



NATIONAL
GUARD
BUREAU

ARNG CYS GUARD TEEN PANEL APPLICATION PACKET FY2027



GTP Mission

The National Guard Teen Panel (GTP) serves as the voice for the National Guard (NG) Youth across the 54 states and territories. The goal of the GTP is to “Connect, Support and Inspire” Youth at the local, state, regional and national level. More so, GTP provides insight to National Guard Bureau (NGB) Leadership from the perspective of the NG Youth.

GTP Composition

The Guard Teen Panel (GTP) represents Army National Guard youth nationwide. The panel is composed of 14 regional delegates, with two representatives serving each of the seven regions. Both delegates share equal responsibility in representing their region. The GTP is youth-directed and facilitated.

GTP Goals: “*Connect, Support, & Inspire*”

- **Connect** – Engage in consistent and effective communication with State Teen Panels, Child & Youth Program Coordinators, National Guard Bureau Point of Contact, and other GTP members via emails, teleconferences, webinars, and approved social media website.
- **Support** – Provide input about current youth issues and direction for meeting, marketing, curriculum, and events.
- **Inspire** – Cultivate new ideas that motivate youth to participate within their communities.

GTP Objectives

- Identify & present solutions to current NG youth issues
- Present top issues to NGB Leadership
- Assist with planning of Regional Symposium
- Market the GTP to the states
- Assist in strengthening State Guard Teen Panels
- Assist with identifying and training future GTP Delegates

The GTP has contributed to the Child and Youth Program in multiple ways such as:

- Developed and presented documents such as GTP Bylaws, College Seminar Guide, and a Peer-to-Peer Military Youth Handbook
- Created Child and Youth Program Impact Videos
- Assisted with the vetting of national level resources
- Created public service announcements which brought awareness of the GTP and volunteer service
- Created and distributed bi-annual newsletters
- Attended national level training such as Army CONUS Youth Leadership Forums, 4-H National Conference and the National Guard Regional Youth Symposiums

So.... You want to be a GTP Delegate, great!

To be considered as a candidate for the GTP, prospects must be dependent on a currently serving on the ***Army National Guard***. Additionally, prospects should be active within their state's Child and Youth Program and in the 9th-11th grade by fall 2026.

Eligibility

- **Army NG dependent (Service Member must be currently serving)**
- Active leader in state CYP
- Enrollment in the 9th-11th grade (Fall 2026)
- Strong oral and written skills
- Demonstrated leadership

Commitment Requirements

- 2-year service term
- Attendance and participation, currently the GTP is meeting on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month (evening meetings)
- Continued participation in home state National Guard Child & Youth Program
- Completion of quarterly state report sheets
- Must be able to travel responsibly alone

How to apply

Complete the enclosed application and submit it to your LCYPC. Your LCYPC will review your application and submit the top applications from their state to NGB by **September 25, 2026**. **Candidates will be selected and notified in October 2026.**

Application Check List Guard Teen Panel (GTP)

- ☐ Section 1: Applicant Information
- ☐ Section 2: Parent/Legal Guardian Information
- ☐ Section 3: School Information
- ☐ Section 4: Lead Child & Youth Program Coordinator (LCYPC) and the State Family Program Director (SFPD)
- ☐ Section 5: Essay
- ☐ Section 6: 2 letters of recommendation from someone other than a parent or a CYP professional
- ☐ Section 7: Copy of Report Card
- ☐ Section 8: Commitment & Signature Page

All candidates must submit a completed application packet to your Lead CYPC. The LCYPC is responsible for forwarding it to NGB POC: Mrs. Gaizka C. Vazquez Lam at gaizka.c.vazquez-lam.ctr@army.mil by: **September 25, 2026.**

Guard Teen Panel (GTP) Application National Guard Bureau

Please enter all responses by clicking directly in the shaded area to begin typing. Please complete all sections of the application.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Full Name:		Gender:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone:		Email Address:	
Cell Phone:		Age: DOB (mm/dd/yy):	

In which region are you seeking to fill the GTP vacancy?

- ☐ Region 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, New York, New Jersey,
- ☐ Region 2: Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland.
- ☐ Region 3: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, Virgin Island
- ☐ Region 5: Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
- ☐ Region 7: Nevada, Utha, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Guam

Section 2: Parent/Legal Guardian Information

Name of Father:	Email:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Command/Unit:	Work Phone:

Name of Mother:	Email:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Command/Unit:	Work Phone:

Section 3: School Information

Year in School Fall 2026: 9 th ☐ 10 th ☐ 11 th ☐		
Name of School:	Address of School:	
City:	State:	Zip:

Section 4: Staff Contact Information

Name of Lead CYPC:	Email:
Office Phone:	Work Cell Phone:

Name of SFPD:	Email:
Office Phone:	Work Cell Phone:

Section 5: Essays

Please answer each of the following questions on a separate sheet of paper in essay form (in a combined total of 1000 words or less) and submit with the remainder of the application to your state LCYPC.

- Why are you the best candidate to represent National Guard Youth within your region, and what unique attributes will you bring to the GTP?
- Please describe your youth service, school, or community leadership experience and how these experiences and your leadership & public speaking skills will serve to strengthen the GTP.
- Reflecting on your experience, what do you believe should be the role of teens in the military and/or civilian community?
- If you were to meet with National Guard Leadership, what would you share with them from your perspective as a Guard Teen?
- If you could do three things to improve life for the National Guard Teens nationwide, what would they be?
- How will you balance your commitment to the GTP and your other priorities?

Section 6: Letter of Recommendation

This letter must come from someone other than a parent or one of the Army National Guard Child and Youth Professionals. The letter should talk about the youth's strengths and why they would be a good fit for the Guard Teen Panel.

Section 7: Copy of Report Card

A copy of the most recent report card to show that the teen is in good standing with their school.

Section 8: Commitment & Signature Page

All signatures are required upon submission to NGB. Please coordinate with your LCYPC to determine when he/she needs your completed application packet for it to reach NGB by **September 25, 2026**.

Applicant Signature

I prepared this application and certified it accurately reflects my work. I have read and agree to the responsibilities, commitment, and eligibility requirements as outlined in the GTP Regional Member description.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature

I fully support my Teen's application to serve on the National Guard Teen Panel and will assist him/her in meeting all responsibilities and commitment requirements as outlined in the GTP Regional Member description. I further certify that my teen is a United States citizen.

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LCYPC Signature

I fully support and endorse this Teen's application as the Regional Representative to the National Guard Teen Panel. If selected, I agree to assist him/her in meeting GTP requirements.

Lead CYPC's Signature: _____ Date: _____

SFPD Signature

I fully support and endorse this Teen's application as the Regional Representative to the National Guard Teen Panel. If selected, I understand my LCYPC's commitment to supporting him/her in meeting GTP requirements.

SFPD's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LCYPC: Submit completed application packet (including all attachments) to Gaizka C. Vazquez Lam by midnight, **September 25, 2026. Incomplete applications will not be considered.**