

# Rotary Missouri RYLA Academy

September 2018

Greetings Club President!

Would you and your Rotary club like to impact the lives of high school students in your community? You can do just that by sponsoring students to attend the Missouri RYLA Academy.

The Missouri RYLA Academy (MO RYLA) is a four day/three night service leadership program that introduces Rotary's "Service Above Self" philosophy. The curriculum, developed and administrated by professional educators, includes a personality self-assessment, team building activities, and a two day service project simulation. Our program has been recognized by Rotary International as one of the model RYLA programs in the world.

MO RYLA has been implemented in Missouri for over 25 years and over 2,000 students have participated. Missouri Rotary Districts 6040, 6060, and 6080 partner to administer this premier academy. The staff is comprised of professional high school counselors, educators and outstanding Rotarians from around the state. The program is held each summer in Fulton, Missouri at the William Woods University campus.

In 2019, the two academy sessions of MO RYLA will be the following dates:

**Session 1:** Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

**Session 2:** Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>

Rotary clubs have the opportunity to promote the academy and sponsor their local high school students. There is not a cap or limit on as many participants a club can send. Students are allowed to select their own preferred session dates, with each session maxed at 100 participants. The registration fee is \$450.00 per student.

The program is designed for incoming high school sophomores and juniors. There is no GPA requirement and family members of Rotarians such as children or grandchildren are eligible to attend.

We strongly recommend that you do not delay selecting and registering students. Many families make their summer plans months in advance and we find that is the number one reason why selected students have to decline the opportunity to participate.

Due to the success of the program, spaces fill quickly. The official registration date for the 2019 sessions goes live on the [www.missouriryla.com](http://www.missouriryla.com) website November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Many clubs select, register and pay for their students before the holidays. MO RYLA will begin heavy recruiting after the New Year so this will not be the only time you will hear from me! 😊

The most common question from clubs is how do we find and select students to attend? Many clubs work their local high school guidance counselors to find the right kind of students. What does that mean? We are looking for students who have a heart for service.

It is important to take note of the following deadlines:

**November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018:** Registration opens

**April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** Registration closes

**May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** Full registration refund deadline, if necessary

**May 16<sup>th</sup>-June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** If your club has a student withdraw, you can replace them with a student of the same gender without penalty

The Missouri RYLA Academy website: [www.missouriryla.com](http://www.missouriryla.com)

After Rotary clubs have registered and paid for their selected students, MO RYLA will send a receipt to your club, then contact and work with students and their families directly to finish the registration process.

Please feel free to check back to the web site from time to time to see our updates and learn more about this internationally acclaimed youth program!

I look forward to working with you and your club. For any questions, please contact me at 816-673-6818 or [missouriryla@gmail.com](mailto:missouriryla@gmail.com).

Valerie Anderson, Administrative Chair

Missouri RYLA Academy

P.S. On a personal note, my name may be familiar to you as I previously served as the program director for 10 years. After taking a break from directing, I have resumed my administrative role. Go RYLA!