



NINJA

Utah's New Ideas to Network Junior Advocates

**WE'RE INVITING FUTURE COMMUNITY LEADERS
TO ATTEND THE 5th ANNUAL UTAH NINJA CONFERENCE
FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES**

June 5-8, 2017

Location Utah State University, Logan, Utah

- No expense to selected delegates (**all expenses paid**).
- Exciting, fun, and educational 4-day training program.
- Consumers of Centers for Independent Living (CIL) ages 16-24.

**APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
April 14, 2017**

-If you need help filling out this application please contact your local CIL

- Delegates must complete all information of this application.
- Please type or print with black ink.
- Mail the application to the appropriate address on the last page (page 7).
- Please see page 4 for additional application instructions.

1. Last Name

First

Middle

2. Address

City

Zip

3. Male / Female

4. Phone

5. Name of High School/College

**6. Grade Level on 12/31/17 (if
graduated or in college please
specify)**

7. Your E-Mail Address

8. Birth date

9. Date Graduation Expected

10. School Phone Number

11. Your Ethnicity

12. Please describe your disability. This information will assist in assuring that we include delegates with a diversity of disabilities.

Disability (medical diagnosis) _____

Check all that apply:

Deaf _____
Hard of Hearing _____
I use sign language _____
I use real time captioning _____
I use lip reading _____

Developmental Disability _____
Describe _____
Autism _____
Traumatic Brain Injury _____
Other _____

Blind _____

Visual Impairment _____
I read with Braille _____
I read with large print _____

Mental Health Disability _____
Neuromuscular Disability _____

Orthopedic Disability _____
I use a wheelchair _____
I cannot walk upstairs _____
I cannot walk long distances _____

Learning Disability _____
Multiple Disabilities _____

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13. Information on Vocational Rehabilitation

If you are currently a client of Vocational Rehabilitation, please tell us your
Counselor's Name _____ Phone _____

14. School and Community Involvement

Below, please briefly list your involvement with your school and community. This may include any offices held, club memberships, after school activities or work experience.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Dates Involved</u>	<u>Grade</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

15. Letters of recommendation

Please attach two letters of recommendation which describe your demonstrated leadership skills or your leadership potential. One letter MUST be from someone other than a family member and one MUST be from a community representative.

List name, position/title, organization and telephone number of your Recommendations.

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16. Required Essay for first time applicants only

Your answers to the following questions will be used to assess your readiness to participate in the Leadership Conference. Please write your responses on a separate sheet of paper and attach to your completed application packet. Your total response for all four of these topics should not exceed four (4) typewritten, double-spaced sheets. (Responses must be double-spaced and either typewritten or printed in black ink.)

A. Qualifications – explain why you feel you are qualified to be a delegate to this conference and please tell us why you want to attend.

B. Positive Influences – In terms of leadership, please tell us about two people who have positively influenced your life. Why? (Families, teachers, counselors, friends, public officials, or celebrities are appropriate examples).

C. Experiences as a person with a disability – Describe two important experiences you have had as a person with a disability. (Please be specific about your examples as they relate to your disability.)

D. Future Plans and Goals – Describe any of your future plans and life goals.

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17. Required Essay for second and third year applicants

Your answers to the following questions will be used to assess your readiness to participate in the Leadership Conference. Please write your responses on a separate sheet of paper and attach to your completed application packet. Your total response for all of these topics should not exceed five (5) typewritten, double-spaced sheets. (Responses must be double-spaced and either typewritten or printed in black ink.)

- A. Qualifications – explain why you feel you are qualified to be a delegate to this conference and please tell us why you want to attend.
- B. Please tell us how you have used the knowledge and skills gained in previous conferences during the past year.
- C. Please describe your project from last year and the steps you took to complete it or the steps you are taking to continue working on it.
- D. Future Plans and Goals – Describe future plans and life goals.
- E. Third year applicants are required to do **one** of the following and write about their experience.

- Present to Utah Statewide Independent Living Council (USILC) by April
- Attend USILC's Legislative training in January.
- Write a letter to legislator

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18. Please use the checklist below to make certain your application packet is complete. All questions must be answered and requested letters and information provided.

- A. Application form
- B. Two letters of recommendation _____
- C. Essay responding to required topics _____

Student Signature

Date

KEEP THIS PAGE – DO NOT RETURN WITH APPLICATION

HOW DELEGATES WILL BE SELECTED AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS.

1. To be eligible for Utah's NINJA Conference applicants must:
 - a. Have a disability (as defined by the ADA)
 - b. Be 16-24 by December 31, 2017
 - c. Must have demonstrated leadership potential in school and in their community
 - d. Reside in Utah
 - e. Be a consumer of their local Center for Independent Living (CIL)
2. Applicants must mail the completed application packet to their local CIL no later than April 14, 2017
3. Selected applicants will be notified by letter no later than May 5, 2017
4. After being selected, students will be asked to fill out a confirmation form, and provide additional information to USILC.
5. This conference is inclusive and accommodations can be made on an individual basis for selected participants.

Mail this application to your respective CIL

OPTIONS for Independence
Jennie Ostermiller
106 East 1120 North
Logan, UT 84341
435-753-5353

Roads to Independence
Karen Bingham
3355 Washington Boulevard
Ogden, UT 84401
801-612-3215

Utah Independent Living Center
Michael Lefevor
3445 South Main Street
South Salt Lake, UT 84115
801-466-5565

Ability 1st Utah
Sage Wohlgemuth
491 North Freedom Blvd.
Provo, UT 84601
801-373-5044

Active Re-Entry
Chris Haycock
10 South Fairgrounds Road
Price, UT 84501
435-637-4950

Red Rock Center for Independence
Allison Muir
168 North 100 East, Suite 101
St. George, UT 84770
435-673-7501

Ninja Youth Conference Q&A Sheet

Q. Why is it called the Ninja Youth Conference?

A. During our first year of the conference the participants were asked what we should call the conference. Ninja was the name they came up with. NINJA is an acronym for New Ideas to Network Junior Advocates.

Q. Who is able to attend?

A. Participants are limited to people with disabilities ages 16-24. Participants need to fill out and return an application for the conference and an intake must be completed at their local Center for Independent Living. Participants must also be willing to complete a leadership project of their choosing.

Q. What will I learn at the conference?

A. The conference focuses on teaching leadership and advocacy skills. Other possible classes that could be taught are: disability rights, disability history, goal setting, how to vote, Vocational Rehabilitation, social skills and basics of communication.

Q. How long is the conference?

A. The conference is 4 days long. The conference starts on a Monday and ends on a Thursday.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. The cost for a participant to attend is free. Thanks to the Utah Statewide Independent Living Council, Centers for Independent Living throughout the state and various grants.

Q. Where is the NINJA Conference held and where do I stay?

A. This year's conference will be held at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. Participants will be staying in dorm rooms on campus. Participants will share a room with other people of the same sex. Boys will be housed on one floor and girls on a separate floor.

Q. How do I get to and from the conference?

A. Each Center for Independent Living will provide transportation to participants associated with their center.

Q. Is there anything required of me if I am accepted and attend the conference?

A. Yes, we ask all participants to apply their leadership skills they learned by developing a project to work on for the next year.