



February 1, 2019

Dear Chaperones,

Thank you for volunteering your time to support students from your community at this year's Youth Advocacy Institute (YAI). We hope that this experience will be of great value to all of the youth as well as yourself!

YAI begins at 9:00am on Saturday February 9th, at the Baranof Hotel. We will meet in the Capital Room on the 1st floor. The Institute will end at 4:30pm on Sunday February 10th. During YAI, students have an opportunity to gain valuable leadership skills, interact with peers from throughout Alaska, and learn how to make a positive difference for their communities. As chaperones, you have an opportunity to support and encourage them in this process.

This year we have over 30 student participants! As some of you know, our room at the Baranof Hotel is not large. We still invite all chaperones to be fully present and supportive of your students.

Here are some important highlights to note before arriving in Juneau:

- All participants are asked to wear professional clothing. Participants are *invited and encouraged* to wear traditional cultural clothing, such as kuspuks, etc. Examples of other professional clothing are slacks, pants, shirts with collars, skirts, and blazers. Participants will be interacting with legislators and are discouraged from wearing t-shirts/sweatshirts.
- Please join us for a brief mandatory chaperone meeting on at the beginning of YAI, Saturday morning February 9 at 9:00am. We will meet outside the Capital Room (1st Floor).
- Attached is a YAI 2019 book for all participants and chaperones. Please make copies for your participants. *There is a brief pre-YAI assignment on pp. 5-6 of the book that participants can do while traveling to Juneau.*
- Attached is a schedule and chaperone agreement that you will be asked to sign at the meeting. It outlines your responsibilities and our expectations of you as a chaperone. As part of this year's YAI, we will be taking photos/video of the participants and will be interviewing some students. Should you not wish to include your students in this process, please let us know and we will make appropriate arrangements.

We greatly appreciate your participation and hope that through these guidelines, you will gain just as much as the youth whom you are engaging and supporting.

Sincerely,

Claudia Plesa and the Alaska ICE team
907.463.1675
cplea@aasb.org



Youth Advocacy Institute 2019 Chaperone Agreement

As a chaperone, I will assume responsibility for the student(s) I am traveling with to the Youth Advocacy Institute (YAI) and in the best way possible represent my community and myself. I agree and sign to the following:

- I agree to make sure my students are at AASB Fly-In and Youth Advocacy Institute activities on time.
- I understand that I need to play a supportive role to my youth, and I agree to be a positive role model for them.
- I understand that during the times I am not in YAI sessions, I agree to be available to my youth at designated meeting times (i.e., lunches and end of day).
- I will be responsible for youth when they are not at YAI sessions, which includes evening hours.
- I agree to communicate with my youth about our activities and whereabouts.
- I agree to be responsible for my youth staying in their assigned lodging.
- I agree to talk with Association of Alaska School Boards staff should an issue or problem arise with myself or our youth, so they can help me or others in need.
- I agree to abstain from illegal or inappropriate activities.
- I agree to accept responsibility for my behaviors during travel and YAI.

Signature

Date

School District