

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PROCLAMATION NUMBER 81 JML 2024

*LOUISIANA NATIONAL GUARD
YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM DAY*

WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard founded the Youth Challenge Program (“YCP”) in 1994 as a result of studies and research conducted to determine programs and methods to assist youth of high school age who were neither in school nor working; and

WHEREAS, YCP celebrates its 30th anniversary this year;

WHEREAS, YCP has successfully graduated over 28,800 participants, currently serving residents aged 16-18 with an annual goal of 1,200 graduates; and

WHEREAS, as a voluntary and preventive initiative, YCP plays a crucial role in fostering self-esteem, confidence, life skills, education, and employment potential among Louisiana’s youth; and

WHEREAS, YCP cadets gain an understanding of government structure and civic responsibilities, embrace achievement, and positive behavior to become productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, YCP empowers participants to explore career paths through personalized assessments, skill-building activities, and practical training in resume writing and interview techniques; and

WHEREAS, YCP cultivates leadership qualities in cadets, helping them develop strong character and gain the skills necessary to be a good follower and a valued member of society through understanding of social group roles and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, YCP prioritizes physical fitness through participation in military-styled physical training, running, and organized sports designed to encourage a life-long commitment to physical well-being; and

WHEREAS, YCP cadets learn life skills and coping strategies through participation in classes on anger management, stress management, conflict resolution, goal setting, financial literacy, and personal hygiene; and

WHEREAS, YCP provides an avenue for educational achievement, enabling cadets to work towards their High School Diploma or take and pass the High School Equivalency Test (“HiSET”); and

WHEREAS, YCP has long been recognized as a national leader in program excellence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim December 3, 2024, as Louisiana National Guard Youth Challenge Day in the State of Louisiana.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 3rd day of December 2024.

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE