



## Youth Champions Initiative 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 and work or volunteer 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 the expected time commitment?**

Ability to participate in an online virtual workshop meeting weekly for two hours between October and December 2021.

**What kind of resources will be available during the training?**

Rise Up will cover all costs related to program participation, including materials and internet.

**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. Additionally, the host organization will support you during the implementation of a YCI funded project. If the organization is not legally registered and cannot receive international funds, you and your host organization must identify a fiscal sponsor organization that can receive funds if you decide to compete for the project funds.

**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.



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**What is the word limit for my answers?**

No. But please make your answers as concise and clear as possible.

**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 October 1, 2021. No exceptions will be made.

**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 direct your email as follows:

- To [yciafrica@riseuptogether.org](mailto:yciafrica@riseuptogether.org) if you reside in Ethiopia or Rwanda
- To [yciasia@riseuptogether.org](mailto:yciasia@riseuptogether.org) if you reside in India or Pakistan
- To [ycius@riseuptogether.org](mailto:ycius@riseuptogether.org) if you reside in the United States
- Please also copy Rise Up Senior Program Manager, Claudia Romeu, [clromeu@riseuptogether.org](mailto:clromeu@riseuptogether.org) in your email. And thank you for your patience!

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

We will be reviewing applications and conducting interviews with candidates over Zoom in August and September. You can expect to hear back from us by October 1, 2021