



Montana Youth Challenge Academy

Youth Challenge History

- **Challenge authorized by Congress in 1993**
- **National Guard tasked with administration**
- **41 programs in 27 states, Puerto Rico and DC**
- **Montana Youth Challenge established in 1999**
- **Over 153,000 youth have graduated nationally since the inception of Youth Challenge**

Montana Academy Statistics

3,214 Graduates as of June 2019 (Classes 1-41)

* 78% of cadets have earned HiSet (GED)

Placement Averages:

- 41% Work force
- 25% High School
- 16% Other Education
- 8% Military

168,579 Community Service Hours

(\$1,076,197.00 value to State of Montana)

Requirements for Cadets

Applicants must be:

- ❑ Volunteers
- ❑ Not on probation
- ❑ Withdrawn or transferred from high school
- ❑ 16 to 18 years of age
- ❑ Drug free

Acclimation Phase

- First 11 days of the Residential Phase
- Adjust to Challenge disciplines
- Cadets are housed at the National Guard Armory in Dillon during this time
- 90%+ successfully complete Acclimation Period

The Residential Phase

- 20 weeks in length
- HiSet, Credit Recovery
- Cadets live in a highly structured environment
- Learning life skills to cope in the future

8 Core Components

- ❑ Leadership / Followership
- ❑ Responsible Citizenship
- ❑ Academic Excellence
- ❑ Job Skills
- ❑ Life Coping Skills
- ❑ Health and Hygiene
- ❑ Community Service
- ❑ Physical Fitness

Education

- MYCA administers TABE test and students are ability grouped based on performance.
- Students attend small classes taught by teachers certified in their content area focusing on HiSET prep or Credit Recovery.
- Students have access to platoon career counselors and the ability to communicate with individuals or teams from their public high school.
- The HiSET exam is paid for by MYCA and administered twice per session at the test center on the campus of UMW.
- Select Cadets have opportunities to earn college credit through UMW.

UMW

Education Partnership

MYCA

- Credit opportunity
- Leadership Certificate
- Business Bootcamp
- Phlebotomy
- Tutoring

UMW

- Observations
- Teaching Methods
- Student Teaching

The Post Residential Phase

- 12 months in length
- Cadets execute their Placement goals set at Challenge
- Mentors assist cadets with the implementation of placement goals in education, military, or work force

Placement

Placement = Education, Military, Work Force, or Service to Community

- * Cadet should be placed each of the 12 months after graduation from the Residential Phase for 25 hours per week.
- * Mentors are crucial to helping the cadets stay placed and reporting placement data to MYCA.
- * Placement statistics are vital to program funding.

MYCA Placement Average

Classes 1-38 have completed the Post Residential Phase.

Graduates from Classes 1-38 = 2,881

Number of cadets placed from Classes 1-38 = 2,304

This equals an 80% overall Placement average for MYCA cadets after leaving Dillon.

Questions?

