

Montana Yellowstone Expeditions provides exceptional experiential opportunities which build skills for success in learning and in life.



# Montana Yellowstone EXPEDITIONS

[www.myeconnect.org](http://www.myeconnect.org)

- ⇒ Leadership
- ⇒ Challenge and Teamwork
- ⇒ Service Learning
- ⇒ Outdoor Skills
- ⇒ Self-Reliance
- ⇒ Discover your Potential

## 2010 Wilderness Challenge Course

Montana Yellowstone Expeditions' Wilderness Challenge Course (WCC) is a full scholarship, outdoor adventure and experiential education program for motivated high school students from Southern California, Montana, and other select locations. Run by Montana Yellowstone Expeditions Foundation (MYE), each MYE program begins with the WCC adventure experience at our basecamp in Montana, and continues at home through our continuing education program, MYExplore.

MYE is a year round program and in some locations includes college preparation courses, retreats, projects, outdoor activities and other fun learning opportunities. Graduates of the WCC are also eligible to apply for our program and higher education scholarships, and for our MT-based Leadership Labs and Intern Program.



### Questions?

Visit our website,  
[www.myeconnect.org](http://www.myeconnect.org)

Or contact  
Jerry Lawrie or Ellen Sagmyr

Ph (805) 565-7550  
Ext 117

Email: [wcc@myeconnect.org](mailto:wcc@myeconnect.org)

If you would like to have a copy of the WCC FAQ or Parent Information letter in Spanish, please contact us.

Si usted desea obtener una copia de las preguntas más frecuentes sobre el Wilderness Challenge Course, o la carta de Información Para Padres, en español, por favor póngase en contacto con nosotros.

The WCC component is a 25-day combination of experiences that includes outdoor activities like backpacking, whitewater canoeing, horseback riding, rock climbing, rappelling, and ropes course elements. It also includes service learning and sustainability projects, with plenty of opportunity for participants to develop leadership skills; set and meet personal goals; and take on new challenges.

You will share your summer experience with a small group of other adventurers and MYE's experienced staff. The WCC will open new doors, possibilities, and opportunities for all participants.

So, come hike the high peaks, climb the rock faces and paddle the cold clear rivers of the Greater Yellowstone Region, visit iconic Yellowstone National Park, earn service hours, and learn to give your best to your teammates, yourself, and the world. We encourage you to take the first step towards the rest of your life and apply now!!

### Included in the MYE scholarship:

All necessary equipment, specialty clothing, food, and travel to Montana for your WCC, as well as access to the MYExplore program experience as it applies to your home state.

*How Far Will You Go.....*

# Application Process, Instructions and Criteria

*"The world needs more programs like MYE! It is an experience that every teenager should have. The expeditions were challenging and brought us together as a group. It was so fun and I have grown so much as a person. I am so thankful to the staff who took great care of us and taught us so much. Being at MYE was one of the greatest experiences of my life."*  
- Martin Perez, MYE 3 2005, Southgate, CA, and UC Berkeley

## Process:

Application to MYE is through the following process:

- Submit this application, completed and including all supporting documents listed below, to MYE at the address provided by **March 5, 2010**.
- MYE will select applicants for an interview by **March 12, 2010**. (these interviews will be conducted at your school or by phone)
- Interviews will be conducted **March 15-19, 2010**.
- Letters of Acceptance and Program Information Packets (PIP) will be sent by mail **March 26, 2010**.
- PIP documents must be returned to MYE
  - Release forms/sizing forms - **no later than April 23, 2010**
  - Medical Forms - **no later than April 30, 2010**.
- Final acceptance, decline or wait-list status will be determined by MYE staff and based on MYE's stated selection criteria, compared across all applicants.

**Send your completed application, and all supporting materials to:**

Montana Yellowstone Expeditions  
c/o The Orfalea Foundations  
Attn: MYE WCC Applications  
1283 Coast Village Circle  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

Or fax from any-where to:  
(805) 456 0473

## Instructions & What to Send to MYE:

- Complete this form in your own legible handwriting, respond to every question to the best of your ability.
- Parents/guardians must read the application, WCC FAQ sheet and parent WCC information letter, before you can send the application. When parents sign the application form, they are giving the student permission to apply for the WCC, and also confirming they have read these documents.
- Please attach a copy of pages 1 & 2 of your parent's/guardian's most recent Form 1040 Federal tax return. *(The intent of MYE is to provide a life-changing experience for people who do not have the resources available for this kind of program. We realize there are many factors involved in the financial need of an applicant. If you would like to attach additional information to explain your situation, please do so).*
- Attach a copy of your health insurance card (front and back).
- Attach two letters of recommendation.
- Attach a copy of your most recent report card or school transcript.
- Attach or email a current photo of yourself.
- Check your email often for a response from MYE. All MYE applicants must have an active email address.

## Selection Criteria:

Our Wilderness Challenge Courses are in high demand and we do our best to serve as many students as possible, but we cannot guarantee every applicant will be accepted for the program.

**MYE selects students using the following criteria as a base:**

- ◆ Return of all application materials by the above stated dates.
- ◆ Demonstrated financial need.
- ◆ A valid US Social Security Number.
- ◆ No active judicial or criminal record.
- ◆ Passing grades in all classes.
- ◆ 2 letters of recommendation.
- ◆ Being physically active.
- ◆ Commitment to community service and learning.
- ◆ A positive attitude and willingness to try new and hard challenges.
- ◆ A desire to work with others to solve problems, learn, and make a difference.

# Personal Information and Program Dates

## Applicant Photo

Please attach a current photo

MYE will use this photo to place your face with your name for the application interview, and also so our summer staff can get to know you.

*We do not consider your appearance in our selection process!*

Please print legibly, in ink.

**Legal Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer to be called: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address - City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address - City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings Names and Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send correspondence to: *(Circle one)* Mother/Guardian Father/Guardian Both

### 2010 Program Dates:

Please select the program dates that are best for you. You should choose at least 3 options. Place a 1 next to your first choice, a 2 next to your second choice, and a 3 next to your 3rd choice. Only choosing one date limits our placement options, and your chances of being accepted.

\_\_\_ MYE 35: June 19 - July 13, 2010

\_\_\_ MYE 36: June 20 - July 14, 2010

\_\_\_ MYE 37: June 21 - July 15, 2010

\_\_\_ MYE 39: July 22 - August 15, 2010

\_\_\_ MYE 40: July 23 - August 16, 2010

\_\_\_ MYE 41: July 24 - August 17, 2010

### How Did You Hear About MYE?

School Or Program (specify name of organization and/or counselor): \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Website

# School and Health Information

**Students Name:**

## School Information

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Class of 20\_\_ (Year you are planning to graduate from high school)

Name of Teacher or Counselor whom we will contact as a reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please inform them so they will be prepared when we contact them)

Teachers: Work phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

List any activities, clubs, sports, community service, or job you are involved in: (continue on separate sheet if necessary)

## Health Information

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: F M Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your level of fitness: I'm not fit I can walk one mile I can run one mile I'm in top form

Circle your swimming ability: I can't swim I can float I can swim 50ft nonstop I'm a fish

What do you currently do to stay physically active (sports, exercise, work-out) and how often?

Describe any medical conditions (physical or emotional) which MYE should be aware of:

Have you been treated by a physician or taken any prescribed medication in the last 2 years? YES NO (Circle correct answer)  
If yes, describe the treatment and/or medication:

Health Insurance Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicants Signature:**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:**

(Parent/guardian - signing this application indicates you support your child's application to attend the WCC, and have read the application form; and the WCC FAQ sheet and parent information letter, that accompanied it)

**Have you applied for an MYE WCC in the past?**

Yes

No

**If you answered 'yes', when did you last apply?**

# Personal Questionnaire

This section is for you to share more about yourself and provide MYE with a better understanding of why you would like to join us. Please consider this to be your first MYE challenge. It is not required that you have any previous outdoor experience and there are no right or wrong answers to any of these questions.

**Please type your answers on a separate sheet and put your name and the date at the top.**

- (a) Why do you want to be a student at MYE?
- (b) What is the longest time you've been away from home? Where did you go?
- (c) How do you currently deal with challenges that come up in your life?
- (d) What 5 words best describe your strengths?
- (e) Tell us about something you have done that makes you proud.
- (f) If you could change anything about yourself, your family, or your life, what would it be? Why?
- (g) Please describe a typical day in your life, including your favorite and least favorite parts of the day and why.
- (h) What do you think your MYE program will be like? Please be specific.
- (i) At different times on your program you will be hot, cold, tired, hungry, dirty, and uncomfortable, but still have a long way to hike, paddle, or work to do before you can stop. How will you deal with those situations?
- (j) What do you hope to accomplish and learn on the WCC?
- (k) Describe your goals and dreams for your future.
- (l) After you complete the WCC, how do you think the Explore program can add value to your life, and from what you know of it, which activities in that program are you most likely to participate in?
- (m) Are you planning to pursue further education after High School? If so what is your the plan, and do you have any ideas about how you can make it happen?



*Montana Yellowstone Expeditions & the Orfalea Foundations are proud to offer this extraordinary experience.*