



THE INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Application information for YIP18 2025-2026

I don't seek, I find

*Seeking is starting from what is old
And discovering in the new
What you already know.
Finding is something entirely new,
New also in movement.
All paths are open,
And what is found
Is unknown.*

*Only those can embark on
The uncertainty of such ventures
Who know they are secure in insecurity,
Who are led into lack
Of certainty and direction,
Who in darkness
Give themselves up to an invisible star,
who let the goal draw them
And do not limit and narrowly determine it*

*Being open to each new insight,
To each new experience
Both inward and outward
Is the essence of modern human beings -
Who, despite all fear in letting go,
Allow the grace of being held
To enter them and manifest
New possibilities*

Attributed to Pablo Picasso



INTRODUCTION

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for downloading the YIP18 2025-2026 Application Form.

As YIP encourages individual initiative, the process or the outcome of the program can not be predetermined. It is as Picasso expresses in the above poem: a risk, a venture...only to be taken on by those who wish to become secure in insecurity.

YIP aims to host a place for the deep exploration of our purpose in life, coupled with exploration of the urgent needs of the world. We hope that a match can be found that meets both the individual's longing and purpose, as well as a need in today's society and world. A space for initiative and learning, where you can bring your ideas to life!

The process and the outcomes will be highly individual, and largely dependent on the attitude and engagement of those taking part in the program. This Application Process is therefore mainly meant to help you to decide if YIP is the right next step in your journey, whilst also enabling the organizing team to get to know a bit about you, your ideas and inspirations.

How do we decide your acceptance? We are looking for enthusiastic self-motivated young people who have a deep interest in working towards a more just and regenerative future. People who are willing to ask and hold big questions relating to their individual and our collective state of being; open to look reality in the face both from within and out into the world and willing to be part of the change that might be required to improve what you find there. You need to be willing to consciously navigate the joys and challenges of community life and to take part in sculpting your learning. We are interested in your initiative, the ideas and inspirations behind your actions and your ability to be reflective about yourself and these ideas with an open attitude.

Before continuing the application process, please ensure that you have read the terms and conditions included in the initial application form, they will inform you about the practicalities of applying for YIP and make your application process easier.



STEP ONE: WHO ARE YOU?

This part of the application is for us to get to know you and hear why you would like to participate in YIP. For this section, please submit a 1-page Biography, 1-2 page CV and maximum 1-page document for each of the following: the Call, the Landscape and the Horizon. We invite you to give individual responses to each of the bulleted tasks. So STEP ONE should result in no more than 6 pages.

Biography (max. 1 A4): My Life

- Please write a short outline of your biography and include where you were born, how you grew up and the environments, relationships and events that have shaped who you are today.

Formal CV (max. 2 A4): My Education - Please list:

- High School
- University and/or College
- Additional Courses/Diploma
- Work experience/voluntary engagements

The Call (max. 1 A4): My Impulse

- What do you see as some of the major global challenges we face as humanity today?
- Which of these global challenges do you feel called to work with and why?
- What drives you to participate in a program like YIP?
- What specific areas of YIP interest you most and why?



The Landscape (max. 1 A4): My Influence

- Describe a time when you have shown and/or taken initiative.
- Name one aspect of yourself that you consider a quality that you are able to offer to yourself and those around you and an area you struggle with and would like to develop. Describe how these have influenced your life.

The Horizon (max. 1 A4): My Intention

- In the future you wish to see, what ideals and realities are alive in the world?
- In this future, how do you hope to be living your life and where do you see your engagement in the world you describe?
How do you see YIP contributing to this?

STEP TWO: MY QUESTION

All initiatives begin with a question. This step asks you to creatively express a burning question you carry right now that inspires you to step into initiative that is of service to the world.

Activate your creativity inspired by the question below:

What is a question that motivates me to take initiative towards a positive change in myself and/or the world?

Consider: where does your question come from? Who is it for? What are the key elements? How would you begin to address it? We look forward to seeing, hearing, and experiencing your question through song, film, poetry, theatre, movement, painting, sculpture etc. Please do not make it longer than 5 minutes.



STEP THREE: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- **Reference Letters** - [CLICK HERE FOR THE REFERENCE LETTER TEMPLATE](#)

YIP requires two reference letters which should be sent to apply@yip.se by your referees. Please ensure that both references are from people who know you well from an education/work/mentor position, who can comment objectively on your character, abilities, capacities and/or past experiences. We cannot accept references from family members or close friends. Please print the [reference letter template](#) and give it to your referee to complete and either email or post to us.

*Please note that your application will only be completed and processed once we have received both references.

- **Health Report** - [CLICK HERE FOR THE HEALTH REPORT FORM](#)

The provided medical report must be completed, signed and stamped by a qualified medical doctor. If you require a special diet, or have any serious allergies please include details of this on your health report. If you have any current or previous medical, mental or physical conditions that may affect your stay at or participation in YIP, we ask that this be clearly stated on the report.

- **Certificate of Proficiency in English** - [CLICK HERE FOR THE ENGLISH CERTIFICATE FORM](#)

If English is not your native language, you will need to provide a certificate of proficiency in English. YIP is an intensive full-day course taught in English, with challenging content and in-depth theory based discussions. For your admission it is required that you understand, speak, read and write in English at least at an intermediate level.

* PLEASE NOTE: This is not a 'formality', but an important check for YOU. Experience has shown that people struggle in YIP if they do not understand and speak English well enough. In YIP, reading and writing English is NOT as important as understanding and speaking it. Please listen to the lecture below to see if you understand all that is said. If you struggle to understand what is spoken, we recommend that you reconsider your application: <https://vimeo.com/15985264>

- **Portrait Photograph**

YIP requires a portrait photograph showing only your head (a passport photo or similar) with your application.



STEP FOUR: PAY YOUR APPLICATION FEE

The Application Fee for YIP is SEK 750. This is not refundable. YIP charges this fee to cover the costs of processing the applications. [CLICK HERE](#) to pay the application fee. Make sure you keep a copy of the receipt and send it along with your application.

STEP FIVE: REVIEW YOUR CHECK-LIST

Please review the check-list below and make sure that all the required attachments are ready to submit:

STEP ONE: WHO ARE YOU?

- ☐ Biography
- ☐ CV
- ☐ The Call
- ☐ The Landscape
- ☐ The Horizon

STEP TWO: MY QUESTION

- ☐ My Question

STEP THREE: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- ☐ Reference letters

* The reference letters have to be sent in by your referees and therefore should not be sent with your application. Your application will only be processed when we have received both references.

- ☐ Health Report
- ☐ Certificate of Proficiency in English
- ☐ Portrait Photograph

STEP FOUR: APPLICATION FEE

- ☐ Application fee paid
- ☐ Proof of payment included in attachment



STEP SIX: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION!

After reviewing the checklist and making sure your application is complete, there are two options for submitting - online or by post. Our preference is by email.

E-mail to: apply@yip.se (subject: "@YIP18 + Name")

Post to: Youth Initiative Program
Admissions
Kulturcentrum Järna 13
15391 Järna, Sweden

STEP SEVEN: YOUR INTERVIEW

Once your application is complete and has been reviewed, you will be contacted to arrange a live interview. This can be in person or through Zoom. The purpose of the interview is to meet you and to have a conversation about the following: 1) to look at your application together and ask you some questions, 2) to clarify some aspects of the program, 3) to hear any questions that you have.

That's it! Congratulations if you made it all the way through your application. We hope the process was enjoyable and helped sharpen your intention for joining YIP. We look forward to reviewing your application.

- The YIP Team