

YCI Application Frequently Asked Questions

I am originally from a YCI country but currently live in a different one. Can I apply?

The application is open for current residents of India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the U.S. states of Mississippi and Louisiana only, regardless of their citizenship or legal status. After the Incubator, we expect Youth Champions to return to their countries of residence and begin implementing what they learn and impact the youth in those countries immediately. Applications from students or other people residing in other countries will not be considered.

Do I need to be a citizen or have been born in a YCI country to apply?

No. We accept applications from immigrants, refugees and other people not born in India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the U.S. but who currently reside in those countries.

My country is not listed in the selection criteria. Can I apply?

No. Only applications from or residing in India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the U.S. South will be accepted.

What is a host organization?

A host organization is an organization, institution or group you are currently affiliated with as an employee or as a volunteer whose work is related to YCI-focused topics: youth development, sexual and reproductive health and justice, education and innovation. An applicant's host organization must support the applicant's participation in the YCI incubator.

What is the level of commitment of a host organization?

If you are selected as a Youth Champion, your host organization must be interested in you sharing what you learn with other members of the organization after your return. Additionally, the host organization could support you during the implementation of a YCI funded project. It does not need to be registered in your country or have an operating budget. It also does not necessarily have to be your employer.

What are the "dates of involvement" under the host organization section of the application?

We would like to know how long you have been working, volunteering or affiliated with the organization you listed as your host organization.

I founded my own organization or venture. Can I list it as my host organization?

Yes, if it is involved with YCI-focused issues. We encourage applicants to list as their host organization whatever group or institution they are involved with which most closely matches the focus of the YCI program.

I don't have a supervisor. Should I leave that question blank?

Do not leave this question blank. If you do not have a person that directly supervises your work, you may list someone who works with you and knows your work well. For example, if you are the Director of an organization, you may list your Executive Director or board member.

Do I need references?

Yes. Anyone who works with you may be your reference. We prefer that your references be people that have seen you at work and preferably do not work under you. Ideally, we would like to hear from a reference who has supervised you and one who has worked directly with you.

What is the word limit for my answers?

Please take up the amount of space available on the page to write your answers. Questions 1 through 6 must be answered in one or two paragraphs each. If you wish to answer the challenge question in written form, you may write up to one page.

I'm over 30 years old. Am I eligible?

We will only accept applications from people who are less than 30 years old on or before June 1, 2019. No exceptions will be made.

I sent an application but did not send a Resume or Curriculum (CV). Is my application complete?

An application is considered complete when both the application form and a Resume or CV have been received. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

My English is not perfect. How good should my English be?

Your English capacity is enough as long as you can understand verbal English, and you have an intermediate proficiency level in speaking and writing English. The majority of the participants speak English as a second language.

I wrote to the Rise Up team with a question and haven't heard back.

Due to the large volume of emails we are receiving it is difficult to respond to everyone individually and promptly. If your question is not answered above, please resend your email to pmartinez@riseuptogether.org and clromeu@riseuptogether.org. And apologies for the delay!

When will I hear back from the Rise Up team about selection?

We will be reviewing applications and conducting interviews with candidates in India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the U.S. in March and April. You can expect to hear back from us by May 1, 2019.