

Frequently Asked Questions

✧ **What is Franciscan LEAD?**

Franciscan LEAD is a dynamic Catholic leadership opportunity for teens that are ready to step up to the next level of leadership. This program, in the spirit of **St. Francis**, will teach participants the principles of **Leadership, Evangelization, And Discipleship**.

✧ **What happens over the course of the week?**

The week is rooted in the truths of Scripture, the Catechism, the Sacraments of the Catholic Church, and the lives of the saints. Each day of training will consist of workshops on discipleship including how to develop a prayer life, overcoming sin through the Sacraments, and other practical tools for developing their Catholic faith. The week will also include evangelization training on being an effective witness through topics such as how to share their personal testimony, servant leadership, how to answer difficult faith questions, and being an authentic witness.

✧ **Who should apply for Franciscan LEAD?**

Franciscan LEAD is for youth who are passionate about their Catholic faith, active in their youth group, and are ready to step up to the next level of leadership through evangelization and discipleship training.

✧ **When does Franciscan LEAD take place?**

Franciscan LEAD training begins Monday evening before the Steubenville Youth Conference and runs through Friday afternoon. On Friday evening, after spending the afternoon greeting and assisting arriving youth groups, Franciscan LEAD participants join their group. Therefore, each participant must be a registered conference participant with their group for the weekend.

✧ **Who facilitates the Franciscan LEAD week?**

The program is led by a team of leaders who are experienced in youth ministry and have been specifically trained by Franciscan University of Steubenville's Youth Outreach Office.

✧ **How do youth apply for Franciscan LEAD?**

The application and referral forms are sent to the group leaders after they officially register for the Franciscan University Summer Youth Conference. Because we are seeking youth who have been acknowledged as up-and-coming leaders, youth are not able to apply directly to the program but must be referred by their group leader. The entire application packet, including the youth application and referral, must be sent directly to the conference office from the group leader. Contact the conference registration office for an application packet.

✧ **What is the age requirement for applying?**

Franciscan LEAD applicants must be in the range of completion of their freshman year through completion of their senior year in high school. Preference will be given to those who have been to a Franciscan University Summer Youth Conference in the past.

✧ **Can a youth apply to Franciscan LEAD at a site different from where their group is registered?**

No. One of the values of Franciscan LEAD is participants use their newly acquired skills and insights to serve their fellow group members throughout the high school youth conference weekend. Participants are required to be registered at the same Franciscan University Summer Youth Conference as their group.

✧ **Can more than one teen from a group apply for Franciscan LEAD?**

Yes, there is no limit to the number of teens that apply from each parish.

✧ **What is included in the cost?**

Exact cost for the week is dependent upon the location of the conference you are attending. Contact the site specific registration office for program cost information. The Franciscan LEAD program cost includes training in discipleship and evangelization, resource book, official program t-shirt, and lodging/meals for the participant for the duration of the program. This cost does not include the registration fee for the conference weekend or transportation to and from the site. Options for payment may be available through sponsorship by parish youth group for full or partial cost.

✧ **How are travel arrangements made?**

Once the participant is accepted to the program, they are responsible for arranging their own travel to the site and notifying the Steubenville Youth Conference registration office of their travel plans after acceptance.

✧ **Can youth be considered for Franciscan LEAD a second year?**

Yes, however youth must go through the entire application process again and priority will be given to new applicants. Previous participation in Franciscan LEAD does not guarantee acceptance.