



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# YMCA OF THE TWIN TIERS BOARD APPLICATION

## TWIN TIERS YMCA Bradford - Limestone - Olean - Wellsville



## BOARD APPLICATION

Dear Board Candidate,

You have received this application because of your interest and willingness to explore a potential board member position with the YMCA.

We hope you will take this opportunity to learn more about the Y, the Y's vision and the responsibilities of being a Board Member.

This application is the first step of the process in becoming a new board member. Interviews, facility tours, and board approval are also mandatory steps of the process. Ensuring that the Y is a good fit for you and you for the YMCA is crucial in quality board development and the overall success of our organization.

As you continue to learn and explore this board position with the YMCA, please complete and direct this application and/ or any questions you may have to your appropriate contact person:

Association Board - Jeff Townsend, CEO – [jefft@twintiersymca.org](mailto:jefft@twintiersymca.org)

Bradford Advisory Board - Emily Rhoades, Executive Director – [emilyr@twintiersymca.org](mailto:emilyr@twintiersymca.org)

Olean Advisory Board - Taylor Lubi, Interim Executive Director – [taylorl@twintiersymca.org](mailto:taylorl@twintiersymca.org)

Wellsville Advisory Board - Tyler Green, Associate Executive Director – [tylerg@twintiersymca.org](mailto:tylerg@twintiersymca.org)

Thank you for your interest in a Board position with the YMCA of the Twin Tiers!



**The Y: We're for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.**

## About the Y

The Y is the leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

## Our Cause Defines Us

We know that lasting personal and social change comes about when we all work together. That's why, at the Y, strengthening community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of ability, age, cultural background, ethnicity, faith, gender, gender identity, ideology, income, national origin, race or sexual orientation, has the opportunity to reach their full potential with dignity.



## Strengthening Community

With a focus on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y works to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the community's health and well-being, and give back and support our neighbors.

At the Y, no child, family or adult is turned away due to inability to pay. We recognize that for communities to succeed, everyone must be given the opportunity to be healthy, confident, connected and secure.

The YMCA of the Twin Tiers provides scholarships and dues waivers to children, families and seniors in our community. The Y is a unique nonprofit that offers subsidies to those in need, ensuring that our programs and services are available to all.

## How We Do It

There is no other nonprofit quite like the Y. That's because in 10,000 neighborhoods across the nation, we have the presence and partnerships to not just promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change.

- The Y is community centered. For nearly 160 years, we've been listening and responding to our communities.
- The Y brings people together. We connect and celebrate people of all ages, backgrounds and identities to bridge the gaps in community needs.
- The Y nurtures potential. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.
- The Y has local presence and national reach. We mobilize local communities to effect lasting, meaningful change.



**The Y: We're for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.**

## The Y

*"The Y, the oldest and largest social institution in the United States, has touched the lives of virtually all Americans. It gave the country basketball and volleyball, its best-known popular contributions. But it also pioneered camping, public libraries, night schools and teaching English as a second language. The Y has provided war relief since the Civil War, and served immigrants and refugees from countries around the world. It has fostered understanding and cooperation within Christianity and among the world's major faiths. It has summoned the strengths of association to make communities stronger. The Y has probably touched more lives in America than any other volunteer or social institution."*

Andrea Hinding, Professor, University of Minnesota

## What Does the YMCA Stand For?

In the beginning, back in 1844, young men drawn to London for jobs in factories lived in squalid and unsafe conditions. Street life offered only taverns and brothels. A 23-year-old clerk named George Williams thought to improve the lives of young workers by offering a place for prayer, bible study, mutual support and group residence. The now famous initials stood for:

## Young Men's Christian Association

The Y idea, which began among evangelicals, was unusual in that it crossed the rigid lines that separated all the different churches and social classes in England in those days. This openness was a trait that would eventually lead to including all men, women and children, regardless of race, religion, financial circumstances or nationality.

So, we're not just for the Young, not just for Men, and not just for Christians any more. But we're still an Association – a community within a community – working to meet social, physical and spiritual needs for the greater good of all.

We welcome everyone, because we share what we have by offering financial assistance to those who cannot otherwise afford our programs and memberships, because we promote the core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility, and because we strive to engage and improve the spirit, mind and body, we state as our Mission:

***To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.***



## YMCA of the Twin Tiers

Chartered in 1886, spearheaded by a group of dedicated citizens who believed in the values promoted by the Y and wanting to make a positive difference in the community. As our mission to increase our service coverage to neighboring counties developed, we have continued to grow and collaborate with schools, government agencies and a variety of other nonprofit organizations.

Today the YMCA of the Twin Tiers encompasses three full-facility branch and numerous program sites throughout the region.

Bradford YMCA

Limestone  
Family Play Zone

Olean YMCA

Wellsville YMCA

## Serving Hundreds each day

Hundreds of youths and adults enter into our YMCA's facilities on a daily basis seeking support and services in order to improve their quality of life. We are proud to be a great community resource that helps families creatively spend time together; individuals maintain healthier lifestyles; and give children and teens positive experience and memories that will last a lifetime.

## Youth Development Programs

- Holiday Vacation Camp
- Summer Day Camp
- Youth Sports
- Swimming Lessons
- Enrichment Classes
- Swim Team
- Multi-Cultural Exposure
- Achievers Programs
- Parent's Night Out
- Kid Zone
- Arts and Humanities



## Healthy Living Programs

- Personal Training
- Fitness Assessment
- Fitness Orientations
- Group Exercise
  - Yoga
  - Boot Camp
  - Spinning
  - Zumba
  - Pilates
  - HITT
  - Step Classes
- Cardio Machines
- Treadmills
- Free Weights
- Circuit Training
- Sauna/ steam rooms
- Active Older Adults
- Silver Sneakers
- Racquetball Courts
- Water Aerobics
- Lap Swimming
- Nutrition Classes
- Pickleball



## Social Responsibility Programs

- Conference Facility
- Birthday Rentals
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Active Older Adults
- Silver Sneakers
- Book Club
- Community Gathering Locations
- Lifeguard Certification
- CPR/AED/First Aid Trainings
- Seniors Potluck
- Scholarships
- Nutrition Classes

## Board Member Responsibilities

### Board Structure

The YMCA of the Twin Tiers structure is made up of a Association Board of Directors, and each branch has a local Advisory Board. Each Branch Advisory Board Chair is a voting member of the Association Board of Directors and their role is to advocate the needs of the local branch to the Association Board.

### Time Commitment

Board meetings are typically held monthly for about an hour. In addition, each board member is expected to serve on a committee that would generally meet either monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly for an hour (frequency dependent on committee). Board members are also asked to attend Association special events throughout the year.

### Typical Board Member Responsibilities

**Ensure effective planning.** Boards must actively participate in an overall strategic planning process and assist in implementing and monitoring the plan's goals.

**Ensure adequate financial resources.** One of the board's foremost responsibilities is to secure adequate on-going financial resources for the organization to fulfill its mission.

**Protect assets and provide proper financial oversight.** The board must assist in developing the annual budget and ensuring that proper financial controls are in place.

**Enhance the organization's public standing.** The board should clearly articulate the organization's mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support from the community.

**Build a competent board.** All boards have a responsibility to articulate prerequisites for candidates, orient new members, and periodically and comprehensively evaluate their own performance.

**Hire, support and evaluate the chief executive.** The board should ensure that the chief executive has the moral and professional support he or she needs to further the goals of the organization. (Association Board Role)

**Ensure legal and ethical integrity.** The board is ultimately responsible for adherence to legal standards and ensure mission and vision advancement through decisions that advocate for inclusion and social justice.



*In partnering with the Y as a board member, you can feel confident your contribution will make a meaningful, lasting impact on our community and in the individual lives of many.*

## Board Legal Duties

**Duty of Care** requires Directors to use reasonable care and good judgment in making their decisions on behalf of the interest of the organization.

**Duty of Loyalty** requires all Board Members to be faithful to the organization, avoiding conflicts of interest.

**Duty of Obedience** requires all Board Members to comply with governing documents (i.e. Bylaws, article of incorporation, policies, etc.)

The Y enjoys a rich and storied history, dating back over a century and a half, with a tradition of bettering every community it serves. The Y is the premier nonprofit board in which to serve in our area. The Y is the place to serve.

A successful board is achieved by attracting successful and quality business and community leaders? Do you see yourself in this positive image? If so, we might have the right seat for you!

## WHY SERVE?

HAVE AN IMMEDIATE AND LASTING IMPACT

GAIN EXPERTISE ON COMPLEX ISSUES

BUILD VALUABLE NETWORKS AND RELATIONSHIPS

GROW AS A LEADER THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN – THROUGH EXPERIENCE

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

CHANNEL CREATIVE ENERGY

THE NEED IS GREAT, IF NOT YOU, WHO?





## YMCA Board Member Application and Questionnaire

Please complete entire form and submit to the corresponding email addresses to the YMCA leadership provided on page two of this packet.

Personal			
First	MI	Last	Date of Birth
Address			
Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	E-mail
Board Interested in serving on:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Association Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Bradford Branch Advisory Board		
<input type="checkbox"/> Olean Branch Advisory Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Wellsville Branch Advisory Board		
Race			
<input type="checkbox"/> African American or Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian or White	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander	
Are you currently a member of the YMCA? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
If yes, at which location and what type of membership? _____			
Any known limitations or disabilities you would like to disclose:			
Employer			Title
Employer Address			
Type of business or organization			

**BOARD APPLICATION**

Have you ever been convicted, plead guilty or plead no contest to a crime? (If yes, please explain).

I understand that the YMCA reserves the right to conduct a comprehensive criminal background checks on me as a Board candidate and that any results of a background check will be kept confidential.

Yes  No

**Education**

Institution	Degree and Major
Institution	Degree and Major

Please list your past and present memberships on boards, committees and organizations: (business, civic, community, fraternal, political, professional, recreational, religious and social).

Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service

Please list notable achievements in your service to above organizations:

**BOARD APPLICATION**

What is your experience with the Y?

Please describe your other volunteer experience:

Board members play a key role in essential fund development of a nonprofit organization. The Y raises funds annually to meet the needs of the Twin Tiers YMCA service area. Do you feel comfortable fundraising for the Y and making a personal donation to the YMCA cause? Please explain:

Please list any previous fundraising experience:

As a board member would you be able to provide the Y access to any valuable services through your profession or relationships at either a discount or no-cost?

Did anyone recommend you for a Y board position? Do you know anyone on a Y Board?

What interests you in serving as a YMCA Board Member?

**BOARD APPLICATION**

The YMCA is a faith-based organization with an emphasis on the core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. As an organization the Y celebrates the diversity of our community in regards to ability, age, cultural background, ethnicity, faith, gender, gender identity, ideology, income, national origin, race and or sexual orientation. Are you prepared to engage in and advance the mission through this environment?" Yes

Please mark the skills and/or interest you bring to our board:

	Reading Financials		Business Management		Accounting
	Human Resources		Fundraising		Grant Writing
	Administration		Outreach/Advocacy		Nonprofit Experience
	Community Service		Leadership Development		Law/Legal Issues
	Policy Development		Real Estate		Banking
	Program Evaluation		Information Technology		Web Design
	Public Relations		Strategic Planning		Event Planning
	Campaign Planning		Education/Instruction		Medical/Healthcare
	Membership Growth		Marketing/social media		Child Development

Other unique talents or skill sets you bring as a board member?

Time commitment: Board meeting schedules vary by location. Contact branch leadership via the email addresses provided on page two for more information. Meetings typically last about an hour. Each board member is also expected to serve on a committee that would generally meet either monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly for an hour. In addition, board members are asked to attend occasional special events throughout the year. Can you reasonably commit this amount of time? Please list conflicts:

Please list three references:

Name	Relationship	Phone / email
Name	Relationship	Phone / email
Name	Relationship	Phone / email

## Board Members Expectations

**To help the Y be successful and to be a valued board member, I will keep the following as my expectations:**

I am responsible for the stability and development of the YMCA of the Twin Tiers. As a member of the Board, I pledge to help carry out the mission of the Association.

I am responsible to review, approve, and monitor the annual budget.

I am responsible to take an active role in fundraising for the organization. Along with my other board members, I accept the responsibility of meeting the annual campaign goal as established in the budget. I agree give a personal financial donation, annually to the Y.

I am responsible to understand the legal aspects of the organization and to ensure proper insurance coverage and policies established and to monitor implementation of these policies.  
*(Association Board Only)*

I understand that board service will involve a commitment of my personal time, talent and energy.

I will be active on one or more committees.

I understand that my attendance at board and committee meetings is crucial to the progress of the YMCA of the Twin Tiers and will commit to be present 80% of the time.

I understand that the day-to-day operation of the Association are the responsibility of the staff.

I agree to keep confidential any sensitive information shared at board or committee meetings, or in conversations with staff or other board members.

I will ensure my personal beliefs will not interfere with the Mission and Vision of the YMCA.

As a member of the Board, I pledge to carry out this agreement to the best of my ability and to trust and encourage my fellow board members to do likewise.

### **Y Staff Support to the Board**

Y staff will provide me with appropriate financial information that allows me to make sound fiscal decisions which ensures the Association's financial health.

Y staff will provide statistical and analytical reports on the membership, programs and services of the YMCA to aid board members in making informed policy decisions.

These responsibilities I accept in good faith as a member of the YMCA of the Twin Tiers Board.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member Candidate Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*The YMCA does not discriminate against any volunteer, employee, applicant for employment, independent contractor, or any other person because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, national origin, age, or sex. The YMCA takes affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees or agents are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religious creed, ancestry, national origin, age, or sex. Such affirmative action shall include, but is not limited to, the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training. The YMCA shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees, agents, applicants for employment and other persons, a notice to be provided by the YMCA setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.*

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