

Helpful Tips for a Great IYC Experience



10-12 MONTHS BEFORE IYC

- Get the date on your calendar: June 30-July 3, 2022; San Antonio, Texas
- Who can attend: 7th-12th grade graduates and their adult leaders
- Communicate the theme early and often; teach the scripture verse to your students.

Theme: UPGRADE (Isaiah 43:14-21)

- Surrender
 - Discover the new thing God wants to do in your life
 - Learn what to do when things get difficult
 - Declare the new thing God has done within you
- Inform your students and parents and keep the convention in their minds. You have the following available online at www.iyc2022.org to help you:
 - Theme information
 - FAQ section with LOTS of info
 - Downloadable logo
 - Downloadable schedule
 - Prayer Guide (available Spring of 2022)
 - Use your church bulletin and newsletter
 - Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter
 - If you are a main group leader and do not receive our IYC emails, contact us at iyc@chog.org and ask to be added to the list!
 - The more parents know, the more supportive they are of IYC. Meet with them at least three times to explain details, finances and expectations of your trip.
 - Put together a budget for IYC. Look for a sample budget worksheet at the end of this document.
 - Begin your fundraising early. For ideas visit www.iyc2022.org. It is better to do three great fundraisers rather than ten average ones.
 - Everyone attending IYC must be registered. This is a high school conference for seventh grade graduates to seniors in high school and adult leaders. You may transfer/substitute one registrant for another if changes happen in your group. There is a \$50 cancellation fee for any cancellation made ON or BEFORE May 16, 2022. Cancellations after this date will NOT be refunded.

- When you register, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to set up an account with our registration platform. We highly recommend you do this, so you will be able to make updates to your group and access your information as needed.
- We discourage those who are younger from coming. We understand there are rare circumstances where child-care isn't available. Children six years old and under must be registered but will not be required to pay a registration fee.
- How many counselors will you need with you? We recommend having one responsible adult in each room of three same-gender students. We recommend that counselors be 21 years of age or older and a formal background check be done on all your counselors. There are many websites that do this for a small fee. The minimum age to be a counselor is 18.
- Your church may apply for tax exemption in Texas. If approved, you may use this to remove the sales tax portion from your hotel cost. Information about how to apply may be found here: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/exempt/forms/>

6-10 MONTHS BEFORE IYC

- Get your group registered! **Registration opens on October 4, 2021** at www.iyc2022.org. Here is cost information:

- **Registration Cost:**

Early Bird Rate	\$155	10/04/21-01/24/22
Life Change Rate	\$165	01/25/22-03/21/22
Regular Convention Rate	\$175	03/22/22-05/16/22
Late/At-the-door	\$190	05/17/22-06/30/22

- Put together your budget. (see sample at end of this document)
- Set deadlines for your students to get their money in. Here is a *sample payment plan*:

Payment 1	\$50-\$125 non-refundable deposit	Due October 13, 2021
Payment 2	\$200	Due November 3, 2021
Payment 3	\$200	Due January 12, 2022
Payment 4	\$200	Due by March 2, 2022
Payment 5	Balance	Due by April 6, 2022

- **Housing – Reservations open on October 4, 2021** at www.iyc2022.org. Register your group and you (the main group leader) will receive the housing packet in your confirmation email. Follow those instructions to make your housing reservations.

- We have worked very hard on hotel contracts, negotiating costs to be at the lowest rate possible per room night. To keep these reasonable room rates, we must meet our minimum guarantee with the hotels. Therefore, please understand that anyone not staying at the convention hotel will have a \$75 per person charge added to their IYC2022 event costs.
- Host an informational/promotional meeting about IYC to get students, parents, and leaders interested. Feel free to use promo tools at www.iyc2022.org.
- A prayer guide will be available spring 2022 on the IYC website. You may copy it and share it with prayer groups in your church, those attending the convention, and anyone else in your congregation who might be interested. Plan special times of prayer for the convention.
- Nominate students for the IYC2024 student leadership team to plan IYC2024 by February 22, 2022 by going to www.iyc2022.org. If you have nominated a student, remind them applications are due no later than March 22, 2022.
- Discuss with your students about dressing modestly; help your students understand the biblical truths behind dressing modestly. Visit www.iyc2022.org.
- Research the location for any attractions, information about restaurants, or activities you may want to do outside of the convention times.
- Consider if you want to come early or stay later. Often, this helps to avoid convention “traffic” and gives your group extra time to enjoy a great city!
- Figure the amount of extra money for students to bring, i.e., food (all meals are on your own), souvenirs, activities, etc. Onsite T-shirt sales will be available to students and leaders with a price range of \$15-\$18 per shirt.
- Make your decision about how you will travel to IYC2022 in San Antonio. Travel by planes may be less expensive than buses or vans depending upon your situation. Price it out to find your best option and secure your travel arrangements.
- STW donation – Offerings will be taken during 2 main services for Spread the Word. Since it started in 2002, more than \$875,000 has been given through STW to supply tools for evangelism around the world in thirty-seven countries. Our hope is that each person will bring \$25 for this offering. If you prefer, your youth ministry might do a designated fund raiser for this in advance.

3-6 MONTHS BEFORE IYC

- Establish how you will stay in touch with your students while at the convention. Get cell phone numbers and let them have emergency numbers. Give parents emergency numbers if they need to contact you on site.
- Make sure all IYC waivers have been turned in. **Waivers must be done online and are required for any student who will be under the age of 18 at the start of IYC, June 30, 2022.** They may be done online here: https://cgm.formstack.com/forms/iyc_waiver_copy

- Download the IYC app. You can search International Youth Convention to find it. (Available late Spring of 2022.)
- **IMPACT Day** – We give back to our host city! On our IYC website will be information about how to sign up for a project. You may also organize something unique on your own if you prefer to do so. It is your responsibility to sign up in advance as we have set aside one afternoon to give back. Go, and serve with love.

3 MONTHS BEFORE IYC

- Ask for a commissioning time at your church. Many congregations have a special prayer time during the Sunday morning worship service, the week before groups leave to travel to IYC.
- Notify Church of God Ministries of any registration changes as far in advance as possible. Remember, if you created your own account during registration, you can make your own changes online!

2-4 WEEKS BEFORE IYC

- Have your final IYC meeting with your group. At that time, give them room assignments and go over final details. Make sure parents have your contact information in case of an emergency.
- Double check and confirm all your transportation arrangements and hotel reservations. Also, check to make sure you know the time and location of your Impact project.

UPON ARRIVAL

- **Hotel Check-in:** Upon arrival, send one adult to the hotel registration area to check in for your entire group. If your group can remain outside with the rest of the adults, it will help prevent congestion in the hotel lobbies. The hotel staff should be able to answer your questions about special needs you may have.
- **IYC Registration line:** Check the convention schedule to find times for convention registration. When you arrive in the registration area, there will be people there to guide you through the process. There will also be signs to help you.
- If you registered in advance, your registration packet will be mailed to you two to three weeks before IYC. You will have a wristband for each registrant, a lanyard and name badge for each registrant. Double check your packet to make sure they are correct. Wristbands must be worn on the wrist at all times. If a wristband is lost or broken, a replacement will cost \$5. Lanyards with nametags must be worn around the neck at all times. A replacement will cost \$5.
- **Service Seating:** You will have a certain color wristband indicating your region. Each region will have a certain load-in time for each service.
- **Hotel etiquette:** DO be courteous to hotel staff. DO be quiet and respectful in all areas of the hotel, especially early and late in the day. DO observe curfews (no one is to be outside of their room after midnight and halls are to be quiet after 10:00PM). DO clean up after yourself and use room items properly so as not to cause damage. DON'T run or be rowdy in hotels.

DURING IYC

- Student conferences: There are many different options of conferences, on a variety of subjects. Have your students review the speakers and topics in advance. They may choose two conferences to attend at IYC2022.
- YMI (Youth Ministry Institute): While the students are attending conferences, come to the YMI event that is just for adult leaders! Spend time worshiping and learning with other leaders from around the country. Our goal is to encourage, equip, and support you in your ministry with students.
- College age students are free to attend YMI or student conferences. Since IYC is targeted at high school students, there are no specific college age conferences.
- What to bring to IYC: Bible, notebook/journal, pen, Spread the Word offering, extra spending money for t-shirts and other merchandise, etc.
- Bringing cell phones is encouraged. They will help you to keep in touch with those in your group and allow you to easily access the IYC app. They also may be used interactively during certain parts of the convention. However, during services, conferences, and venues, please turn phones to vibrate or silent so they do not disturb the users or those sitting nearby. Make your own rules regarding the use of cell phones during convention activities. We suggest you limit use to taking pictures, using Bible apps, and taking notes.
- What not to bring to IYC: tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs, inappropriate clothing, skateboards or scooters, laser pointers, noisemakers, or anything else you know does not belong at a Christian convention.
- Plan to attend the Leader's meeting. We require you to have at least one leader present to represent your student ministry. See the schedule in the IYC app.
- We always need many adults to help during the response time in services. Please come and bring other adult leaders to the Designated Prayer Counselor's meeting if possible. See the schedule in the IYC app.
- Exhibitors: Many different organizations have come with information to share with you and your students. Take the time to visit the exhibit booths. Pick up free resources and information, learn about some great opportunities, and purchase some curriculum or IYC merchandise to take home with you!
- Be prepared for life change, for your students to be transformed!

AFTER IYC

- **We see IYC as a launching pad, not just an event.** We encourage you to use the tools provided at the event to follow up and have accountability as a group after IYC has ended.
- Schedule a time for your group to share about IYC with your congregation. This can be a time of brief testimonies, or even a video prepared in advance. Also, take the time to allow sharing with students in your ministry who were not able to attend IYC. Several

weeks after IYC, you will receive an update about what God did at the event. Share this information with your students and congregation as well.

- Here a list to help you know the lingo for acronyms you may hear or see associated with IYC:
 - **EL – Emerging Leaders.** We desire to create a community of high school students on the journey to discover their call to ministry. Students have the opportunity to say “yes” to the calling that God has placed on their lives. At IYC we will have an Emerging Leaders Gathering to encourage and equip those who feel called into ministry or missions. See the IYC schedule.
 - **IA - Intern Academy** – The Intern Academy is a network of internships nationwide that are accountable to teaching the same principles of personal leadership and ministry. It connects and resources certified IA coaches with young people pursuing a call to ministry through internships who desire to serve and impact the church. Go to www.internacademy.net to learn more.
 - **SLT -- Student Leadership Team.** This nominated and chosen group of student leaders from around the country will help plan for the upcoming IYC. During their time of service, they make site visits to the IYC city, and are given opportunities to grow spiritually and develop their leadership gifts.
 - **STW – Spread the Word.** This is a teen missions endeavor to help students give financially to provide tools for evangelism around the world.
 - **YMI –Youth Ministry Institute.** This is a training and connection time for adult leaders and college age students during IYC. See the program book for times and locations.
 - **YMT – Youth Ministry Team.** This is a team of four youth pastors who work with the IYC Director to give representation for youth ministry across the United States and Canada. They help cast the vision for Church of God youth ministries and are actively involved in planning and directing IYC and other CHOG youth events.

Sample Budget Worksheet

ITEM	# of Students	Amount per student	Total Amount per group	Notes
Registration		\$155.00		Goes to \$165 on 1/25; \$175 on 3/22
Hotel				Hotels are \$140 per night plus taxes. Some taxes may be eligible for reduction through applying for tax exempt status in Texas
Food				Number of breakfasts, lunches and dinners and amount you plan to budget for each.
Transportation (airfare)				
Transportation (shuttles)				
Parking				
Misc/Emergency				
Free Day Activity				
Free Day Food				
STW Offering		\$25.00		
TOTAL				