

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT AGE-BASED PARTICIPATION POLICY

In order to best minister to the youth of Rocky Mountain District safety committee has adopted the following policies. We feel these policies are essential to our District and our Local churches in helping to minister to our youth accurately and safely.

Age-Based Policy for all RMD Kids/NYI Ministries:

Age-Based Policy to follow the national school district policy determined by age of participant by Sept 1. of the current school year. This age will determine eligibility to participate in any event both district wide and local from birth through the age of 26.

KID'S MINISTRY: A child will be a participant in kids ministry from the age of birth until the age of 12, but only if they do not turn 12 before Sept 1. of the current school year.

YOUTH NYI MINISTRY: A Youth participant in NYI ministry must be 11 by Sept 1 of the current school year and will not be 18 before Sept 1 of the current school year.

COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULT NYI MINISTRY: College-aged NYI ministry participant must be 18 by the time of the event and not yet turned 27 by the beginning of the event.

Transition year Exception: A child who is age 11 before Sept 1 of the current school year and not 12 before Sept 1 of the current school year may decide to participate in either Kids ministry or NYI ministry for this one year only. This will be in concordance with their current local church's Kid's and NYI policies. The child may not participate in both Kid's ministry and NYI ministry in the same school year on both the local and district level. They must choose to fully participate in one or the other. (Example they cannot participate in both Kid's Quizzing and Rejoice in the same school year, or Children's Church and Youth Group in the same school year.)

Summer Birthday Exception: A child whose birthday falls between June 1 and August 31 may choose to participate in the age group of their peers that is one year prior to where their current age would put them. This will only be acceptable if this child has been participating and will continue participating with this age group at a local level. However, if the child turns 13 before a summer Kid's Ministry event or 19 before a summer Youth Ministry event, or 27 before any College/Young Adult event they will not be allowed to participate in that event, this includes summer camps, field and national quizzing events and NYC.

Summer Camp Policy:

All camper's participation eligibility will be determined by the camper's age based on the national school district policy determined by age of participant by the following Sept 1 of the current year.

Kid's Camp: For campers ages 8-11. Must be 8 on or before Sept 1 directly following that year's camp and cannot be 12 before Sept 1 of the same year, unless covered by the previous **Summer Birthday Exception**.

Teen Camp: For campers ages 12-18. Must be 12 on or before Sept 1 directly following that year's camp and cannot be 19 before Sept 1 of the same year, unless covered by the previous **Summer Birthday Exception**.

We have taken great care in creating these policies and understand that many exceptions can be made for an individual for many various reasons as to why they should be allowed to participate in a specific program or event, and therefore to create consistency as well as for the safety of all our RMD youth we have found it to be a prudent and necessary action to create a policy that defines age groups for all programs on the RMD, without exception.

Thank you for your understanding. We hope this will help us all to minister to our youth in way that will fit them best.