
2025 Guidelines for Adults at Momentum Youth Conference

For:

2025 Momentum Youth Conference Guidelines for Adults Working with Students

Because we believe that all youth at Momentum Youth Conference are to be safe and kept from any harm, the following are guidelines that are expected to be followed by the youth workers of each local church and any adults on campus during this week. Most of these are common sense. While your church may have different guidelines, we need each group to cooperate with these guidelines the week of Momentum.

Momentum realizes that families and local church youth ministries have varying levels of practices /guidelines/policies. However, for the duration of the conference, we are expecting everyone to be on the same page with the following practices/guidelines/policies called 'The Momentum Way.'

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. Parents/Guardians sign all authorization releases for students.
2. Adults are local church members/attendees who are approved by their local church and indicated that they are free from sexual offenses or issues relating to any form of abuse.
3. Health Issues. While permission is granted to administer emergency care to young people, utmost efforts are to be made to call parents in any emergency. No adult is to administer medication to a student unless the parent/guardian has given permission to the youth worker. In non-emergency issues, the adults will use the Momentum Youth Conference First Aid Team.
4. Guidelines set by the conference are established to provide safety, health, and protection for all in attendance. The main youth leader of each church is expected to support the Youth Conference STUDENT guidelines, known as the 'Momentum Way,' AND to review these guidelines with their students in advance of the start of the conference.
5. Adults are required to sign the willingness to adhere to these basic guidelines of protection.

YOUTH WORKER EXPECTATIONS:

1. Youth Workers are expected to be at any mandatory staff and youth worker meetings and read text message updates that are sent throughout the week.
2. Minimum Age. Youth Workers are required to be 21 (unless the youth pastor/lead contact requests approval from the Momentum Youth Conference Staff).
3. Background Checks. All adults agree to have a background check completed by their home church prior to arriving on campus.
4. Youth Worker/Student Ratio. For lead contacts: agree to have a ratio of 1:12 youth workers and students and provide adequate adult youth workers for each gender.

SAFETY/LIABILITY PRACTICES:

For:

1. Adults should work with young people in reasonably open places where others are welcome to enter. (NOT behind closed or locked doors.) Preference is for male adults to counsel male students, and female adults to counsel female students.

- if counseling students after dorm check is necessary, adults should use the open spaces within their own dorm; or dorm room with door opened.

- under no circumstances should an adult from another youth group counsel students other than their own local church's students without the knowledge and consent of the youth leader from the other group. Any such counseling should only take place prior to the evening session. (i.e not during evening youth group time, or prior to dorm check, or after dorm check hours.)

- If your evening youth group time is unable to be completed in time to return to the dorm by Check-In Time, have your group return to their respective dorms with youth leaders. Students should NOT walk back to the dorms without a leader. A single adult should NOT walk with a single student, regardless of gender.

2. Adults are not allowed to be housed in the same dorm room as a student. Exceptions are given when a related adult may stay in the same room as their family member, with no other students.

3. Respect the privacy of youth, especially when clothes are changed, or showers are taken.

EXPECTED CONDUCT WITH STUDENTS:

1. Never use physical punishment.

2. One unrelated adult should not be lodged with only one youth while staying overnight.

3. Each adult working with young people should:

- a. Treat all young people with respect and dignity;
- b. Not engage in any of the following:
 - i. Scapegoating, ridiculing or rejecting a young person;
 - ii. Making any racially provocative comments to a young person, even in fun;
 - iii. Rough, physical or sexually provocative games;
 - iv. Making sexually suggestive comments about or to a young person, even in fun;
 - v. Inappropriate and intrusive touching of any form;
 - vi. Sexual relationships with young people even if they consent.
 - vii. Not discipline students from another group. This includes not addressing any Momentum attire concerns. Instead, contact the main youth leader from the other group.

REPORTING ABUSE:

If an adult suspects or is informed that there is some form of abuse taking place that adult must report it to the main youth worker of their church AND to Momentum Ministry Partners Director of Ministry.

LEAVING CONFERENCE EARLY:

If a circumstance arises that a local church desires to send any student or adult home early during the week (health/medical, discipline, family emergency, other) the first step is to contact the appropriate Momentum Staff. Under no circumstances should someone leave campus prior to the closing date without advance notice to the Momentum Youth Conference Director of Ministry.

VISITING GUESTS:

For:

Adults or students visiting Momentum Youth Conference (who are not registered for the entire week) are not permitted to stay overnight in the dorm with any registered Momentum attendee, this includes Day Guests. University (and Momentum Youth Conference) policies of dorm rooms are not similar to a hotel room. Registered Momentum Youth Conference guests do not pay for the room or for a bed. It is a per-person rate. Therefore, an empty bed or 'just sleeping on the floor' is not an option for visiting guests. In addition, this is a policy both for integrity and liability protection.

I have read the above guidelines for protection and agree to cooperate with these guidelines during the week of Momentum Youth Conference.

Signature _____ Date _____