

Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Summit Information and Guidelines

History

The first Air Force Reserve (AFR)/Air National Guard (ANG) Annual Teen Leadership Summit was held 14-18 July 2008 at Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonega, GA. AFR and ANG dependent teens ages 14-18 were flown in from across the country to participate in a five day camp focused on fostering leadership skills and self confidence, developing an awareness of programs and services available to AF dependents, and building an appreciation of and sense of belonging to the Air Force community. To satisfy teens' intrinsic need to test boundaries and push limits, high adventure activities were included such as rock climbing, ropes course and white water rafting. The Summit concluded with a teen created and led presentation to AFR leadership on their top issues as Air Force dependents. All costs to include airfare, camp fees, food, activity fees and ground transportation to/from the camp were covered in full by the Air Force. With the overwhelming success of the first Teen Summit, the program continues to grow.

2010 Teen Summit Information

In 2010, three AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits will be held.

Classic Summit, Wahsega 4-H Center, Dahlonega GA, 13-18 June 2010

The starting point- priority will be given to new attendees. Teens will fly into Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport and ride University of Georgia buses to the Wahsega 4-H Center in the mountains of northern Georgia. This Summit focuses on bringing together AFR and ANG dependent teens that are geographically displaced from an active duty military installation. These teens will have the opportunity to make new friends and meet others who are going through the same challenges they face as dependents of Citizen Airmen. Attendees are introduced to Operation: Military Kids (OMK) and will meet the community partners who make-up OMK teams such as 4-H, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, American Legion, Military OneSource and the Military Child Education Coalition. This Summit also includes leadership sessions, military traditions, a community service project and high adventure activities.

Survival Summit, Colorado Youth Program, Boulder CO, 20-25 July 2010

Our most primitive camp for true outdoor enthusiasts! Teens must have attended a previous AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summit to apply for this camp. Attendees will fly into the Denver International Airport before being transported to the base camp 25 miles west of Boulder and two miles north of Brainard Lake National Recreation Area, at nearly 9,000 feet in elevation. This Summit begins at base camp where we'll work on becoming a team, challenging the group's ability to cooperate mentally as well as physically. Once we're functioning well together and acclimated to the high altitude, we'll be outfitted with gear to prepare for the expert-led three day, two night survival experience. Afterwards, we return to base camp for an environmental service project and to enjoy some time at the lake and reflection before the flight home!

Adventure Summit, Cheley Colorado Camps, Estes Park CO, 10-15 August 2010

Open to both new applicants and those who have attended no more than one previous AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summit. Fears are faced and conquered at this unique Colorado outdoor summer camp. Teens will become more independent and self-reliant, face new challenges and form new relationships as well as acquire confidence and initiate the lifelong process of self-discovery. In this beautiful and majestic setting, teens will have the opportunity to choose from daily activities such as Rocky Mountain hiking, horseback riding, colts (where campers learn what is involved in training horses) backpacking,

mountain biking, technical climbing, archery and low ropes challenge course. This Summit also includes leadership sessions, military traditions, and an environmental or community service project.

Eligibility

The AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits are open to 14-18 year old dependent teens of **current** Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard military members. Applicants will be required to complete in its entirety the 2010 AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summit application for the session they wish to attend to include essay questions, Code of Conduct, and Transportation Agreement. All documents must be signed by both the applicant and parent or legal guardian. Due to the nature of the activities and logistics involved, teens must be willing and physically capable of participating in all camp activities. In addition, all applicants must be physically and mentally capable of navigating an airport as we cannot predict airline delays or guarantee direct flights.

Selection

Applicants will be selected considering the following factors:

- Geographic location- One goal of the teen summit is to encourage representation from all 50 states. Multiple attendees from the same state will be minimized whenever possible.
- Gender- Equal representation of males and females is ideal. A disproportionate number of either gender may not be possible due to lodging accommodations.
- Age- It is important to get representation of both younger and older teens to ensure all issues are captured and addressed. A variety of ages also contributes to the success of the activities and classes provided.
- Sponsor- Representation from dependents of all ranks of enlisted Airmen and officers ensures a variety of experiences and view points are brought to the Summit.
- Branch of Service- All efforts will be made to ensure both Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard dependents have equal opportunity to attend a Teen Summit.
- Essay- Each application will contain a short answer essay question to be completed by the applicant. The essay must be completed for consideration to attend either Teen Summit.
- Code of Conduct and Transportation Agreement- The code of conduct and transportation agreement forms must be completed and signed by both applicant and parent to compete for slot at either Teen Summit.

A selection committee will be established at Air Force Reserve Command to review and rank the applications based on the above factors. Applications will be sorted in the following priority order: state of residence, gender, age, sponsor and branch of service. Essays will then be evaluated for each group to determine final selections. The following factors will be considered when reviewing essays: moral character, commitment to service, personal responsibility and originality. Any teen submitting incomplete applications to include missing forms will not be considered for attendance to either Teen Summit.

Filling Teen Summit Slots

Upon notification of selection, parents will be required to accept or decline their teen's slot and return the medical information form. Available slots for each teen summit will be filled as described above. A waiting list will be created based on the rankings of applications. Any declined camp slot will be filled starting at the top of the waiting list and working down until the established cutoff date. This will allow sufficient time for securing travel arrangements and completing all forms.