



WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADERS CLASS OF 2020 APPLICATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS THE WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM?

The Women Deliver Young Leaders Program connects passionate young advocates with the platforms, the people, and the resources to amplify their influence on a larger scale. With an emphasis on sexual and reproductive health and rights, Women Deliver elevates the work of young people taking a stand for gender equality. Since its inception, the award-winning Women Deliver Young Leaders Program has supported 700 youth advocates from 138 countries, with 300 more scheduled to join this May as part of the Class of 2020.

2. HOW CAN THE WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM STRENGTHEN MY ADVOCACY?

The Women Deliver Young Leaders Program provides young advocates with opportunities to build and strengthen their advocacy knowledge and skills. To learn more about these opportunities, including Digital University, Speakers Bureau, grants, and more, check out [our page](#) about the Young Leaders Program.

The program has:

- Trained 469 Young Leaders through the Digital University learning platform.
- Supported 200+ Young Leaders speaking and advocacy opportunities in 2019.
- Brought together 140 Young Leaders at local workshops.
- Awarded \$700,000 in grants.

Women Deliver Young Leaders also gain:

- Global visibility as champions for the health and rights of girls and women through media and communications opportunities.
- Networking opportunities with high-level decision-makers, media, private sector representatives, and other change-makers, including other Women Deliver Young Leaders, Alumni, and activists around the world.
- Membership to the Women Deliver Young Leaders Alumni Network for continued learning, networking, and support upon successful completion of the program.

3. HOW DO I BECOME A WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADER?

To be considered for the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program, all candidates must complete the [application](#). The application opens on 3 February 2020 and closes on 13 March 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET. Please note that only fully completed and submitted applications will be reviewed and considered. To remain fair, no late applications will be considered.

4. WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE PROGRAM?

The 2020 Class of Women Deliver Young Leaders participate in a two-year program, beginning in May 2020 and ending following the Women Deliver 2022 Conference. Once onboarded, Young Leaders will have access to the program's platforms, people, and resources. Class of 2020 participants will also be offered access to scholarships to the conference, and upon successful completion of the program join the Women Deliver Young Leaders Alumni Network.

Unlike many fellowships, the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program is not a full-time commitment, and we recognize that the young advocates joining the program may be engaged in full-time studies or employment.

5. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM?

Individuals between the ages of 15 and 28 at the start of the program (1 May 2020) are eligible to apply. Women Deliver defines young people as individuals between the ages of 15 and 30. In keeping with our

commitment to young people and to ensure Women Deliver Young Leaders are age 30 or under for the duration of the program, we cap entry at age 28. Please note that the program also requires the following:

- Regular access to email and the internet
- Access to a bank account or PayPal account for sponsored opportunities
- Proficiency in English

6. WHY ARE INTERNET ACCESS AND ACCESS TO BANKING REQUIRED?

The Women Deliver Young Leaders Program communicates opportunities via a Young Leaders email account, and participants are expected to regularly check this account and remain responsive. In addition, information sessions, webinars, and Digital University coursework require reliable internet connectivity.

Access to banking or a PayPal account is required so we can provide sponsorship for opportunities and transfer funds for selected advocacy project grants. If you do not have access to a personal bank account, we ask that you have access to a bank account through a family member, guardian, or affiliated organization.

7. WHY IS ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIRED?

We require that applicants must speak, write, and read English with proficiency because at this time, all elements of the Young Leaders Program are conducted in English. We want to ensure all applicants selected for the program can meaningfully and effectively participate in all its offerings. In the meantime, we continue to explore ways to make the program more inclusive and accessible.

8. IS THERE AN APPLICATION FEE?

No, there is no fee to apply to the program.

9. I BELONG TO A HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED GROUP OR COMMUNITY. SHOULD I APPLY?

While the program is open to ALL young people 15 to 28, representation and inclusion of diverse communities are integral to the program and the gender equality movement. We welcome applicants who identify as LGBTQIA+, belonging to an indigenous community; ethnic or religious minorities; persons with disabilities; people living with HIV; forcibly displaced from or within their country; older adolescents ages 15 to 19; or other historically marginalized populations. We also welcome applications from residents in rural areas or secondary cities.

10. WHAT KINDS OF ADVOCATES ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? DO I NEED TO BE A SEASONED ADVOCATE?

We are interested in applicants from all stages and levels of advocacy work — whether that be through policy and advocacy, community organizing, journalism and media, law, academia, research, medical and healthcare provision, creative arts, or other relevant sectors. We welcome advocates working to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights. We also invite applicants with a focus on other topics of gender equality, such as economic opportunity, political participation and leadership, violence prevention, access to education, nutrition, maternal health, climate change, and more.

11. DOES THE PROGRAM ACCEPT INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES?

Yes, all young people — regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or national origin — are encouraged and welcome to apply. Those needing special accommodation are requested to reach out to Women Deliver at: youngleaders2020@womendeliver.org.

12. WHAT DOES THE APPLICATION CONSIST OF?

Following feedback and input from Young Leader Alumni, we have streamlined the application to make it easier and less burdensome for applicants of various profiles. We no longer require references or recommendation letters. The application now consists of sections, including:

- Basic personal and demographic information
- Areas and level of experience
- Issue and program-related short and long responses
- Optional supplemental responses

13. WHAT IS THE SELECTION PROCESS? HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE EVALUATED?

A selection committee consisting of Women Deliver staff, members of diverse youth-serving and youth-led organizations of the Women Deliver Youth Engagement Working Group, and Young Leader Alumni will review submitted applications. The selection committee will review applications to ensure eligibility requirements and assess applicants' potential and promise, as well as commitment to gender equality. Ultimately, the team will assemble a class that is diverse and inclusive of people from all levels of advocacy and a range of identities and lived experiences. Selected applicants will undergo a background check and receive an email if accepted into the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program in late April, and the program will officially begin in May 2020.

14. I REALIZED THERE WAS A MISTAKE AFTER I SUBMITTED MY APPLICATION. HOW CAN I MAKE A CORRECTION?

You are permitted to submit only one application. Once an application has been submitted, we cannot allow changes.

15. HOW CAN I CHECK THE STATUS OF MY APPLICATION?

You can check the status of your application using instructions provided on this [page on the Submittable portal](#).

16. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY SUBMITTED?

You can check the status of your status using this [link](#). In addition, upon successful submission of your application, you will receive a confirmation message on your screen, as well as an email confirmation from the application portal.

17. CAN I SAVE MY APPLICATION AND FINISH IT LATER?

Yes, you can save your application by clicking "Save Draft" at the bottom of the application portal and finish it later. Just remember, your deadline to apply is 13 March at 11:59 p.m. ET.

18. WHEN WILL WOMEN DELIVER NOTIFY SELECTED APPLICANTS?

Women Deliver will notify applicants with decisions by late April 2020, and the program will officially begin in May 2020.

19. IF I AM NOT SELECTED FOR THE CLASS OF 2020, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

We invite all applicants of the Women Deliver Young Leaders Class of 2020 to join the Women Deliver community and the movement to advance gender equality. You can start by [signing up](#) for our newsletter and following us on social media ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)). Through these platforms, we hope you will engage in future opportunities such as the [Women Deliver 2022 Conference](#) or, if eligible, the next round of applications for the Young Leaders Program, and more! Finally, you can also visit our [career page](#) for employment opportunities.

20. IF SELECTED, WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADER?

Women Deliver Young Leaders have access to a number of opportunities to strengthen their skills and participate meaningfully in advocacy efforts. A Terms of Reference, which will detail all commitments and expectations, will be shared with selected applicants before the start of the program. These commitments and expectations include:

- Upholding the [values and policies](#) of Women Deliver.
- Adhering to the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program Value Statement as listed in the application; representing the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program with dignity and professionalism.
- Regularly checking and responding to communication from Women Deliver.
- Successful completion of Digital University coursework, which requires 2-4 hours per week over a period of 10 weeks.
- Attendance and participation at the [Women Deliver 2022 Conference](#) and Young Leaders Pre-Conference, which will be announced in the near future. Women Deliver Young Leaders will receive

sponsorship to participate in the conference (further information about this will be shared with Young Leaders).

- Successful completion of any opportunities that you may be selected for such as [Speakers Bureau, workshops, or grants](#).

21. WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM?

The inaugural class of Women Deliver Young Leaders attended the Women Deliver 2010 Conference. In 2013, the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program was officially founded, and we welcomed 100 young advocates from across the world to join the Class of 2013 and build their knowledge and skills in maternal health and sexual and reproductive health and rights. In 2016, the program grew in size and scope, with 200 young advocates building their knowledge and skills in sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, and other areas of intersectionality. More staff and support allowed Women Deliver to bring on 300 advocates under the age of 30 — including adolescents for the very first time — to join the Class of 2018. We look forward to welcoming 300 young advocates for the next class of 2020.

22. WHO FUNDS WOMEN DELIVER?

Women Deliver is grateful to our community of supporters who provide the financial resources we need to advocate for the health and rights of girls and women everywhere. More information on our supporters can be found [here](#).

23. WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF IMPACT THAT YOUNG LEADERS ARE MAKING?

Young people are changing the world today, creating the reality of tomorrow. Speaking up, challenging norms, collaborating, and building networks, Women Deliver Young Leaders are driving positive change in their communities, countries, and around the world. Check out this [blog](#) to see the ways Young Leaders helped build a more gender-equal world in 2019, and watch this [video](#) to learn about how they are using their power to fuel the movement for gender equality.

24. IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION OR THE YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM THAT ARE NOT COVERED ON THE [WEBSITE](#) OR IN THIS FAQ, WHERE CAN I GO?

We understand additional questions may arise. You can email us at youngleaders2020@womendeliver.org. Please note that due to high volume of e-mails, we may not get to every question immediately.