Camp RYLA 2026

"Reach for the Future"

Camp RYLA
"REACH FOR THE FUTURE"
Rotary International
District 5810

1991 2026 36 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

Application Guide

Club

RYLA Chairperson

Camp RYLA 2026

"Reach for the Future"

Camp RYLA
"REACH FOR THE FUTURE"
Rotary International
District 5810

I. General Information

II. Club Responsibilities

III. The Recruiting Process

IV. Timetables & Applications

Mail completed student application to:

Dana Mackison, RYLA Chairman
1610 Millview Place
Carrollton, TX 75006

Phone: (972) 467-0344
Director@RYLA5810.org

To learn more about Camp RYLA, visit our website at www.RYLA5810.org

Camp RYLA 2026

General Information

The Date	May 24-29, 2026
The Cost	$995 per camper. Payment is due no later than March 31, 2026. If payment is not received by March 31 we cannot guarantee camper slots will be available to your club. After March 31 all unpaid slots will be available to other clubs which have expressed an interest in sending more campers.
The Place	Camp Hoblitzelle Conference Center, Midlothian, TX 76065
The Candidate	Your best high school students who will be seniors in the 2026-2027 school year with proven or potential leadership abilities.
The Purpose	To provide outstanding student leaders an opportunity to expand and hone their leadership skills at a week long scholarship camp.
The Objective	To provide an atmosphere where future leaders will experience learning situations that will aid them in developing sound values. To promote an environment that will provide each individual with a basis of insight and understanding for intelligent leadership. To promote involvement that encourages the participants to think through appropriate actions based on values and ethics. To encourage the students through cooperative activities and group dynamics to develop leadership skills that can be carried back to their individual high schools and modeled.
The History	RYLA was developed in Australia during the mid-1960s. The first RYLA camp in District 5810, with 47 young men, was held in 1991 at the Bridgeport Conference Center on Lake Bridgeport. The following year, 1992, the District sponsored its first coed camp with 83 young men and women. In each of the years, 1993, 1994, and 1995, approximately 100 coed campers represented District 5810. Since 1997 all clubs in District 5810 have participated in sponsoring over 185 scholarships each year. RYLA's yearly objective is to select the best leadership prospects from a pool of 800 to 1,000 applications from throughout District 5810.

Rotary International has a zero-tolerance policy toward abuse and harassment, and is guided by the following Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth:

> Rotary International is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses, partners, and other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact. (RCP 2.110.1)

All Rotarians, clubs, and districts should ensure their programs are consistent with both this statement and RI youth protection policies. A full copy of the Youth Protection document supporting "RYLA Programs Best Practices" is available from the Camp RYLA Director at Director@RYLA5810.org

Camp RYLA 2026

Club Responsibilities

President

- Pick RYLA Chairperson for your Club.
- Make sure the RYLA program is budgeted.
- Know and make sure all deadlines are met.

RYLA Chairperson

- Become knowledgeable about RYLA.
- Know all deadlines and make sure they are met.
- Inform high school contacts about the RYLA program.
- Potential contacts would be high school counselors, principals, student council coordinators, athletic directors, band directors, and last year's RYLA campers.
- Organize club camper selection committee.
- Make sure all selected candidates attend the camp (the campers need to know the importance of notifying the sponsoring club if they can't attend, so an alternate can be selected).
- Participate in the RYLA Roundup and training session on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026.
- Participate in the April and May Orientation Meeting with the student and parents.
- Make sure the RYLA candidate is informed of all elements of the program and arrange transportation by club members. This is a good opportunity for the candidate to find out more about Rotary and for the club to learn about RYLA on the return trip. (The campers are not allowed to take their own vehicles to camp.)

High School Contact

- Help in identifying a pool of eligible students from which to select the best candidates. A realistic club goal would be 4 to 5 student interviews for each scholarship to be awarded.
- Become the point person in making sure there is a pool of at least 4 to 5 good potential students to be interviewed by the camper selection committee for each scholarship to be awarded. (The contact is not to select the camper, as that is the role of the Rotary Club's Camper Selection Committee.)
- Mid to late February: Make school-wide announcements and put up notices to the appropriate junior students of this upcoming leadership program. Also, distribute brochures and promotional materials, make applications available to the students.

Camp RYLA 2026

Timetable

January

Have a RYLA Coordinator from the District Committee come to your club and give a program on RYLA. We have a dynamite video of the program that can be shared with your club. (See included list of club coordinators on page 19).

Organize a committee for camper recruitment. Talk with local high school contacts about the RYLA program and the type of student desired. (See the Recruiting section) Work with other clubs to insure all schools are covered and two clubs are not recruiting from the same school.

Have club Treasurer send camper fees for this year's campers. Send payment by March 31.

IMPORTANT

Camp RYLA Treasurer - c/o Rene Mcgruder, 395 Austin Rd., Gunter, TX 75058

Participate in RYLA Roundup on January 24, 2026. Roundup participation is mandatory for every club sending students to camp.

February

Check back with high school contacts to ensure materials are being distributed or if any questions have arisen from potential candidates. Receive and review applications for students who are interested in attending Camp RYLA.

March

Interview and choose recipients of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Also, pick alternates in case the first selection cannot make it at the last moment. Interviews and selection should be completed by the third week in March.

April - May

Send your campers applications (with picture) to the Camp's mailing address on the left by April 1. Make sure transportation to and from camp is arranged. Each club is responsible for having members take the campers to Camp Hoblitzelle, and pick them up at the end of camp. See Transportation Form on page 13.

IMPORTANT

Camp RYLA Registrar
1610 Millview Pl.
Carrollton, TX 75006

Call parents to ensure any questions that might arise are answered. Inform your students of who will be providing transportation to and from camp. Honor your RYLA candidates at a club meeting before camp. Participate in Camper/Parent Orientation Meeting.

May

Follow up with students and their parents to make sure all camper medical forms have been completed and submitted online by May 1. Maintain contact with RYLA candidates to sustain excitement for camp. Return the transportation form on page 13.

Camp RYLA - Sunday, May 24 - Friday, May 29.

June 1 to Oct. 1

Schedule your RYLA camper to give a presentation to your club. Invite parents and high school contacts to this meeting.

November 21

Offer transportation to Camp RYLA Day 7 event.

Camp RYLA 2026

The Recruiting Process

IMPORTANT

MALE/FEMALE RATIO
We have learned over the years how important it is to have an equal ratio of male and female campers. To maintain the quality of the program and assure that every participant gets the best possible experience, we require clubs to select candidates and alternates in equal numbers of males and females.

As long as every club follows that standard we can be assured of the highest quality leader-ship experience for your selections. If we do not get an equal number of male and female applications, the Camp RYLA committee will balance the participants submitted to create this necessary ratio of campers. That won't be necessary if every club meets the ratio in their selections.

Recruiting

Talk with your high school contacts early in the recruiting process to inform them about the RYLA program and what club resources are available.

- In January, distribute a copy of the RYLA booklet with the counselor cover letter, as well as other resources (student brochures and posters). Make sure the high school contacts understand they are a very important link in the selection process.
- Provide access to the video each club has received for recruitment. Meet with the high school contact to view the camp video, thus giving them a better understanding of what the camp has to offer, as well as the day-to-day activities.
- Express to the high school contact the far-reaching benefit their high school will receive by sending quality leaders. As seniors, these scholarship winners will bring back information and new skills that will benefit many others in the student body. Some of the things to be considered are:
  - Good academic record
  - Involvement in school activities
  - Involvement in athletics
  - Work experience
  - Other significant achievements
  - Additional high school leadership roles
- If you have more than one club in your area, coordinate your efforts at the local high school, or if you have more than one high school, make sure you develop candidates at all schools. Also don't overlook private schools in your recruiting area.

Interview

- Organize a club interview committee.
- Arrange an interview day for all of your candidates at one school.
- Show the RYLA video to all of your candidates before the interview to spark additional questions and interest from the students.
- Conduct an Interview Question period with each candidate.
- In selecting candidates, it is required to maintain an equal ratio of male to female awardees.
- Select an alternate for each awardee.

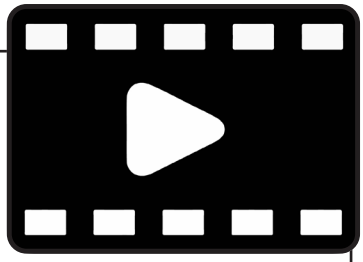
Orientation

- Be sure your candidates are aware they are receiving an award. The scholarship they will receive to Camp RYLA is the **R**otary **Y**outh **L**eadership **A**ward. Make them aware of the commitment your club has made and that they will make in attending.
- Follow up with the students and their parents to ensure all deadlines are met and any questions regarding camp are answered.

Camp RYLA 2026

Recruiting Tools

Example School Video Announcement Script:



Propose to school:

This flash drive contains an exciting 90 second video that highlights what Camp RYLA is all about. It will help the prospective candidate realize what they will experience and get out of the program. Can we schedule this to be presented on [target date].

If allowed, video lead-in: Camp RYLA, a youth leadership award, is an annual camp put on by Rotary International for high school students finishing their Junior year. This video shows what you will experience and get out of the program.

Example Congratulations Email:

NOTE

Letter are also available on the provided flash drives.

From: Club RYLA Chairman Date: March 1, 2026
To: [student name]
Subject: Camp RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Award

[student name],

Congratulations. You have been selected by the [club name] Rotary Club to attend Camp RYLA May 24 to May 29, 2026 at Camp Hoblitzelle in Midlothian. We were impressed with your interview and your accomplishments. Camp RYLA is designed to strengthen your leadership skills and share new ideas. Plus, it is a lot of fun. After April 1 you will be receiving an information packet directly from Camp RYLA, which will Include instructions for completing an online medical form to be submitted prior to camp.

The [club name] Rotary Club will arrange your transportation to and from camp. As time draws closer to camp you will be contacted by a club member to make the necessary arrangements.

The first step in Camp RYLA is participating in a Parent/Student Orientation Meeting in April or May. At this meeting you will hear more about camp, meet some of your fellow campers and hear from previous campers. You and your parents will also have an opportunity to ask any questions you have. I have attached a copy of the meetings schedule for your use. Please arrange for you and your parents to attend one of the meetings. You will notice our club is listed under the [your club's date] meeting at [your club's location]. However, you can participate in any of the meetings if another is a more convenient day or location. Just let me know which meeting you will take part in so we can join you there.

After Camp RYLA we will ask you and the other campers sponsored by our club to come to a meeting of the [club name] Rotary Club to share your experiences with the members who have funded the scholarship for you to attend camp.

I know you will find Camp RYLA to be an exceptional and rewarding experience. If, at any time, you have questions, concerns or problems related to Camp RYLA please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

[your name here]

Camp RYLA 2026

Recruiting Tools

Example Regrets & Alternate Email:

From: Club RYLA Chairman Date: April 1, 2026
To: [student name]
Subject: Camp RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Award

[student name],

I am sorry that [club name] Rotary Club was not able to select you as our candidate. We want to thank you for your interest in Camp RYLA and the time you spent with us to interview. We have chosen other candidates to represent [club name] Rotary Club at Camp RYLA. Unfortunately we have a limit on how many students we can sponsor. Your application and interview were impressive and the final choices were difficult.

We will be submitting your application to Camp RYLA as an alternate, so there is still a possibility you will be able to attend camp. With 185 planned campers, Camp RYLA often has openings develop when a scheduled camper cannot attend. If one of our campers has to drop out before camp you will be first in line to fill that slot. Also all alternates go into an overall group so if an opening develops in another club and alternates are not available the slot will be filled from that pool of available alternates. While there is no guarantee, many alternates are selected each year to attend. Typically that occurs in the last few weeks before camp so it can be last minute, but if you are available you may be chosen.

Thanks again for your time and interest.

[your name here]

Example Regrets Email:

From: Club RYLA Chairman Date: April 1, 2026
To: [student name]
Subject: Camp RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Award

[student name],

I am sorry that [club name] Rotary Club was not able to select you as a primary or alternate RYLA candidate. I am sure that you are aware that we had some very good applicants and the choice was quite difficult. Thank you for taking the initiative to further your leadership skills.

We want to thank you for your interest and wish you the utmost of success in your life.

[your name here]

Camp RYLA 2026

Sample Interview Questions

1. If you were interviewing candidates for this award, what leadership qualities would you look for? What would you want to know?

2. If I were to call your parents or teachers, what would they tell me are your two greatest strengths? … two greatest weaknesses?

3. Is there anything you would like to share with us that would give us a reason to select you for Camp RYLA instead of another student?

4. When you accomplish a task, how do you determine you've done a good job?

5. What five things do you value most in life?

6. Why do you want to attend Camp RYLA?

7. As a senior in high school or a mentor, what leadership characteristic would you like to strengthen?

8. What program or activity at your school could benefit from your camp experience and how?

9. Who had the most influence on your life and why?

10. What kind of activities in life give you the greatest feelings of importance?

11. If you knew you could not fail, what one great thing would you dare to dream?

12. Are you available for the Camp dates if selected to attend?

13. Would you be willing to be an alternate if someone else from your school is chosen to be the primary participant?

14. Have you held any jobs either after school or during the summer, and what has been your responsibility?

15. Do you have any questions about Camp RYLA you would like to ask?

Camp RYLA 2026

After the Interview

Contact Students

Inform the students after their selection so they can make schedule plans for the week of camp.

Remind them if they have a conflict develop to contact the club chairperson early so an alternate can be contacted.

Inform the student of his/her chairperson contact with your club so if there are any questions, the students can keep in touch with this person.

Alternates

Remember to choose one alternate for each student selected for RYLA. This is very important to insure your club's participation if a first selection has to drop.

Also inform the alternate of their status but remind them that many alternates do get to still attend camp.

Mail (not email) original applications for those selected, and their alternates, to the RYLA address keeping copies for your records. It is important to designate on the application if the camper is an alternate. Each application needs to have the student's photo.

Get Acquainted

A get acquainted meeting for your scholarship winners and their parents is a good idea prior to camp. This is a good time to inform parents of the program and also make them more familiar with Rotary and your club.

The RYLA program schedules district-wide student/parent meetings in April and May. Check out our website for the schedule or see page 12.

This process helps potential dropouts have a better comfort level with the camp. Parents are more informed about what to expect.

A coordinator from the RYLA committee is available to help with this process and the student/parent meeting.

Transportation

Remember the sponsoring Rotary club is responsible for transportation to and from camp (see map on page 16). Inform the parents and students of this responsibility.

IMPORTANT

The transportation form must be returned by the club chairperson no later than by May 12.

Camp RYLA 2026

Post Camp Programs

Camp RYLA Day 7

Camp doesn't end when you leave! Day 7 is a great opportunity for campers to reunite with their fellow RYLArians to check on how they are applying the RYLA lessons, and work on some new ideas to further the leadership experience. With terrific keynote speakers and breakout workshops, plus RYLA alumni representing more than a dozen colleges on hand to answer questions, it's a fun follow up to an unforgettable week at camp.

Camp RYLA Day 7 for 2026 will be Saturday, November 21, 2026

RYLA Winter Summit

Launched in January 2019 as a way for RYLArians to dive into some higher level leadership concepts, relax and reset for a new year. This is a 2-day program directed at past RYLA students invited to attend in the four years following their HS graduation. The program currently is to help this group (of a few hundred past RYLA students) in continuing to develop their leadership skills, tackle college or work, as well as achieving their own personal growth. We have lots of opportunities for growth and new things to come in the future with this program.

RYLA U

For RYLArians who have continued on to college, there's RYLA U, a continuation of the spirit and lessons of camp throughout your college career. This program also encourages the formation of college groups to create an opportunity to connect on their various campuses where there may be a group of past RYLA alumni. Between service projects, social events and leadership development opportunities like the annual Winter Summit, RYLA U is a way for camp alumni to stay connected to their fellow RYLArians and keep growing as a leader.

RYLA Connect

Stay in tune with RYLA with the new RYLA Connect program, an exciting new opportunity for younger alumni to learn from and connect with older alumni, and eventually become mentors themselves. Additionally, we would like for RYLA connect be an opportunity for Rotary members to provide their own level of mentorship toward careers and life skills to this expanding RYLA alumni group. The greatest strength of RYLA is the bond it draws between leaders — RYLA Connect gives alumni an opportunity to link up with mentors for years to come.

RYLACast

Big fan of podcasts? Check out the RYLACast on **RYLA5810ALUMNI.ORG/RYLACAST** to hear alumni Greg Tepper and Andrew Utz interview past RYLArians and discuss real-life leadership application. During the last year a new 30 minute production has been released every two weeks as we are able to bring to a wide audience all these great interviews. This is an incredible offering of which we are all very proud — the level of production and professionalism Tepper and Utz offer is a shining light on our Rotary District as well as RYLA 5810.

Camp RYLA 2026

Orientation Meetings

April 21, 7:00 pm - Austin College, Wright Campus Center, Room 231, Sherman, TX
- Bonham
- Denison
- Hurricane Creek
- Lake Texoma
- Sherman

April 22, 7:00 pm - Rockwall Rotary Event Center, 408 S Goliad St, Rockwall, TX 75087
- Commerce
- Garland
- Greenville
- Greenville Daybreak
- Farmersville
- Mesquite
- Rockwall
- Rockwall Breakfast
- Rowlett
- Royse City
- Terrell

April 28, 7:00 pm - Plano Event Center, Northbrook Hall, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074
- Collin County
- North Texas Pioneers
- Plano
- Plano Metro
- Plano Sunrise
- Plano West
- Richardson
- Richardson East
- Wylie East Fork

April 29, 7:00 pm - Jack Singley Academy, Conference Center, 4601 N. MacArthur Blvd, Irving, TX
- Addison
- Addison Midday
- Carrollton-Farmers Branch
- Coppell
- Preston Hollow
- Farmers Branch
- Irving Sunrise
- Irving Las Colinas
- Prestonwood

May 5, 7:00 pm - Betty Warmack Branch Library, 760 Bardin Rd. Grand Prairie, TX 75052
- Cedar Hill
- DeSoto
- Duncanville
- Ennis
- Grand Prairie
- Grand Prairie Metro
- Midlothian
- Waxahachie

May 6, 7:00 pm - Frisco ISD Admin Complex, Rooms 101A, 101B, & 101C, 5515 Ohio Dr, Frisco TX 75035
- Allen
- Allen Sunrise
- Celina (Preston Trail)
- Fairview
- Frisco
- McKinney
- McKinney Sunrise
- Melissa
- Prosper

May 7, 7:00 pm – Northway Christian Church (4 blocks West of Central Expwy) 7202 W Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75225
- Dallas
- Dallas Uptown
- Preston Center
- White Rock

Camp RYLA 2026

Camper Transportation Form

The Rotary Club of _____ will provide transportation to and from Camp RYLA for campers utilizing the following persons*:

TRANSPORTATION TO CAMP MAY 24 BETWEEN 1:30 PM AND 3:00 PM:

Name: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Name: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

TRANSPORTATION FROM CAMP May 29 BETWEEN 1:30 PM AND 3:30 PM:

Name: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Name: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

- **Rotary District 5810 and Camp RYLA requires at least two adults per vehicle be present when transporting students to and from camp.**

Please complete and submit this form NO LATER THAN **MAY 12** TO:

Jim Duffy
3887 Ridgelake Ct.
Addison, Texas 75001
Operations@RYLA5810.org

SCAN QR CODE TO FILL OUT TRANSPORTATION FORM ONLINE

Camp RYLA 2026

Counselor/Staff interest Form

_____

Name

_____

Address

_____ _____ _____

City State ZIP Code

_____ _____

Work Phone Home Phone

_____

E-mail

_____ _____

Rotary Club Years as Member

_____

Occupation / Rotary Classification

Hobbies / Interests:

Briefly state why you would like to serve as a Camp RYLA Counselor/Staff member:

Do you have any previous camping/counselor experience? Yes, or No. If yes, then please list.

Would you be able to stay the entire week of camp? Yes, or No

If you could stay only part of the week, then how many days could you stay? _____
Which ones? _____

Preference will be given to those Rotarians who can stay the entire week.

Would you be interested in serving on the Camp RYLA Planning Committee? Yes, or No

_____ _____

Signature Date

Please send ASAP to **Dana Mackison**
1610 Millview Pl. | Carrollton, Texas 75006
Email to Director@RYLA5810.org

Camp RYLA 2026

MAY 24-29 APPLICATION

- Also Fillable PDF Form Online -
RYLA5810.ORG/2026-PROSPECTIVE-CAMPERS
Fill it out and return it to your High School contact or Rotary club representative

PHOTO REQUIRED

To be filled in by Sponsoring Rotary Club ONLY

Rotary Club _____

Club RYLA Chairperson _____

Email _____ Phone _____

APPLICANTS PRINT CLEARLY IN BLUE OR BLACK INK

Full Name | Name you wish to be called | High School

❒ Male ❒ Female

Age | Birthdate | Student Cell Phone # | T-shirt Size | Grade

Address | City | State | Zip

Student Email (Non-School Email) | Parent Cell Phone # | Parent Email

Education

Cumulative GPA: _____

❒ 4.0 ❒ 5.0 ❒ 6.0

If you can include **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION** that is most helpful. Describing most recent/ current leadership role.

Learn More about Camp RYLA, visit RYLA5810.org

Academic Accomplishments Honor Roll, Awards, Accelerated/Special Classes:

H.S. Extracurricular Number of years, levels of competition, and any honors:

Outside School Interests, Hobbies and Community Service:

Work Experience Summer/After School:

Please list languages spoken:

❒ English ❒ French ❒ Spanish ❒ American Sign Language ❒ Other _____

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SIGNED AND HAVE A CURRENT PHOTO ATTACHED.

If additional space is needed, then please attach a separate sheet of paper.

Parent's Signature

Parent's Name (please print) | Date

Camp RYLA 2026

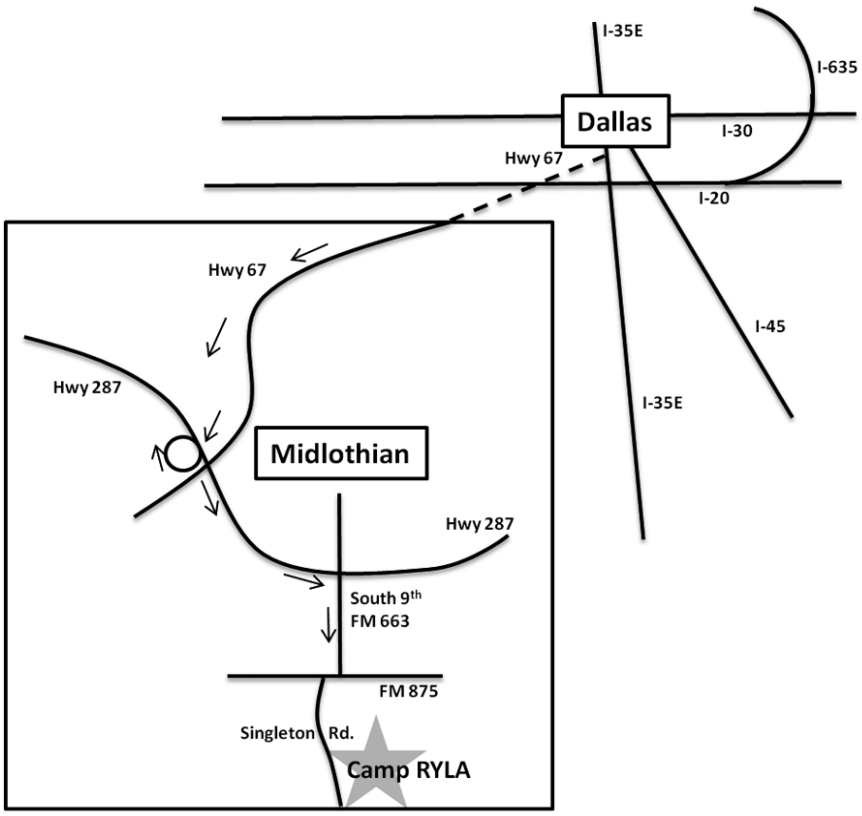
Facilities

Camp Hoblitzelle is home to Camp RYLA. Located only one hour south of Dallas, this facility provides a unique and productive atmosphere for Camp RYLA activities. Facilities include air-conditioned cabins organized in separate villages surrounding meeting spaces, and a large lakeside dining hall for meals and events. Amenities include a swimming pool, volleyball courts, athletic fields, fresh air and sunshine (usually).

Camp Hoblitzelle is approximately 55 miles south of Dallas, near Midlothian, Texas.

From Dallas: Proceed south on US67 exiting onto US287 south on the west side of Midlothian. Exit at the first exit on US287 right onto 9th Street which is also FM663. Proceed south on FM663 to the end at FM875 and turn right, west. Proceed approximately 800 feet to Singleton Road and turn left. Camp RYLA is on your left 1 mile ahead.

From Ennis & Waxahachie: Proceed northwest out of Waxahachie on US287 3.2 miles to FM 875 left (west) on FM875 and proceed 7.4 miles west to Singleton Road. Turn left (south) onto Singleton Road. Camp RYLA is on your left 1 mile ahead.



Camp RYLA 2026

Frequently Asked Questions

1. We're having a hard time recruiting male campers. Can I just send female campers? No. The equal male to female ratio is important to the success of the camp. The program is designed around cabin groups and committees of an equal number of male and female campers.

2. Who is the best person to contact at the school to get applicants? Most clubs work through the campus guidance counselors. Other options include the principal, student council sponsor, sports coaches, band director or other department heads who have contact with many students.

3. How do we let students know about the camp and get them applications? In schools, use your campers from last year to work with the counselors or other school contacts to identify possible applicants. If you have an Interact Club they can be a great source of applicants and promotion of the camp. Contact other school clubs and have your students make presentations about Camp RYLA. Most schools have places in the hallways, cafeterias and even restrooms where you can post copies of the poster in your packet. Also, remember sources outside of schools like Scout groups, church youth groups, and similar organizations.

4. I contacted the school counselors and they said they will identify the students for us and send us the applications. Is this a good way to select campers? No. You should get as many applicants as you can and then conduct interviews to make your own selections. Only by interviewing can you decide which applicants will benefit the most from the camp and which will benefit the camp by their participation. We find that if the counselors make the selection the campers often don't even realize Rotary as the sponsor of the camp, or which Rotary Club is providing them with the scholarship.

5. We have identified an exceptional candidate in addition to the students we chose for Camp RYLA. Can our club send more students than we have been allotted? We have a limited number of additional spots available on a first come basis. (see allocation, page 18)

6. What is the Parent/Student Orientation meeting? They are for the campers and their parents to both attend. These orientation meetings are successful in easing parents' minds about the camp and in reducing potential last minute drop outs by campers who get "cold feet." It is also a great way for them to connect with you and your Rotary Club. A schedule of the meetings can be found on the Camp RYLA website www.RYLA5810.org.

7. One of our selected camper's parents cannot attend the Parent/Student Orientation meeting assigned for our club. Can I get that information to them in some other way? Find a more convenient meeting on the schedule and have them attend. All meetings are open to everyone. Be sure to go to the same meeting to meet the parents and discuss your club's transportation arrangements and give them your contact information.

8. Should we have our alternate campers attend the orientation meeting? No. While some alternates may well be last minute additions to the camp, it isn't fair to take them to the orientation meeting where they hear all about the camp and the fun. It would be like setting the table with a fine meal and then telling them they don't get to eat.

9. I'm having a hard time lining up drivers to take our campers to camp and return them home. Is there someone else who can provide transportation? No. Transportation to and from camp is each club's responsibility. Some clubs who are from the same area may pool transportation to take multiple campers but it remains each club's responsibility. It is one more chance to connect with the students and have them identify with your club.

10. What time should our campers arrive at Camp RYLA and what time can they be picked up for the trip home? They should arrive on Sunday between 1:30 and 3 p.m. They can be picked up on Friday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Camp RYLA 2026

Allocation & Waiting List Policies

Allocation

Camp RYLA limits the total number of campers each year to ensure the student leaders sent to camp get the experience they deserve to refine and enhance their leadership skills.

After camp each year Rotary clubs in District 5810 are allocated camper spots based on the number of campers they sponsored that year. That number is based solely on the number of campers the club paid for directly to Camp RYLA. It does not include alternates picked up by other clubs to fill an opening or scholarships transferred from other clubs.

In January Camp RYLA will invoice each club based on the allocation for the coming year's camp. For example, if your club paid Camp RYLA for four campers in 2026 it will be allocated four campers for 2027. If a club wants to reduce the number of campers to be sponsored they can notify Camp RYLA and the camper spot or spots will be reallocated to other clubs asking to increase their number of campers.

Waiting List

Beginning October 1 each year Camp RYLA establishes a waiting list of clubs wishing to add campers to their allocation. Those requests will be honored on a "first come, first served" basis. The waiting list starts anew each October 1. The prior year's list is eliminated.

New clubs in the District will always take precedence on the waiting list should they want to participate in Camp RYLA. That is the only exception to the "first come, first served" policy.

The waiting list is maintained and managed by Director of Operations Jim Duffy (Operations@RYLA5810.org). Requests to be added to the waiting list should be sent directly to his attention

The club at the top of the waiting list will be contacted as soon as Camp RYLA knows a spot is available. Once the club accepts the added spot Camp RYLA will invoice the club for their added scholarship. The added spot then becomes part of the club's allocation going forward until they release it. If the club adds one spot for 2026 to go from two spots to three for example, they will have three spots allocated for 2027. Clubs releasing spots from their 2026 allocation must get on the waiting list to replace a released spot in the future.

Camp RYLA 2026

Club Coordinators

Amy Moore
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(214) 500-5063
- **Addison**
- **Addison Midday**
- **Dallas**
- **Dallas Uptown**
- **Preston Center**
- **Prestonwood**

Bea Mathy
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- **North Texas Pioneers**
- **Plano**
- **Plano Metro**
- **Plano Sunrise**
- **Plano West**
- **Prosper**

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- **Bonham**
- **Denison**
- **Farmersville**
- **Lake Texoma (Pottsboro)**
- **Sherman**

Fred Bemenderfer
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(214) 793-0786
- **Allen**
- **Allen Sunrise**
- **Cedar Hill**
- **Hurricane Creek**
- **Melissa**
- **Preston Trail (Celina)**
- **White Rock**

Andrew Utz
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- **Coppell**
- **Desoto**
- **Fairview**
- **Grand Prairie**
- **Grand Prairie Metro**
- **Midlothian**
- **Waxahachie**

Jenny Carter
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- **Commerce**
- **Greenville**
- **Greenville Daybreak**
- **Mesquite**
- **Preston Hollow**
- **Rockwall**
- **Rockwall Breakfast**
- **Terrell**

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- **Carrollton-Farmers Branch**
- **Farmers Branch**
- **Irving -Las Colinas**
- **Irving Sunrise**
- **McKinney**
- **McKinney Sunrise**
- **Richardson**
- **Richardson East**

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- **Duncanville**
- **Ennis**
- **Frisco**
- **Garland**
- **Rowlett**
- **Royse City Earlybird**
- **Wylie East Fork**