



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO SHOULD THINK ABOUT JOINING LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULT CORPS?

We only have three absolute requirements for application. You must be:

- Between 18 and 26 years old during your service
- A high school graduate (or equivalent)
- A member in good standing of an LCMS congregation (can be waived in certain circumstances)

During the application process we are looking for young people who are Christ-centered, mature and self-motivated, and have a heart of service. Applicants should want to grow as a part of a community and should be flexible and open to new experiences, have a good sense of humor and be physically able to take on service and live independently. We want young people who are looking to learn and develop new skills in faith formation, community outreach and leadership.

If you have a skill, we can use it! The application process helps us to find your gifts, skills and experience so that we can tailor your placement to where you will both grow and be successful.

WHERE WILL I LIVE?

Corps participants live independently in housing unique to each city. Each spot is chosen to be close to service sites and accessible by public transport. We want each house to foster a supportive, faith-filled community and help everyone embrace simple living. Some locations are parsonages, others are apartments, still others are host homes. As much as possible, participants in a city live together, though genders are separate.

HOW WILL I GET AROUND?

Corps participants can bring a personal car if they want. Otherwise, participants use buses and other public transit to get around.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

Participants in the Summer (10 week) only need to pay for the cost of travel to and from their service sites.

Participants in the Gap Year (10 month) program are responsible for:

- Travel to St. Louis for Training in August
- \$1,000 Participant Fee which can be fundraised
- Any travel home during your service

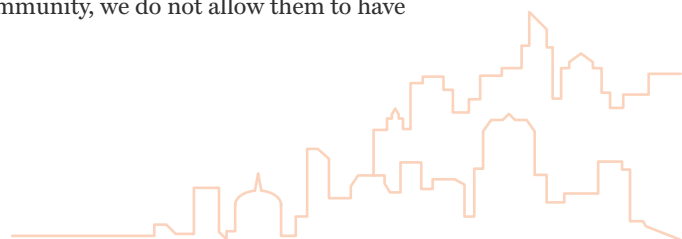
WILL I GET PAID FOR MY SERVICE WITH LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULT CORPS?

Yes, we provide a modest per diem to cover the cost of your food, transportation and basic personal needs. The amount is based on placement location but is typically around \$500 a month. The program provides housing and utilities.

WHAT KIND OF SERVICE WILL I BE DOING?

It depends on your placement! Every Community Partner writes a unique position description for their participant. In general, our participants work with at-risk children (such as in after school programs), campus ministry, volunteer management, marginalized populations like the homeless, immigrants and refugees, or communications. The interview process allows us to hear what you want to do, and to place you based on your skill set, passions and the needs of the Community Partners.

Because we want participants to focus on their volunteer service and their community, we do not allow them to have a part-time job or to take classes while serving.



WILL I GET VACATION TIME?

Participants in the Summer (10 week) program get vacation at the discretion of their Community Partners. Participants in the Gap Year (10 month) program get a minimum of 10 working days of vacation per year.

WILL I HAVE A HARD TIME GETTING INTO COLLEGE OR FINDING A JOB AFTERWARDS?

Every situation is unique. Lutheran Young Adult Corps cannot guarantee participants will receive college acceptance or job placement at the end of their service. However, research shows that participating in programs like Lutheran Young Adult Corps can be beneficial in both of those areas.

The Princeton Review says, "Admissions counselors at professional schools tell us that taking time off from school is rarely a disadvantage for an applicant. In fact, they often choose the student who took a year off and is ready to become fully engaged in school over the one who has been on autopilot and will burn out in a few months." Putting a program like Lutheran Young Adult Corps on a resume demonstrates to future employers a commitment to community, an excellent work ethic, a willingness to work cooperatively and the energy to explore new opportunities.

We have partnered with Concordia University, Nebraska, Concordia University Wisconsin and Concordia University, Ann Arbor, to qualify our 10-month participants for a \$1,000 scholarship after their service. They will also hold acceptance and financial aid packages, and potentially provide course credit for participating in the 10-month program. These Concordia Universities have graciously worked with us and our participants to encourage service before or during their university experience.

WHAT SHOULD I THINK ABOUT BEFORE APPLYING?

Full-time service is an immersive, demanding experience. Lutheran Young Adult Corps is not for everyone. If you are merely looking for something to do or want to postpone finding a job or going to college, you might want to consider other opportunities. If you are telling yourself you can shorten your commitment if things get difficult, you may not be prepared for the experiences that God will provide for you to show who He is what He is doing in these communities.

Young Adult Corps might be right for you if your motivation is to live out your faith by serving others around you. The program will provide you with what you need while encouraging your growth and independence. We will surround you with awesome people and mentors.

This kind of service work can be mentally and emotionally challenging. Make sure you can navigate sharing a house, money management, your service schedule and self-care. Please consider your own coping skills and ability to use available resources and support to manage challenging experiences. Discuss your decision with people you trust, including your parents, pastors and other church workers. Ask them to pray with you and help you discern if Lutheran Young Adult Corps is right for you.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IF I'M NO LONGER A YOUNG ADULT?

Share this information with young adults who might be good candidates. Most of our participants joined us because someone they trusted encouraged them to consider this long-term service opportunity.

This program is free to summer participants and only \$1,000 for gap-year participants. Community Partners contribute toward operating this program, but our doors remain open because of generous donors. Please prayerfully consider a small donation to help us keep costs low or free to our young adults and the urban ministries they serve. You might also consider sponsoring a participant.