

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where will the seminar be held?

A: The seminar will take place at University of Southern Maine – Gorham Campus

Q: When will the seminar be held?

A: Seminar participants may register any time after 9:30 am but before 11:15 am on Thursday, May 30th, 2024. The *Maine Youth Leadership (MYL), Leadership Seminar* will begin with lunch on June 1st at 11:15am and conclude by 3:30 pm on Sunday, June 2nd. You must be present for the entire weekend seminar. **Please do not contact us about leaving and returning for any outside activities as sports, dances, concerts etc.**

Q: Where should I go when I arrive?

A: Follow the USM signs for MYL and proceed to Phillippe Hall (see the map on our website). MYL volunteer staff members will greet you and check you in.

Q: What kind of program is planned?

A: During your *MYL Leadership Seminar* experience, many dynamic leaders – all volunteers from the fields of business, education, government, and the professions – will help you explore leadership skills and attributes, finding and developing your leadership strengths. The program will not promote any specific political party, business, religion, or way of thinking; but it is designed to develop an awareness of how to develop our leadership skills by actively involving seminar participants in discussions and informal debate. You will have the opportunity to ask questions of the discussion leaders throughout the weekend, which leads to a fuller understanding of your leadership skills. The program includes outstanding speakers, entertainment, and a special closing ceremony to which your parents are invited.

Q: What are the accommodations like?

A: Meetings will be held on the USM campus. Participants will be assigned to dorm rooms with two or three participants on same-sex floors reserved exclusively for the seminar. Everyone will receive nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. Please mark any dietary considerations on the appropriate enclosed form. You will need to bring your own bedding (sleeping bag or sheets/blanket, pillow, towels) and toiletries. Also don't forget the hairdryers, alarm clocks, etc. A full packing list can be found below.

Q: If necessary, how may I be contacted during the seminar?

A: Parents, friends, and family members are discouraged from calling students during the seminar due to the confusion created when meetings are interrupted. In case of emergency, your parent(s) or guardian may call 207-221-3196. You may call home in the evenings. The seminar will be chaperoned by qualified male and female adults who will be staying at the facility 24 hours each day.

Q: Who pays for the seminar?

A: All costs except travel expenses have been paid by sponsors throughout Maine, that is, businesses, foundations, individuals, and service organizations wishing to support leadership education.

Q: What should I wear at the seminar?

A: Dress is casual but appropriate throughout the weekend. Dress for Sunday's graduation ceremony is "dress-up" – something you might wear to a special occasion. Remember to bring any props or instruments for the talent show if you wish to participate.

Q: What transportation arrangements have been made?

A: The only cost we are unable to cover is transportation to and from the seminar. If you are arriving via air, train, or bus, please include all details of your itinerary on the travel itinerary form. The seminar staff will ensure that you are met at the facility upon arrival. If you have last minute transportation problems or need info on ride-sharing, please contact Jim Cox at 221-3196 or E-Mail at mylmaine@gmail.com

Q: What if I am unable to attend the seminar?

A: If circumstances arise that prevent you from attending the entire seminar, we would like to give another student the opportunity. Please return these forms to the person at your school who selected you, and follow up with a call to the Maine Seminar Chairperson at 207-221-3196 so we may adjust our records and find an alternate student from your school to attend the seminar. Except in the case of emergency, if you withdraw after Sunday May 28th, or if you do not show up without notification there will be a \$100.00 cancellation charge to cover expenses MYL has incurred on your behalf.

Q: Whom may I contact should I have additional questions?

A: Additional questions or concerns should be directed to Jim Cox 221-3196 or E-Mail at mylmaine@gmail.com.

Q: What action should I take now?

A: With your parent or guardian, carefully review and complete the 4 registration forms (10 pages) that you will find on our web page under the Registration tab and return immediately. (Registration forms (2), Medical Forms (5) Rules Form (2), Social Media Form (1). Also print and read other online information (FAQ's) found just below the reg. forms.

Q: What about snacks or drinks in the evening?

A: All dorm rooms are equipped with refrigerators and microwaves. Please feel free to bring snacks, drinks, microwave popcorn, etc. for snacks in your room. Dinner is usually over by 6:00 p.m. so you will probably be hungry by the time you return to the dorms for bed. There are vending machines available in the dorm also.

Q: May I drive myself to the seminar?

A: Anyone who brings their own car will have to turn their car keys into the Seminar Chairperson upon arrival. You will not be allowed to use the vehicle until departure on Sunday.

Don't forget to return paper work no later than April 20th. (Registration form, Medical form, COVID vaccination card, Rules form, Social Media form). Also be sure to read and understand the rules and regulations.

PACKING LIST

- Bedding (sleeping bag or sheet/blanket & pillow) (twin size beds)
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush/toothpaste, etc)
- Bath Towel, Hand Towel
- Dressier clothes for Sunday's graduation
- Fan if weather is warm
- Rain gear (for volunteering activity)
- Flip Flops (walking to shower)
- Clothes for 4 days, including something warm
- Snacks for your room (remember all meals are provided,)
- Water Bottle (to stay hydrated during the weekend)
Backpack to carry paperwork, jacket etc.
- Talent show props

Discouraged: *Homework (please make arrangements with teachers for school assignments – there will be no time for homework), Sport equipment (ex. frisbees, footballs, etc), are not allowed due to insurance regulations, and personal digital devices (i-pods, cell-phones, etc.) are not allowed during any seminar activities. They must be left in your rooms*