

Youth Worker Orientation Certificate

The quality of an out of school time program depends heavily on the abilities and professional training of the professional staff that work directly with the children and youth in the program. In an attempt to help program administrators provide staff with the necessary foundational training they need to be successful in their positions, the Arkansas Youth Development Institute has created the “**Youth Worker Orientation Certificate**”. The “**Youth Worker Orientation Certificate**” is comprised of YDI courses totaling 17 training hours along with a final reflection activity that collectively, provide a good foundational knowledge base of the principles surrounding positive youth development. This certificate is not intended to meet the needs of all youth workers and/or the programs they work in so careful consideration should be placed on additional training topics that may be required such as training in child care licensing regulations, specific program policies, and more. The following courses comprise the **Youth Worker Orientation Certificate**:

- Overview of Positive Youth Development
- Child Development or Adolescent Development – Participant has option based on the ages of the children/youth they work with
- Engaging Parents
- Age Appropriate Discipline
- Building Assets in Youth
- Conflict Resolution
- Cultural Competency for Youth Workers
- Health and Academic Achievement
- Maltreatment of Youth
- Working with Culturally Diverse Youth
- Final Reflection Assignment

Upon completion of all the above courses, a participant wanting to receive the “**Youth Worker Orientation Certificate**” will be asked to complete a final reflection assignment, forward all required course certificates, and complete the necessary TAPP attendance and evaluation forms. All items should be sent to Jennifer Harris at ydi@aosn.org. For additional questions contact Jennifer Harris via email or at 501-240-2741.