

YP FAQs

The Menomonee Area Chamber & Visitor Center's Young Professionals programming focuses on connection and building a network, giving back to the community and education through personal and professional development. Activities are typically designed with emerging professionals in mind, offering opportunities for skill building and leadership advancement.



WHY YP?

- ✓ Professional Growth
- ✓ Resume Builder
- ✓ Meet Community Leaders
- ✓ Self-Promotion
- ✓ Leadership Skill Building
- ✓ Learning Opportunities
- ✓ Community Awareness
- ✓ Exposure
- ✓ Business Promotion
- ✓ Chamber Involvement
- ✓ Visit Community Businesses
- ✓ Personal Growth
- ✓ Networking Opportunities
- ✓ Give Back to the Community
- ✓ Mentoring

USE YP AS A RETENTION STRATEGY!

Recognizing employees makes them **37%** more likely to stay with the company.

-Qualtrics

24% of millennials expect to leave their job within two years and **40%** of Gen Zers intend to leave their jobs in the upcoming two-year period.

-Deloitte

A workplace survey report found that **94%** of surveyed employees responded that if a company invested in helping them learn, they would stay longer.

-LinkedIn Learning

2025 YP ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

January - No YP Activities

February - Trivia Night

March - No YP Activities

April - Professional Clothing Closet at Youth Career Expo

May - No Activities

June - Snapshot to Success (Speaker/Headshot)

July - No Activities

August - No Activities

September - YP Social at the Great Community Cookout

October - Amazing Race

November - Puzzles & Pizza

December - No YP Activities

YP FAQs

What is the the Young Professionals (YP) program?

Young Professionals programming focuses on connecting/building a network, giving back to the community and education through personal and professional development. Activities are typically designed with emerging professionals in mind, offering opportunity for skill building and leadership advancement.

When do YP activities take place?

Events and activities are offered throughout the year, typically on a monthly basis. A full schedule of YP programming can be found at www.menomoneiechamber.org/young-professionals.

Who can attend YP activities?

Anyone! Although this program has a target age audience of 18-39, the 'young at heart' are encouraged to participate. Some YP activities or benefits are restricted to employees of Chamber investors. To find out if your place of work is a member of the Chamber, visit the business directory at www.menomoneiechamber.org/list.

What does it cost to participate?

The fee for events and activities varies per event/activity and some events are free! YP Steering Committee members will receive discounts on many participation activities.

What is the YP Steering Committee (YPSC)?

The YPSC is a group of individuals who are seeking enhanced leadership opportunities within the Young Professionals program. YPSC members assist the Chamber team in planning and executing events/activities and provide peer leadership for program input. There are many benefits to joining the steering committee, including discounts on programs/events, leadership training, professional mentorship, increased recognition and promotion and more! Individuals must be employed by a Chamber investor to be on the YP Steering Committee. The YPSC meets bi-monthly and is facilitated by the committee Chair and the Chamber's Program Management staff.

Where can I register?

Each individual YP activity will have registration options. Contact info@menomoneiechamber.org or call 715-235-9087 to be added to an exclusive activity invite list.

Applications for the YP Steering Committee are accepted on an ongoing basis and can be found online at www.menomoneiechamber.org/young-professionals.

As an employer, why should I encourage our emerging professionals to take part in YP?

The Young Professionals program gets your emerging workforce involved! It not only helps to build a network for your employees, but also offers variable opportunities for volunteerism, development and a sense of belonging. Using YP as a retention strategy can save your business money in the long run - data from Lessonly shows that good retention can maximize a company profit's up to four times! Set the tone with new employees by adding YP program involvement into your onboarding program.

MAXIMIZE OPPORTUNITIES BY JOINING FOR THE YP STEERING COMMITTEE

Benefits of being a Young Professionals Steering Committee Member (YPSCM):

- All YPSCMs take part in a mentor program
 - Mentors will be assigned to YPSCMs based on industry and interest
 - YPSCMs will indicate interest areas and professional development goals
 - Mentor assignments will last for one year and will be renewed or reassigned upon continued involvement with the steering committee
 - Mentors commit to a bi-monthly check in with their YPSCMs
 - Mentors will invite YPSCMs to activities/community events to help broaden their network
 - Mentors will directly assist with individualized professional development of the YPSCMs
- Complimentary BAH entry - monthly (\$60 Value)
- Build a stronger network by connecting with other emerging leaders
- YP steering committee discounts on Chamber activities
- One annual professional recognition in the Chamber newsletter and blog (\$150+ value)
- Complimentary Chippewa Valley Rally Registration & Transportation (\$100 Value)
- Tuition discount for Leadership Menomonie (\$125 Value)
- YPSCMs will gain valuable volunteer experiences
- Bi-monthly steering committee meetings to prepare for upcoming YP events and participation activities
- Increase exposure - steering committee members are listed on the Chamber website

YP Steering Committee Commitments:

- Attend bi-monthly steering committee meetings to assist with planning and implementation of upcoming YP activities and provide input on Chamber staff-led YP activities
- Meet bi-monthly with assigned mentor (opposite months of steering committee meetings)
 - This time commitment will be set by YPSCMs and mentors based on availability/need
- YPSCMs will make an active effort to promote attend monthly YP activities
 - Variable time commitment based on availability
- YPSCMs commit to being a professional representative of their business/organization, the Chamber committee and a leader in the Menomonie Area emerging professionals community

**2025 PROGRAM SCHEDULE
STEERING COMMITTEE REFERENCE GUIDE**

January - No YP Activities

February - Trivia Night *Participation Opportunity!* *Build Your Network!* *Volunteer!* *Planning Development!*

YPs are invited to participate in a trivia event to mingle with other YPs in the community. Steering committee members will assist with event promotion. The Chamber team handles all planning.

March - No YP Activities

April - Professional Clothing Closet at Youth Career Expo *Participation Opportunity!* *Volunteer!* *Planning Development!* *Build Your Network!*

YP Steering Committee members will plan and execute a clothing drive for high school students. Committee members will work with the Chamber team to identify promotional outlets, target audience members and locations for clothing collections. Steering committee members collect the clothing donations and will attend the event and assist with clothing distribution and to build their own personal/professional network.

May - No YP Activities

June - Professional Development Breakfast *Participation Opportunity!* *Professional Development!* *Build Your Network!* *Planning Development!*

YP Steering Committee members will collaborate to plan and execute a professional development speaker event. The committee members will establish a budget with all expenses meeting or be under budget. The budget is to include but not limited to: speaker costs, venue rentals, food and beverage options, and printing costs.

2025 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

July - No YP Activities

August - No YP Activities

September - YP Networking at the Great Community Cookout *Planning Development!* *Volunteer!* *Build Your Network!*

The Young Professional Steering Committee will develop an engaging, fun networking event during Downtown Menomonie's Great Community Cookout. This event is to educate the community what the Young Professional Steering Committee entails and the value for current and future workforce.

October - Amazing Race *Participation Opportunity!* *Build Your Network!* *Planning Development!*

The Young Professional Steering Committee handles all the details for this scavenger hunt around Menomonie. YP'ers will decide to develop the race or participate as a racer. The racers are invited to participate in the Amazing Race with a FREE team. The balance of the committee will handle all event planning and execution. YP steering committee members are encouraged to assist with peer-to-peer invitations and event promotion.

November - Puzzles & Pizza *Participation Opportunity!* *Build Your Network!*

YP steering committee members will handle all the details for this Chamber fundraiser including but not limited to: event details (date, time, location), marketing, event logistics (setup, during event, and cleanup), and any post event needs. During the event, YP'ers are encouraged to network with attendees to gain additional members and/or financial support. Committee members in attendance will do self-introductions during announcements.

December - No YP Activities