

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

TNOYS' 39th <u>Annual Conference</u> on Services to Youth & Families

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## Registration

### What are my <u>registration</u> options, and how much does registration cost?

Registration prices vary depending on whether or not you are a TNOYS member and which conference dates you choose to attend. Registration prices will also increase after the early bird rate ends on April 25. TNOYS Members get exclusive discounts on conference registration. To learn more about becoming a TNOYS member, click here.

TNOYS' 39th Annual Conference includes a distinct virtual day on May 11 (registration for the virtual day is now closed), Pre-Conference Institutes on May 23 in Houston, and the in-person event on May 24-26 in Houston. You may choose to <u>register</u> for one, some, or all of these conference dates. **Please note: the registration deadline is Friday, May 13.** 

General Registration	In-Person Full Conference (May 24-26)	Virtual Only (May 11)	Pre-Conference Institutes Add-on to Registration (May 23)*	
TNOYS Member	\$350	\$175	\$75	
Non-Member	\$425	\$225		
Youth	\$5			

\*Pre-conference institutes take place Monday, May 23rd. The Institutes are a great way to learn about a specific topic in-depth and earn additional CEUs. On the registration form, you may add a pre-conference institute to your conference registration for \$75. If you are not attending the regular conference, you can still register for a Pre-Conference Institute only! The cost to do so is \$125. You can learn more about Pre-Conference Institutes in the section below.

Only able to attend one day of the full conference in Houston? Choose either of the full-length days on May 24 or 25, or choose the half-day on May 26. You can also register for a Pre-Conference Institute without registering for the full conference. Pricing is the same for TNOYS members and non-members, and is as follows:

Single Day Registration	In-Person, Full Day May 24 or 25	In-Person, Half Day May 26	Pre-Conference Institutes Only (May 23)
	\$220	\$125	\$125

Bundles are available if you choose to register for both virtual and in-person conference offerings. Save up to \$35 when you register for a bundle!

Registration Bundles	All Access Bundle: Virtual (May 11) and In-Person Full Conference (May 24-26)	Virtual (May 11) and In-Person Single Day of Choice
TNOYS Member	\$485	May 24 or 25: \$380 May 26: \$285
Non-Member	\$615	May 24 or 25: \$435 May 26: \$340

The early bird rates end on **April 25**, after which registration prices will increase. Register for the conference here!

# Can youth and young adults attend the conference? What are their registration options?

Yes! Youth engagement is always an important part of TNOYS' Annual Conference on Services to Youth and Families. This year's conference will once again welcome youth and young adults (ages 16-24) to attend the conference alongside youth and family services professionals. TNOYS also engages youth and young adults as planners, presenters, and performers throughout the event.

Youth registration is \$50 per person, and it includes full access to both the virtual conference day (May 11) and the in-person conference dates (May 24-26). Pre-Conference Institutes are restricted to youth-serving professionals. Youth and young adults are not permitted to register for Pre-Conference Institutes.

The in-person conference offers exclusive sessions and activities for youth and young adults (YYAs), including:

- Youth leadership track on Tuesday, May 24 that features a variety of skill-building sessions designed for YYAs;
- A youth-only lounge where YYAs can safely store their belongings, recharge between sessions, and participate in games and activities with their peers;
- And an optional youth-only lunch on Tuesday, May 24.

Additionally, both the virtual and in-person days offer dozens of sessions designed specifically for YYAs and professionals to learn alongside one another.

#### What are Pre-Conference Institutes?

Pre-Conference Institutes are full-day (4-6 hours) training sessions on an in-depth clinical skill or evidence-based tool or approach. TNOYS typically offers 2-4 institute options that reflect the latest research, trends in the field, and priorities among youth-serving providers. Pre-Conference Institute participants typically walk away with a certification in a tool, practice, or skill, in addition to CEU credit hours.

Pre-Conference Institutes will take place Monday, May 23 at the Westin Galleria in Houston. **Space is limited for all Pre-Conference Institutes, and separate registration is required.** Check out the <u>Pre-Conference Institutes page</u> on the conference website to learn more, and indicate your interest when you register through the <u>online registration form</u>.

## **Conference Logistics and Location**

#### Where can I find a detailed conference schedule?

You can find the conference schedule on the <u>Agenda page</u> of the conference website, as well as in the conference program that we will release in late March. <u>Sign up for our newsletter</u> for the latest updates on what we have in store!

## What can I expect at the virtual conference day compared to the in-person event?

The virtual conference experience takes place on Wednesday, May 11 at approximately 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The virtual day will feature a live keynote address by Clint Smith and offer 9+ live workshops on a variety of topics relevant to the youth-services field. We will once again use the virtual event platform Whova for the virtual day. From this platform, attendees can easily join live sessions from anywhere, chat with exhibitors, participate in community board discussions, compete in games for the chance to win prizes, and set up virtual meetings with other attendees. Virtual registrants will gain access to the event app approximately 1 week before the virtual conference day, providing exclusive access to networking tools, session previews, and more.

The in-person conference will take place Tuesday, May 24 through Thursday, May 26 at the Westin Galleria in Houston. Over 2.5 days, the in-person event will feature 4 engaging keynotes, over 40 dynamic workshops, and the energy and fun you've come to expect from TNOYS' Annual Conference. In-person registrants will gain access to the event app **after** the virtual conference day has concluded. This means that ALL registrants will have access to the event

app by the week of the in-person conference, providing even more opportunities for you to network with your peers, check out the virtual exhibit hall, and earn points for the chance to win one of our amazing prizes.

Some of the sessions offered at the virtual conference will overlap with those available at the in-person conference, but most will be distinct, offering flexibility as well as variety in the way you attend both events and earn the maximum CEU credit hours available. We recommend the **All Access Bundle** experience which includes up to 20 CEU credits hours, up to 25% more workshop offerings, increased opportunities to network, and so much more!

# How do I access and use Whova, the virtual event platform and event mobile app? Will I use Whova if I am only attending virtually or only attending in person?

All attendees (whether virtual or in–person) will have access to the virtual event platform, Whova. Whova is easy to use and can be opened on your desktop or in the Whova mobile app. We recommend that virtual registrants participate via the Whova web app and that in-person registrants participate via the Whova mobile app. Registrants will gain access to the event app via email approximately 1 week before attending the conference. Prior to the event, the TNOYS team will provide a detailed Attendee Guide with instructions and tutorials for using Whova as a virtual or in-person participant. We will also have staff on hand throughout the event to help troubleshoot any technical issues.

From the Whova platform, attendees can easily customize their agendas, chat with exhibitors, participate in community board discussions, network and set up virtual or in-person meetings with other attendees, and participate in engaging games. Attendees will also use Whova to sign into sessions, access important resources, receive event updates, and more. Virtual attendees will use Whova to join all live or recorded conference sessions. **Check out TNOYS' Complete Guide to Whova to learn more about the platform.** 

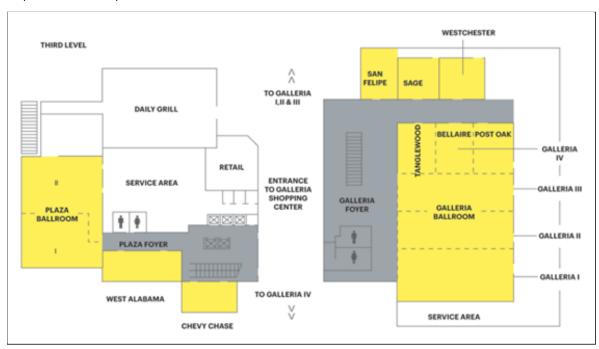
## Where is TNOYS' 39th Annual Conference taking place? Is there a hotel room block?

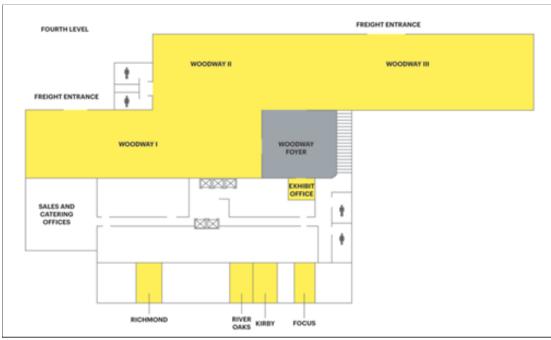
TNOYS' 39th Annual Conference will take place at the <u>Westin Galleria</u>, 5060 West Alabama St, Houston, TX 77056.

A discounted room rate of \$162 + tax per night will be offered for conference attendees until April 29, 2022. The room block rates are available Sunday, May 22 through Thursday, May 26. To reserve your room in our room block, please follow this <u>special access link</u>, or you may call the Westin Galleria at 866-539-1208 to book with their 24-hour central reservations team.

The Westin Galleria offers free parking for all conference attendees, as well as complimentary WiFi in the guest rooms and the Galleria Ballroom. Check back in early May for further details on accessing parking and other amenities!

All conference sessions will take place on the third and fourth floors of the hotel — a map of these floors can be found in the conference program and below. Note that the May 24 Member Reception will take place in the Monarch Room on the 24th floor.





### What COVID-19 precautions do you and the Westin Galleria have in place?

The health and safety of all participants are top priority for the TNOYS team. TNOYS is adopting preventative measures to protect against COVID-19, and we will follow all applicable health and safety recommendations throughout the event.

All conference attendees are expected to comply with applicable requirements imposed by federal, state, or local health authorities. TNOYS will also provide guidance and health screening for all prospective attendees. Please see <a href="here">here</a> for TNOYS' most updated health and safety protocols.

You can find the Westin Galleria's most up to date COVID-19 policies and precautions on their website here.

## **Earning CEUs**

### How many CEUs can I earn at TNOYS' 39th Annual Conference?

The virtual conference day will offer **5+ CEU credit hours**, with the option to earn even more CEUs by watching session recordings available for a limited time on the virtual platform.

The in-person conference will offer **14+ CEU credit hours** over 2.5 days.

Each of the <u>Pre-Conference Institutes</u> will offer **4-6 additional CEU credit hours**. Separate registration is required to attend a Pre-Conference Institute.

### How do I access my CEUs?

In-person attendees can find a CEU certificate in the folder they will receive at conference check-in. Both virtual and in-person attendees can find an electronic version of the CEU certificate under the "Resources" tab in Whova, using the web or mobile app. This certificate is for your records. TNOYS will maintain and provide documentation of your overall conference attendance. You will need to fill in your name and document which sessions you attend, and then submit the information to your licensing board for approval.

TNOYS is an approved CEU provider for Licensed Social Workers (LSW), Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT), and Continuing Professional Education Providers (CPE). The majority of conference sessions are typically approved for Juvenile Probation Officers (JPO), Juvenile Supervision Officers (JSO), and Community Activities Officers (CAO) by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD). The majority of sessions are also typically approved for Licensed Child Care Administrator (LCCA) and Licensed Child Placing Agency Administrator (LCPAA) licenses. This conference is also typically approved for CEUs for

the following substance abuse professional licenses: LCDCs, Associate Prevention Specialists (APS), Certified Prevention Specialists (CPS), and Peer Mentor/Peer Recovery Designation (PM/PRC) through our partnership with Connections Individual and Family Services.

### Other Information

### What opportunities are there to support the conference?

TNOYS' offers many opportunities to support the conference in a more impactful way, including several levels of sponsorship with increasing benefits depending on contribution. Exhibitor booths (both virtual and in-person) are available for purchase, and TNOYS members receive a significant discount. Visit the sponsor/exhibitor webpage to learn more about being a conference sponsor or exhibitor, and apply by February 28 to take advantage of this unique opportunity to show your support for Texas youth and young adults and promote your brand and services to over 500 attendees from across the state.

#### How can I learn more about TNOYS?

The mission of Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS) is to strengthen services and support for Texas youth and families to help them overcome challenges and achieve healthy development. To learn more about TNOYS and our beneficial membership program of over 100 youth-serving providers, please visit <a href="http://tnoys.org/">http://tnoys.org/</a>.

#### **Additional Assistance**

For additional questions regarding TNOYS' 39th Annual Conference on Services to Youth and Families, please contact: annualconference@tnoys.org

Additionally, we encourage you to sign up for our TNOYS' <u>newsletter</u> and keep an eye on the <u>Annual Conference website</u> to stay up to date on the latest announcements!