# **Empower Youth Success 2025**

### MAKE THE CASE TO ATTEND

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<u>Empower Youth Success 2025</u> is THE event for education professionals to push the boundaries and create high-quality expanded learning and development opportunities that support New York's youth. Join in on an exciting four days of innovative learning, engagement, and fun with the New York State Network for Youth Success!

#### **Empower Youth Success features:**

- → Community Schools Resilience & Equity Conference April 30 & May 1, 2025
- → 21st Century Community Learning Center Conference May 2, 2025
- → School's Out, Make it Count! May 2 & 3, 2025

Let us help you "Make the Case" to attend the 2025 Annual Conference by making a **Copy** of (File  $\rightarrow$  Copy) or **Downloading** (File  $\rightarrow$  Download) this template and updating with your personal touch before sending it to your supervisor.

We look forward to having you at the conference!

# **Step One: Identify Reasons for Attending**

#### Identify the top reasons attending the conference would benefit your organization:

- Earn OFCS Training Credits
- Content for those working with older and younger youth
- Learn about the community schools model by participating in site visits
- Strengthen your local community schools practice
- Increase the visibility of community schools to advance the movement across the state
- Learn strategies for managing teams and people
- Participate in hands-on games and activities
- Attend sessions for leaders, managers, and more!
- Access vendors offering new & helpful products
- Gain resources, handouts, and templates

#### Identify your professional development reasons for attending:

- Network & collaborate with hundreds of like-minded individuals in the field
- Network with other community schools
- Learn justice, equity, diversity & inclusion (JEDI) strategies
- Participate in hands-on STEAM learning
- Learn about best practices in the afterschool field
- Check out the awards

# **Step Two: Identify Conference Sessions Best For You**

Identify the portions of the conference most valuable for your professional development and most beneficial to your organization:

Empower Youth Success Conference is a four-day conference featuring:

- Community Schools Resilience & Equity Conference (April 30 & May 1, 2025)
- 21st Century Community Learning Center Conference (May 2, 2025)
- School's Out, Make It Count! Conference (May 2 & 3, 2025)

You can register for one day up to all four days of the conference. To understand each portion of the conference better and who should attend, get more information on the <u>Registration Page</u>.

Check out an overview of the <u>agenda</u> and <u>brochure</u> to decide which portions hold the most value for you and your organization.

# **Step Three: Estimate Your Budget**

ITEM	COST
Conference Registration	\$
Travel	\$
Hotel Accommodation (discount with hotel block)	\$
Local Transportation	\$
Per Diem/ Meals (reminder: lunch is included Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday!)	\$
Total Cost of Attendance	\$

## **Step Four: Prepare Your Pitch**

After reflecting on why you should attend the Empower Youth Success 2025, express why to your organization.

- **COPY** the below template into a new document and **UPDATE** the letter with the notes you took from <u>Step One</u>, <u>Step Two</u>, and <u>Step Three</u>.
- Fill in the Organizational Priorities/Challenges identified in <u>Step One</u>, the Conference Sessions from <u>Step Two</u>, and Personal Priorities/Challenges from <u>Step One</u>. Example:
  - How can we better incorporate leadership strategies?
  - How can we improve the content in our programs to better support our students?
- Send the letter to your organization!

[Today's Date]	
Dear [	]

Empower Youth Success 2025 takes place April 30 – May 3, 2025 in Albany, New York, and I'm writing to express my interest in participating on behalf of our organization. After attending the conference, I would like to present key findings to our core team so we can all benefit from this experience.

Investing in my professional development will benefit our organization by:

[Organizational reasons for attending, use your notes from <u>Step One</u>]

The most value comes from attending:

- [Insert Conference Sessions you're interested in attending, use your notes from <u>Step</u>
   Two]
- [Dates]

Additionally, it would benefit my overall growth and development by:

• [Your reasons for attending, use your notes from <a href="Step One">Step One</a>]

The overall cost of attending is estimated at \$[Include your Budgeting from Step Three]. I know this requires both time and money, but this investment would be invaluable to our organization.

Thank you for considering this opportunity! To see more information about Empower Youth Success 2025, please visit the website: <a href="https://networkforyouthsuccess.org/annual-conference/">https://networkforyouthsuccess.org/annual-conference/</a>. Please let me know what you think by <a href="[date]">[date]</a> and I'm more than happy to continue the conversation, should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Title]