |
| <u> # </u> | Cultural Resource Intern: YNP Division of Resources Management and Science: Cultural Resource Branch |
| <u> # </u> | Indian Cultural Demonstrator: YNP Division of Interpretation and Education: Indian Cultural Program |
| <u> # </u> | Merced River Ecological Restoration Intern: YNP Division of Resources Management and Science: Vegetation and Ecological Restoration |
| <u> # </u> | Plant Ecology Associate: YNP Division of Resources Management and Science: Vegetation and Ecological Restoration |
| <u> # </u> | Tribal Relations Intern: YNP Division of Resources Management and Science: Cultural Resource Branch |



Written Responses

Type in a separate document and label each page with your name. Aim for 1 to 2 pages total.

1. Why are you interested in the Yosemite Leadership Program Summer Internship?
2. What important leadership traits do you have and when did you use them?
3. Describe a time when you were part of a team. How did you help achieve team goals?
4. Tell about a time when you stepped outside of your comfort zone to pursue a goal you are passionate about. What did you learn from that experience?

Formal Letter of Recommendation - Suggested but not Required

Arrange to have someone write formal letters of recommendation describing how they know you, what they see as your strengths and how you would be a good fit for the Yosemite Leadership Program Summer Internship. These could be anyone but family. That includes coaches, mentors, camp leaders, instructors, church leaders, and more. These may be the same people you listed as references.

Due by Sunday, February 15. Please reach out to yose_education@nps.gov if you need an extension for your letter of recommendations. We may be flexible on the due date. If you were a previous Youth In Yosemite Program participant, your letter of reference must be staff from your time in that program, confirming your participation.

Application Checklist

Submit the following to **yose_education@nps.gov** with subject line “YLPSI 2026 Application – Your Name”

1. Applicant Information and Rank of Internship Preferences on pages 1, 2, 3
2. Resume
3. Written responses in a separate document
4. Proof of Academic good standing in a transcript or grade report
5. Optional but encouraged letter of recommendation directly to **yose_education@nps.gov**

Questions?

All questions can be emailed to yose_education@nps.gov or to Christine_Serrano-Hernandez@partner.nps.gov