

L I O N S   C L U B S   I N T E R N A T I O N A L

# Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award

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Today's Youth,  
Tomorrow's Leaders



A Guide for Lions Districts and Multiple Districts

# LIONS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH



The Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program is part of the Lions Opportunities for Youth initiative. The mission of Lions Opportunities for Youth is:

*To provide the young people of the world with opportunities for achievement, learning, contribution and service, individually and collectively, through sponsorship of activities identified as best practices in the field of youth development.*

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD



**By example and through encouragement, Lions play an important role in fostering leadership qualities and community service commitment in young people.** The Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program expands Lions opportunities to inspire and recognize outstanding youth.

The award recognizes young people (suggested ages 15-19) for their outstanding community service involvement, leadership accomplishments, public speaking skills and scholastic achievement. Recommended for the district, multiple district and constitutional area levels, the award provides youth with an incentive to excel in service and leadership.

At the same time, the award program enables a Lions district/multiple district to challenge young people and provide resulting benefits for youth and Lions.

## Benefits for Youth

The Lions Young Ambassadors Award offers youth these benefits:

- Encourages them to seek experience in community involvement, leadership and public speaking
- Broadens awareness of community service opportunities and organizations
- Sharpens interview and communication skills
- Recognizes the value of their achievements.

## Benefits for Lions

The Young Ambassadors Award offers Lions these benefits:

- Furthers the Lions motto, “We Serve,” by encouraging young people to pursue community service involvement

- Renews Lions members’ enthusiasm and commitment to youth and service, through exposure to committed, enthusiastic young leaders
- Strengthens public awareness of Lions and their youth and service initiatives
- Introduces young people to future service and leadership opportunities.

## Getting Started at the District Level

The first requirement for involvement with the Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award is a decision by the district cabinet to sponsor the award program. The award may be combined with other existing youth award programs. The district governor should appoint a chairman responsible for coordinating the award program. It is recommended that this Lion be part of the district’s Lions Opportunities for Youth committee.

*This guide contains suggestions for creating and administering a Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program at the district, multiple district or constitutional area level. For ease of presentation, the suggestions are written for the district-level award chairman. Please interpret the wording as needed to apply to your level, whether district, multiple district or constitutional area.*

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Candidate Selection:** Local Lions clubs each select one candidate for district-level participation. This young person (suggested ages 15-19) may be an outstanding recipient of the Lions Young Leaders in Service Award; a participant in other local Lions youth initiatives, including Leo clubs; or other youth in the community. The club's Lions Opportunities for Youth Chairman oversees administration of the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program.

**Written Application:** The candidate and the club Lions Opportunities for Youth Chairman prepare a written application and submit it to the district before an established deadline date. Districts may want to consider conducting preliminary judging and interviews at the zone or region levels, with selected candidates advancing to the district level.

**Evaluations and Interviews:** The Lions district conducts an evaluation and interview process to select its Young Ambassador of the 21st Century. Selection is based on *achievements* (as reflected on the written application), an *interview* with a panel of judges and presentation of a *five-minute speech*.

**Public Recognition:** The district Young Ambassador of the 21st Century is recognized at a district-level event and through press releases. The district may present the recipient with a monetary award to be used for an academic scholarship or to further the recipient's community service involvement.

**Next Level:** The Young Ambassador of the 21st Century may advance to an award program at the multiple district level, if such exists.

## STEPS TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A SUCCESSFUL AWARD PROGRAM

### Step 1: Gather Information

**Become familiar with the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program and consider its role in your Lions Opportunities for Youth initiatives.** As you begin to plan the program, consider:

- Ways in which the Young Ambassadors program can complement the district's other youth initiatives
- Existing programs and events, such as a district conference or convention, that might serve as a source of candidates or an opportunity to conduct judging
- Criteria for eligibility and for judging
- Procedures for involving Lions clubs, selecting a recipient and recognizing the annual Young Ambassador of the 21st Century
- Budget, including operational costs and awards for the candidates and winner.

### Step 2: Assign Duties

**Recruit a committee to set up the award program.** Individual committee members might accept the following responsibilities (please note that these roles may be combined):

#### *Lions Opportunities for Youth Committee Chairman*

- Ensure that the Lions Opportunities for Youth committee understands and supports the program.
- Request regular updates from the Young Ambassadors Chairman.
- Oversee budget.

#### *Event Chairman*

This Lion would be responsible for arranging and managing one or more events for application judging, interviews,

### Checklist for the Young Ambassadors Award Chairman

- Set up a committee to establish criteria and procedures for the Young Ambassadors program.*
- Publicize the award program to Lions clubs and solicit nominations.*
- Prepare and distribute application materials.*
- Recruit and instruct a judging panel. Prepare and provide judging materials.*
- Work with the Award Event and Public Relations Chairmen.*
- Obtain recognition items (such as certificates, plaques and trophies) and award checks, as appropriate.*
- After the contest, send thank-you letters to all judges, sponsoring Lions clubs and volunteers.*
- Send a congratulatory letter to your Young Ambassador of the 21st Century. Coordinate the young person's involvement in future Lions events, as appropriate.*

speeches and recognition. Detailed suggestions are provided in Step 8.

#### *Public Relations Chairman*

This Lion, who may be the district Public Relations Chairman, would be responsible for creating and distributing press releases and serving as a liaison with the news media. Detailed suggestions are provided in Step 9.

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

## Step 3: Establish Criteria

Use the following chart to set criteria for your Young Ambassadors Award program.

<i>To be determined:</i>	<i>Suggestions:</i>	<i>Other considerations:</i>	<i>Notes &amp; ideas:</i>
Who will be eligible?	Young people ages 15-19.	Do you want to include younger or older youth?  Do you want to establish a specific date on which candidates fall within the eligible ages?	
What are the factors on which candidates will be evaluated? What weighting will be given to each factor?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community service involvement - 50 points</li> <li>• Leadership accomplishments - 25 points</li> <li>• Scholastic achievement - 5 points</li> <li>• Interview - 10 points</li> <li>• Five-minute speech - 10 points</li> </ul>	Are there other factors you wish to include?  Do you want to alter the weighting among factors?	
What will be the judging process?	Judging panel will evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written application</li> <li>• Personal interview with judges</li> <li>• Five-minute speech before judges and audience</li> </ul>	If additional factors are included, what will be the process for evaluating them?	
What are the criteria for judging candidates' applications?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of community service involvement</li> <li>• Time and effort devoted to community service</li> <li>• Initiative in community service</li> <li>• Results of service</li> <li>• Expression of lessons learned through service</li> <li>• Evidence of leadership accomplishments</li> <li>• Scholastic achievement</li> </ul>	Are there other criteria that are important to your district?	
What are the criteria for judging candidates' interviews?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content of responses to questions</li> <li>• Verbal presentation style</li> <li>• Nonverbal presentation style</li> </ul>	Are there other criteria that are important to your district?	
What are the criteria for judging candidates' speeches?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content of speech</li> <li>• Presentation style</li> <li>• Visual aids</li> <li>• Content of responses to questions</li> </ul>	Are there other criteria that are important to your district?	

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

## Step 4: Establish Procedures

Use the following chart to set procedures for your Young Ambassadors Award program.

<i>To be determined:</i>	<i>Suggestions:</i>	<i>Other considerations:</i>	<i>Notes &amp; ideas:</i>
How will Lions clubs be informed about the program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mailed flyer or letter</li> <li>• Presentations at district and club meetings</li> <li>• Information in district newsletter and Web site</li> </ul>	What other opportunities do you have to inform and encourage local participation?	
How will Lions clubs inform young people?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Leo club members and youth who have received other Lions awards</li> <li>• Provide promotional materials to schools and youth groups</li> <li>• Announce awards in local newspapers</li> </ul>	What materials and support will the district provide for club's efforts to inform young people?	
How will Lions clubs select their candidate?	<p>Districts may want to establish specific criteria and guidelines for clubs to follow when making their selections. The application for district-level candidates may also be used for club-level candidates.</p> <p>Or, the selection of candidates at the club level may be at the discretion of the club, provided candidates meet the requirements of the district competition.</p>	How will the district communicate candidate selection information to clubs?	
What will be included on the district youth candidate award application?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal information</li> <li>• Community service involvement and results</li> <li>• Lessons learned through service</li> <li>• Leadership accomplishments</li> <li>• Scholastic achievement</li> </ul>	How can application questions be worded to collect information that appropriately reflects the award criteria? Will the district request letters of recommendation?	See Sample Youth Candidate Award Application in this guide.
How will Lions clubs submit nominations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mail completed application</li> </ul>	Will there be an application fee, paid by sponsoring Lions clubs?	

(continued)

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

<i>To be determined:</i>	<i>Suggestions:</i>	<i>Other considerations:</i>	<i>Notes &amp; ideas:</i>
What will be the deadline for club nominations to the district?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the award program year with the Lions year and related events</li> </ul>	Is candidates' participation likely to be affected by factors in their life such as going away to school? Should deadlines be adjusted to accommodate this?	
Is there a need for a zone or region competition, based on the number of anticipated candidates?	To assure consistency in candidate selection, the same criteria and procedures established for the district level should be used for zone- and region-level competitions.	How will the district assist and support zone- and region-level competitions?	
How many and what kinds of awards will be presented?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club-level award to be determined by Lions club</li> <li>• Certificates and memento or small monetary award for all candidates</li> <li>• Trophy or plaque and monetary award for your Young Ambassador of the 21st Century</li> <li>• Sponsorship for Young Ambassador to participate in Lions youth events and conferences</li> </ul>	<p>Do you wish to recognize other outstanding candidates (who are not selected as the Young Ambassador)? How?</p> <p>Are appropriate award items available through the Lions Club Supplies Catalog or Club Supplies Online (<a href="http://www.lionsclubs.org">www.lionsclubs.org</a>)?</p> <p>Does your district have a foundation that may provide funding for the award?</p> <p>Can you obtain outside sponsorship for the award?</p>	
Will you define the ways candidates may use monetary awards?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award to be used to further candidate's community service work</li> </ul> <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award to be used to fund training that will build candidates' service and leadership skills</li> </ul> <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award to be used for an academic scholarship</li> </ul>	<p>Will monetary awards be administered by the sponsoring Lions club or given directly to the candidate?</p> <p>Do you wish to further define appropriate uses of the funds (such as donation to designated charities)?</p>	

(continued)

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

<i>To be determined:</i>	<i>Suggestions:</i>	<i>Other considerations:</i>	<i>Notes &amp; ideas:</i>
How will judges be recruited and selected? When, where and how will they be prepared for their role?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award program chairman recruits five judges among prominent leaders who are not Lions</li> <li>• Chairman informs judges of program details via mail</li> <li>• Chairman meets with judging panel for training, prior to evaluations</li> </ul>	<p>What specific qualifications will you seek in judges?</p> <p>How can you recruit eminent individuals as judges?</p>	See Step 6 for additional information.
When, where and how will judging take place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judges score written applications in advance of judging event</li> <li>• Judges lead interviews and observe speeches during a judging event</li> </ul>	What judging procedures need to be established?	See Step 6 for additional information.
Who will accompany candidates to the awards competition?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lions Opportunities for Youth Chairman from the sponsoring Lions club</li> <li>• Parents/guardians and other family members</li> </ul>	What release forms are necessary to arrange for Lions to accompany youth?	
Will candidates' and judges' travel expenses be reimbursed? What are the guidelines for reimbursement?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reimbursement of judges' expenses in accordance with the district's reimbursement guidelines</li> <li>• Lions clubs pay for candidate travel expenses</li> </ul>	Can the district pay for candidates' travel expenses?	
When, where and how will the candidates and winner be recognized?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award ceremony at conclusion of judging event</li> <li>• Press releases</li> </ul>	What additional opportunities exist to recognize program participants?	
What, if anything, will the winner be asked to do during the year following selection as Young Ambassador of the 21st Century?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speak to other youth to encourage their community service involvement</li> </ul>	<p>Would it be appropriate for the Young Ambassador to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• serve as a Lions youth spokesperson to the press?</li> <li>• participate in other Lions events?</li> </ul>	

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM



## Step 5: Publicize and Promote

**Promote the program to Lions clubs and solicit nominations. Prepare and distribute application materials.** Inform all Lions clubs about the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program and encourage their participation. Distribute information about procedures and deadlines. Provide application forms and contact information.

Use every available means of communication to reach local clubs.

- Mail a personalized letter and flyer to each club's president, and follow up with a phone call.
- Speak at zone, region and district meetings.
- Ask the district governor to promote the program during club visits.
- Include information in district publications (newsletters, updates, etc.) and on its Web site.
- Send e-mail messages to clubs.
- Promote club participation in Young Ambassadors program by making it a criterion for district awards and contests that recognize local clubs.

## *Suggested Sources of Candidates*

Lions clubs may find award candidates via:

- Leo clubs
- Schools
- Other youth organizations
- Recipients of the Lions Young Leaders in Service award
- Prior year's candidates (if still age-eligible)
- Places where young people volunteer
- Faith communities
- Community agencies that address service or youth
- Personal friends and family
- Professional contacts.

## *Support Participating Clubs*

Continue to communicate with club Lions Opportunities for Youth Chairmen throughout the period they are involved with the Young Ambassadors program. Provide materials, be available to answer questions, keep them informed and check their progress. Most important, personally and publicly acknowledge the role they play in the program's success.

## Sample Club Packet

*Develop a packet that provides information for Lions clubs. The packet might be mailed to all clubs or distributed to clubs' Lions Opportunities for Youth Chairmen at a district-level event. Here are some items to include:*

- *Personalized letter that details the program's benefits and asks the club to participate*
- *Document with complete program guidelines, including eligibility and judging criteria, awards, dates and club responsibilities*
- *Youth candidate application form*
- *Judges' rating sheet (for reference in preparing the candidate)*



## Step 6: Organize Judging

### Recruit and instruct a judging panel. Prepare and provide judging materials.

Determine which of the following potential responsibilities will be given to judges:

- Review and rate candidates' written applications (options: in advance of judging event or at judging event)
- Prepare questions for candidate interviews
- Ask candidates questions during face-to-face interviews and rate their responses and presentation
- Observe and rate candidates' speeches
- Ask candidates related questions following their speeches, and rate their responses
- Interact with candidates during a reception, meal or other activity as part of the judging event
- Provide written and/or oral feedback to candidates
- Participate in the awards presentation.

### *Recruit Judges*

To ensure objectivity, the judging panel should consist of three to five prominent leaders who are neither Lions members nor associated with the youth candidates in any way. Also recruit a reserve judge, who agrees to serve if another judge withdraws.

The judging panel should represent a cross-section of the geographic region served by your Lions district. Judges should relate well with young people and represent a variety of respected organizations, institutions, businesses and agencies. It is also recommended that the panel represent the district's diversity of cultures, ages and genders. Sources of judges might include:

- Government officials
- Youth-related government agencies
- Educational institutions and organizations
- Businesses
- Faith-based groups
- Media
- Youth-serving organizations
- Young people who have received other service awards.

Contact each prospective judge personally, as early as possible, starting with the individuals you would most like to recruit. If you know of a Lions member who is acquainted with the prospective judge, ask the Lion to help with your initial contact.

Immediately after a judge agrees to serve, mail a thank-you letter that also confirms information about the program and the judging event. Indicate when you will supply further details and materials.

### *Prepare Judging Materials*

The criteria and process to be used for judging candidates are essential information for sponsoring Lions clubs, candidates and judges. Prepare and distribute materials that clearly define what weight or value will be given to each criterion. Create a rating sheet or other document judges can use to record their evaluations, and send it to them in advance. Also make enough copies so each judge has one document per candidate during the judging event. A Sample Judge's Rating Sheet is included in this guide.

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## *Inform Judges*

Help judges prepare for the judging event by sending them, in advance:

- Overview and goals of the Lions Young Ambassadors for the 21st Century Award program
- Outline of the award application and selection process
- Details of the date, time and location when judging will occur
- Judging panel guidelines and responsibilities
- Specific requests for information to provide or responsibilities to fulfill in advance of the judging event
- Copy of the youth candidate application form
- Copy of the judging materials (such as a rating sheet)
- Expense reimbursement policies, procedures and forms (if appropriate)
- Your complete contact information.

After you have mailed this information, call all judges to confirm they have received it and to answer their questions. Also call shortly before the judging event to confirm details.

## *Meet with Judges*

At the start of the judging event, meet with the judging panel to review procedures and expectations. You may wish to:

- Review the event's agenda and the judging process
- Explain how to use the judging materials and guidelines
- Allow time for judges to discuss how they will work together, including which questions to ask, procedures and order for questioning, use of time, etc.

## **Step 7: Plan the Event**

**Plan one or more events for application judging, interviews, speeches and recognition.** Work with the Award Event Chairman to arrange for specific activities.

Make decisions about the many details of event preparation, then ensure someone is assigned responsibility for each. Event-related logistics might include:

- Date, taking into consideration: judges' availability, candidates' availability, availability of facility and other scheduled Lions events

- Location, taking into consideration: travel distances; availability of appropriate facilities; availability of host Lions club; how location will

## **Checklist for the Young Ambassadors Award Event Chairman**

- Help determine event date(s) and location(s).*
- Research and recommend facility. Schedule event with facility.*
- Assign responsibilities for the event's logistics and activities.*
- Coordinate with Young Ambassadors Award Chairman and others.*
- Determine room assignments and set-up for each activity.*
- Confirm all arrangements and responsibilities.*
- Before the event begins, check that everything is ready. Test all audiovisual equipment.*
- During the event, be available to answer questions and solve problems.*
- After the event, check that all bills are correct and are paid on time.*
- Thank everyone who helped.*

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affect availability of judges, media reporters, speakers, etc.

- Facility, taking into consideration: activities to be held/number of meeting rooms needed; ease of access, parking, etc.; availability of food service; quality; cost
- Meals and menus (if any)
- Accommodation reservations/arrangements (if needed).

## ***Share Information***

Inform judges, sponsoring Lions clubs and candidates about the event. Send them advance information about the exact location, date, times and agenda.

## ***Set Up Facilities and Supplies***

Consider room set-up and supplies needed for each activity that is part of the event. For example, your event might include:

- Food functions (meals, receptions, snack breaks, etc.)
- Judges' orientation
- Candidates' orientation
- Application review
- Interviews

- Candidate speeches (with audience)
- Waiting/informal times for candidates and chaperones
- Displays of candidates' community service projects
- Feedback session between judges and candidates
- Feedback session for sponsoring Lions clubs
- Award presentation ceremony.

Identify needed items such as chairs, tables, paper, pens, microphones, podiums, beverages, food, signs and printed materials. Make sure someone is in charge of providing and setting up each item.

## **Step 8: Publicize the Award Program**

### **Publicize the Young Ambassadors program, candidates and recipient.**

Awareness will build both the quality and quantity of award program participation. Consider developing:

- News release that announces the program's launch
- Articles for club and district publications or Web sites

## **Checklist for the Public Relations Chairman**

- Prepare and submit news releases announcing the award program.*
- Publicize the award program within the Lions district.*
- Prepare and submit news releases announcing the candidates.*
- Invite media reporters to participate in the judging event and award presentation.*
- Prepare and submit news releases announcing the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century.*

- “Talking points” about the award for district officers to use when addressing Lions clubs and the public
- Sample news release Lions clubs can use to announce the program and recruit candidates.

## ***Recognize Results***

Continue to focus public attention as the award process proceeds. Consider developing:

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- News releases to announce the candidates
- Sample news release a Lions club can use to announce its candidate
- Candidate profiles to appear in district publications or on Web site, or to send to media reporters
- Invitations for media reporters to attend the judging event and award presentations and view displays of candidates' community service projects
- News releases for judges to submit to their company or professional newsletters
- News release announcing and profiling the young person chosen as your Young Ambassador of the 21st Century, accompanied by a photograph of the award presentation.

## Step 9: Follow Up

**Finish up details and keep records to ensure an even better award program in the future.** Thank all supporters in person and with a written thank-you note. Send letters to all candidates and sponsoring

Lions clubs. Congratulate them on their participation, and thank them for their efforts. Have your Young Ambassador and several Lions leaders send thank-you letters to judges for their time and their expert involvement. If appropriate, write a brief article for your district publications, thanking key volunteers.

If you were pleased with the services provided by the host facility or other vendors, send them a thank-you letter, also.

### *Evaluate*

Review what went well and what could be improved in the future. Ask others for their feedback and suggestions. Write a report, including specific details about procedures. List suggestions for improving the award program.

### *Involve Your Young Ambassador*

Serving as your Lions Young Ambassador of the 21st Century might entail some future involvement by the selected youth. Consider whether your Young Ambassador may have a role as:

- Speaker to other youth, encouraging community service involvement
- Lions youth spokesperson to the press
- Delegate to Lions events in your district
- Participant in Lions multiple district and constitutional area opportunities for youth.

If such roles are anticipated, make sure a Lions leader has responsibility for informing and directing the Young Ambassador's involvement.

### **Acknowledgments**

*The suggestions presented in this guide are based in part on youth award programs in Multiple District 105 (British Isles and Ireland) and Multiple District 201 (Australia and Papua New Guinea).*

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

*(Lions districts may adapt this sample application for use by Lions clubs to select a candidate for district-level competition.)*

## YOUTH CANDIDATE AWARD SAMPLE APPLICATION

The Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award recognizes young people for their outstanding community service involvement, leadership accomplishments, public speaking skills and scholastic achievement. The awards encourage young people to seek experience in these areas and recognize the value of their achievements.

### Eligibility

The Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award district competition is for young people, ages 15 to 19, whose candidacy is sponsored by a Lions club. Contact your Lions club for information on its candidate selection process.

### Award Process

Each Lions club may sponsor one candidate to the [name of district] Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award competition. The club's Young Ambassadors award chairman and candidate work together to complete and submit the final Youth Candidate Application.

[If appropriate, add information about award process steps at the zone or region level.]

Lions club candidates and a distinguished panel of judges will come together for the district-level judging event. At this time, each candidate participates in an interview with the judging panel and presents a five-minute speech to the

### How to Apply

1. Read the information in this application.
2. Contact the Lions club's Young Ambassadors award chairman to learn about requirements and selection process.
3. If you meet all eligibility criteria, complete this form, providing all the information requested. Additional pages may be attached as needed. Submit the signed application form to the Lions club award chairman named below.

Lions Club Deadline \_\_\_\_\_

### Return to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
LIONS CLUB YOUNG AMBASSADORS AWARD CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
LIONS CLUB NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL

judges and an audience.

### Award Recognition

Lions club-sponsored candidates for the [name of district] Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award will be recognized during an awards ceremony at the end of the judging event. Candidates will be presented a recognition certificate [add information about any additional award items or monetary prizes for candidates].

The young person selected as [name of district] Young Ambassador of the 21st Century will receive a recognition certificate, [add information about any additional

award items or monetary prizes. Give credit to sponsors, if any. Also provide information about any other ways the Young Ambassador will be recognized.]

[If appropriate, add information about progression to awards events at the multiple district and constitutional area levels.]

### Award Criteria

Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award candidates at the district level are evaluated on the basis of their:

- community service involvement (50%)
- leadership accomplishments (25%)
- scholastic achievement (5%)
- interview performance (10%)
- public speaking presentation (10%)

**Lions District Application Deadline** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date for District Judging Event** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of District Judging Event** \_\_\_\_\_

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

## APPLICATION FORM

### Candidate Information

FIRST (GIVEN) NAME

LAST (FAMILY) NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE/PROVINCE

POSTAL CODE

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

AGE

Male  Female

### Agreement

*We certify that all information contained in this application is true and factual. We also agree that if the applicant is selected as a candidate for the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award, he or she will attend and participate in the [name of district] judging event on [date] and accept the authority and direction of the Lions club representatives and event organizers.*

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

*In addition to the above agreement, I hereby consent to my son/daughter/ward participating in the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award and related activities.*

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

### Community Service (50 points)

List specific community service activities, projects and events in which you have been involved during the past three (3) years.

Activity/Project/Event

People/Institution That Benefitted from Service

Estimated Hours of Service

In the past three years, how many total hours did you spend on community service activities, projects and events?  
Estimated Number of Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how you demonstrated leadership skills and showed initiative for two to three major community service activities, projects or events during the past three (3) years.

What specific results were achieved through your community service? (i.e., number of people served, goals reached, services created, funds raised, etc.)

Explain what you have learned and how you have benefitted by being involved in community service.

*Check if appropriate:* I have received the Lions Young Leaders in Service

Silver Award (for 50 hours of community service)     Gold Award (for 100 hours of community service)

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### **Leadership Accomplishments (25 points)**

List the leadership roles you have filled in the past three (3) years.

Dates	Leadership Role	Organization/Group
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Explain what your leadership has accomplished for yourself and for the organizations/groups you helped lead.

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### **Scholastic Achievement (5 points)**

Please attach a copy of a school transcript that reflects courses completed and grades achieved over the past three (3) years.

List any honors, awards or scholarships you have received as a result of your scholastic achievement.

Date	Honor, Award or Scholarship	Honor/Award/Scholarship Criteria
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## Interview (10 points)

Each Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award candidate will participate in an interview with a panel of judges. This interview will be evaluated on the basis of:

- content of responses to questions
- verbal presentation style (volume, grammar, pronunciation)
- nonverbal presentation style (gestures, grooming, eye contact).

[Explain how and when candidates will receive more detailed information regarding the interviews.]

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## Public Speaking (10 points)

Each Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award candidate will present a five-minute speech to a panel of judges and an audience. The candidate will then respond to related questions posed by the judges. The candidate's public speaking will be evaluated on the basis of:

- content of speech
- presentation style (verbal and nonverbal)
- visual aids (visibility, effectiveness, appropriateness)
- content of responses to questions.

[Explain how and when candidates will receive more detailed information regarding the public speaking topics, event and guidelines.]

### Instructions for Lions Club

After selecting your Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award candidate, forward the completed application form to the district Young Ambassadors award chairman. Include a cover letter signed by the Lions club president that endorses your club's candidate and recommends his or her selection as the district Young Ambassador of the 21st Century.

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DISTRICT YOUNG AMBASSADORS AWARD CHAIRMAN

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ADDRESS

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TELEPHONE

FAX

E-MAIL

# LIONS YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD PROGRAM

## Sample Judge's Rating Sheet (District Level)

Criteria	Possible Points	Points Awarded
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICE (Based on application)</b>		
Evidence of community service involvement	10	
Time and effort devoted to community service	5	
Initiative in community service	10	
Results of service	10	
Expression of lessons learned through service	15	
SUBTOTAL: Community Service	50 total	
<b>LEADERSHIP (Based on application)</b>		
Extent of leadership roles	15	
Expression of leadership accomplishments	10	
SUBTOTAL: Leadership	25 total	
<b>SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT (Based on application)</b>		
Evidence of scholastic achievement	5	
SUBTOTAL: Scholastic Achievement	5 total	
<b>INTERVIEW</b>		
Content of responses to questions	4	
Verbal presentation style (volume, grammar, pronunciation)	3	
Nonverbal presentation style (gestures, appearance, eye contact)	3	
SUBTOTAL: Interview	10 total	
<b>SPEECH</b>		
Content of speech	3	
Presentation style (verbal and nonverbal)	2	
Visual aids (visibility, effectiveness, appropriateness)	2	
Content of responses to questions	3	
SUBTOTAL: Speech	10 total	
<b>TOTAL SCORE (add five subtotals)</b>	<b>100 total</b>	

Judge's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL**

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