



YALE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION, YIRA
YALE MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE, YMUN
www.yalemodelun.org

FINANCIAL SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

Dear Advisors,

This year more than ever, YMUN XXXVI is striving to ensure that the most diverse group of students as possible attend the conference. With 19 of the highest caliber committees I have experienced at YMUN to date, and a conference participation of over 20% international students, the conference provides a phenomenal learning experience for international relations. This opportunity should not be denied to any high school student on the basis of financial constraints. In that vein, we have composed a package designed to help direct and support the efforts that you can take as a school to reduce the costs of attending YMUN XXXVI.

If you have any further questions regarding financial support and the following support strategy, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail: natalie@yalemodelun.org or telephone: 860-748-2257, or USG Delegations Kevin Ho: kevin.ho@yalemodelun.org, 732-543-6194.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Kotkin
Secretary-General, YMUN XXXVI
natalie@yalemodelun.org
860-748-2257

The costs of attending YMUN XXXVI can be broken down into three key areas – travel, conference and accommodation costs. Here follow some examples of measures that can be taken to mitigate the expense of each.

I. Conference Costs

- A. The conference costs are the registration costs associated with conference participation – delegate, advisors and school fees. Lowering these costs will be the primary goal of our financial aid initiative over the coming years. At present, only a very limited number of schools will be able to receive subsidies towards conference costs.
- B. Inquire whether the Board of Governors and or Parent Teacher Associations at your school provide subsidies for school activities such as MUN. There are several school districts in the U.S. that offer subsidies for MUN from their student activities budgets. Your school may qualify if such a program exists in your district.

II. Travel Costs

- A. If school is located near New Haven, CT: Look into the possibility of renting a school bus from your district rather than chartering out a bus form a company
- B. If school is not located near New Haven, CT: Write a letter to a local transportation (train or airline) company inquiring about corporate sponsorship or reduced group rates (sample letters in Part II).
- C. If from another country: Write organizations designed to support the nationality or ethnicity that you belong to (sample letter in part II).

III. Accommodation Costs

- A. YMUN has negotiated group fairs with three hotels in the nearby area – Omni Hotel, the Courtyard by Marriot, the New Haven hotel, and one hotel slightly farther away, the New Haven Premiere, from which we will provide a free shuttle service to the conference venue. Full rates for these hotels and contact details can be found here: <http://ymun.yira.org/accommodations/>.
- B. If the pricing for these hotels is inhibitive to your delegates’ attendance of our conference, other accommodations can be arranged which might prove less expensive, but we cannot offer busing to and from these hotels. Some suggestions for Hotels and a New Haven Bus schedule follow:

Days Inn - New Haven

Address: 270 Foxon Blvd
New Haven, CT 06513 US

Cost: \$70 a night + Tax

Distance: 2.4 Miles

Nearest Bus Stop: Short walking distance from CT Transit lines Q and E

Quality Inn East Haven

Address 30 Frontage Road
 East Haven, CT, US, 06512

Cost: \$90 dollars a night + Tax

Distance: 2.9 Miles

Nearest Bus Stop: 4 Blocks from CT distance line F 2 bus stop

Part II: Sample Sponsorship Letters

i) Sample letter to a train company asking for a corporate sponsorship:

Advisor Name
Address of School
Phone Contact

Amtrak Corporate Headquarters
60 Massachusetts Ave NE
Washington, DC 20002-4285

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inquire about corporate sponsorship to underwrite or partially underwrite the costs of taking a group of (insert number) (insert name of high school) high school students to the Yale Model United Nations (YMUN) conference, to be held from Thursday January 21st to Sunday January 24th in New Haven, Connecticut. We would be traveling there round trip from Anytown, Ohio.

Model United Nations is an academic simulation of the UN General Assembly as well as other multilateral UN bodies and International Organizations, that allows students to experience and practice international diplomacy. By assuming the roles of real UN ambassadors and representatives (delegates), students learn to develop and defend a variety of views and perspectives, including ones which they may not personally agree with, but that are espoused by the ambassador or country they are representing. YMUN is the premier conference on the high school MUN circuit that is a true learning environment for international relations, and is well attended by over 1,200 students from around the world. The chance to engage in issues of international importance in this environment is a rare opportunity.

The high costs of attending a conference have in the past prevented some of my students from having that opportunity. A significant portion of the cost for students in my school, in Anytown, Ohio, lies in transportation to and from the conference. A corporate sponsorship underwriting part of the cost would go a long way to enabling more of my students to attend this conference.

Corporate sponsorship would give Amtrak a free advertising space in the conference's student delegate guide distributed to all 1200+ delegates and their advisers, honoring your sponsoring of our group of students. Of course, the students and community of Anytown High School would feel a debt of gratitude towards your company and we would write after the conference to share our experiences and what we learned.

If Amtrak is interested in sponsoring my group of students, or if there are ways we could get our rates reduced through group or student discounts, please contact me as soon as possible at my email address, emailaddress@email.com or call me at 555-555-5555.

Sincerely,

Joe Teacher

ii) Sample letter to a train/airline company asking for a corporate sponsorship:

For domestic airlines, you could look for a travel agent specializing in-group rates such as <http://www.wholesale-fares.com> or write directly to the airline using the format below to ask for a sponsorship or reduced rate. (Note that New York Airports are connected by shuttle to Grand Central Station, which is a 14-dollar, 90-minute train ride from New Haven Station). For international airlines, the following letter is more appropriate.

Advisor Name
Address of School
Phone Contact

Air-France-KLM Headquarters
45, Rue de Paris
95747 Roissy Cedex-CDG, France

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inquire as to the possibility of obtaining a corporate sponsorship under write the costs of travel to take my students to a Model United Nations conference held at Yale University this January. Model United Nations is an academic simulation of the UN General Assembly as well as other multilateral UN bodies and International Organizations, that allows students to experience and practice international diplomacy. By assuming the roles of real UN ambassadors and representatives (delegates), students learn to develop and defend a variety of views and perspectives, including ones that they may not personally agree with, but that are espoused by the ambassador or country they are representing. YMUN is the premier conference on the high school MUN circuit that is a true learning environment for international relations, and is well attended by over 1,200 students from around the world. The chance to engage in issues of international importance in this environment is a rare opportunity.

My school has been traveling to conferences in Europe for a few years and we have long wanted to travel to a conference in America. However, the costs of airfare have proven prohibitively expensive to many of my students. A sponsorship to help underwrite the cost of travel would give my students the opportunity to attend this conference and give them the unique international experience of debating world issues in America.

Any assistance you can provide in terms of a sponsorship or even merely letting us know the group and student discounts would be invaluable. The school of Holland High and the community of Hollandtown would feel very grateful for your help. And, the conference at Yale would dedicate a portion of its delegate guide, which is distributed to the 1200 plus students and teachers attending the conference, to honoring your assistance to the students who have come for the conference.

The conference is from the Thursday January 21st to Sunday January 24th in New Haven, Connecticut, but the flight should land in New York. If KLM-AirFrance is interested in sponsoring my group of students, or if there are ways we could get our rates reduced through group or student discounts, please contact me as soon as possible at my email address, emailaddress@email.com or call me at 555-555-5555.

Sincerely,
Teacher

iii) Sample letter to donor/philanthropic organizations for general sponsorship

An important and often overlooked resource for international delegations are associations here in the United States or even in their own country which would be willing to sponsor and offer monetary support to their trip to YMUN. We encourage prospective delegations to contact us if they are unsure of what organizations might help; we are more than happy to do the research and help find out what organizations might be useful.

Advisor Name
Address of School
Phone Contact

United States – China Business Council
1818 N Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036-2470

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inquire as to the possibility of getting a sponsorship from the US-China Business Council help underwrite the costs of taking my students from Shanghai High School to a Model United Nations conference at Yale University this coming January. Model U.N. is an invaluable activity that opens student's eyes by having them role-play an ambassador from a foreign nation and work to resolve a pressing international issue.

My students have been participating in Model UN for the past three years in conferences around China, and are eager to get a chance to have the international experience of coming to America to debate pressing international issues at Yale University. The costs of travel, however, have proven prohibitively expensive and my school is unsure whether it will be able to offer this opportunity to our students.

We understand that The United States – China business council has at its core the idea of promoting strength through cooperation and understanding between our great nations. That is ultimately the same goal that our school is trying to promote through exposing our kids to more of the world through exploring international relations, and that goal would be one step closer to fulfillment if we could bring our students to America to participate in this Model United Nations conference. We would write to the board of the council to share our experiences, and the conference would allocate a space in its student guide to honoring the help you gave us in coming.

The conference is from January 21st to the 24th. If the United States China Business Council interested in sponsoring my group of students, please contact me as soon as possible at my email address, emailaddress@email.com or call me at 555-555-5555.

Sincerely,
Teacher

Note: YMUN will complement any letter you send with one of our own, written by our Secretary-General Natalie Kotkin explaining more about MUN and YMUN.