

Child and Youth Program Vision & Mission

Vision: Our vision is to empower every military-connected youth across Iowa, fostering resilience and growth through impactful support and opportunities.

Mission: We are dedicated to advocating for military youth by offering life skills education, organizing enriching events, and managing resources effectively to support their well-being.

Child and Youth Program Core Values

- **Relevant:** We embrace change and innovation, always seeking to understand and meet the evolving needs of our community.
- **Innovative:** We are committed to originality and continuous improvement, ensuring that our approaches and solutions stay at the forefront of youth development.
- **Professional:** We maintain a high standard of expertise and efficiency, prepared at all times to deliver quality services worthy of our stakeholders' trust.

State Teen Panel (STP) Role Objective

The STP supports the Child and Youth Program by collaborating with the Lead Child & Youth Program Coordinator (LCYPC) and other coordinators to achieve our mission and vision. Members assist in planning and executing events, develop their leadership skills, and serve as advocates for military-connected youth in Iowa.

STP Key Results

Members of the STP serve a one-year term, with the option to reapply. Throughout their term, members are expected to:

- Advocate for military-connected youth, addressing current challenges and opportunities.
- Develop skills in leadership, teamwork, and networking.
- Engage actively in selected Child and Youth Program events.
- Attend all scheduled meetings.
- Pursue public service initiatives in their communities.

Member Conduct and Performance Expectations

Application

- **Professionalism and Engagement:** Members are expected to fully engage in their responsibilities during all program activities. This includes demonstrating attentiveness, staying on task, and effectively interacting with guests and team members.
- **Conduct Review:** Members who consistently fail to meet program expectations may be subject to a review of their participation. This process aims to ensure that all members contribute positively to the goals of the State Teen Panel. Continued concerns after a review may lead to adjustments in a member's involvement, up to and including dismissal, to uphold the quality and integrity of the program.

Schedule

- **Quarterly Meetings:** The STP will meet at least four times a year, which includes two in-person gatherings and two tele/video conferences. These meetings will focus on leadership training, event planning (e.g., Month of the Military Child (MOMC) and Purple Up), resilience building, life skills development, and fostering connections among military-connected youth. (Examples of these would include: STP Summit, STP Retreat, STP Zoom Call)
- **Summer Regional Conference:** Annually, STPs from Region 7 (Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska) convene for a four-day conference in June, rotating locations among the states. This conference aims to enhance networking and share innovative ideas. When hosted in Iowa, up to 10 members may participate; when out-of-state, up to 4 members may attend.
- **CYP Event Participation:** STP members are required to help plan, execute, or volunteer at least once at a CYP event each year, with efforts made to accommodate events within a two-hour drive from each member's residence. (Examples of these would include: Fall Family Festival, Cookies with Santa, Military Family Event, etc.)

Requirements for Eligibility

- **Age:** Applicants must be between the ages of 13 and 17.
- **Connection:** Applicants must be military-connected youth (dependent, sibling, or stepchild of an Army National Guard Service Member).
- **Commitment:** Applicants must be willing and able to fulfill the roles and responsibilities outlined, including participation in events and meetings as scheduled.

Reimbursement

Joining the STP offers a unique opportunity to engage with and support military families locally. While reimbursement is available for specific events like STP Retreats and Summits, we also value support for local military family events, even without reimbursement. Together, let's make a difference in the lives of military families!

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Please complete and return **ALL** sections.

SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name	<input type="text"/>		
Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>	Age	<input type="text"/>
Gender	<input type="text"/>		
Mailing Address	<input type="text"/>		
City	<input type="text"/>	ZIP	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	Cell #	<input type="text"/>
T-Shirt Size	Choose an item. (Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL)		

SECTION II: PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name	<input type="text"/>		
Cell Phone	<input type="text"/>	Work Phone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>		
Parent/Guardian Name 2	<input type="text"/>		
Cell Phone	<input type="text"/>	Work Phone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>		

SECTION III: SCHOOL INFORMATION

Grade	Choose an item. (7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th)		
School Name	<input type="text"/>		
School Address	<input type="text"/>		
City	<input type="text"/>	ZIP	<input type="text"/>

SECTION IV: QUESTIONS

Please complete the following five questions on a separate document and attach to the application. Acceptance will be based on the quality of answers provided by the applicant and the applicant's eagerness in involvement with the State Teen Panel.

- 1) Tell us about your life experience as a military connected youth.

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- 2) Give an example of someone you look up to as a leader, and why?
- 3) If you could dream about the impact of this program, what comes to your mind?
- 4) As a member of the STP, you will serve as a role model for others in our state. What qualities do you believe a role model should possess and in what ways do you personally demonstrate some of those qualities?
- 5) We all have busy schedules, so how will you balance your time between the STP and other extracurricular activities?

SECTION VI: REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Parent/Guardian Permission and Release

I will support my child as he/she serves the Iowa National Guard Youth Program if they are selected as a delegate of the State Teen Panel. I am willing to allow my child to travel or provide transportation myself to help them fulfill all responsibilities of this position. In addition, I hold the Iowa Youth Program, its Contractors, the Services Branch Office, the National Guard Bureau, the National Guard Child and Youth Program, program volunteers and the Iowa National Guard harmless from injury or death that occur as a result of participation.

<input type="text"/>	Click or tap to enter a date.
Parent / Guardian Applicant Signature	Date

Youth Participant Pledge

As a military connected youth myself, I believe in the importance and impact of the Child and Youth Program and pledge to support and serve its core values with my best efforts through the State Teen Panel. I pledge to assist the Child & Youth Program Coordinators with the mission and vision of the Youth Program, to own the objective of the Teen Panel, to strengthen my personal leadership skills as an active member of the Teen Panel, and to be an advocate for all military connected youth in the state of Iowa.

I am aware that, should I be selected as a delegate of the STP, it is my responsibility to ensure, to the best of my ability, that I attend the required meetings. I understand that failure to attend meetings may result in their dismissal from the STP.

<input type="text"/>	Click or tap to enter a date.
Youth Applicant Signature	Date

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DUE TO

Please email / scan this application to the following. If you don't have access to email please call and mail the application to the address below.

Chris Cox
Child & Youth Program Coordinator
515-727-3064
christopher.j.cox18.ctr@army.mil

Mailing Address / Iowa National Guard
JFHQ A-1 RM 186
7105 NW 70th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131

**Please Note – Acceptance and service on the Iowa State Teen Panel is done strictly in a statutory volunteer status. There will be no payment for hours worked; however, associated travel costs will be reimbursed to the selected applicant, per travel regulations.*