



TOURISM YOUTH CONGRESS

**October 2018
The Bahamas**

**ADMINISTRATIVE
NOTES**

**Caribbean Tourism Through
the Eyes of Tomorrow**

2018 Tourism Youth Congress Administration Notes

The Tourism Youth Congress is an integral part of the Caribbean Tourism Organization's (CTO) annual State of the Industry Conference and is a regional activity involving students between the ages of 14 and 17 from CTO member countries. It is structured to mirror a CTO Board of Directors' Meeting and its main aim is to stimulate greater awareness and excitement about tourism among young people in our Caribbean communities, by allowing them to research various facets of the tourism sector and share their ideas and vision, with respect to future directions for Caribbean Tourism.

The **Tourism Youth Congress** takes place during the Caribbean Tourism Organization's annual *State of the Industry Conference*.

PROCEDURE

1. In order for countries to participate in the Tourism Youth Congress, the Ministry/Department of Tourism in the respective country must first host a national tourism competition, e.g. an inter-school debate or a students' speak-off, for students between the ages of 14-17. The topics for the national tourism competition are to be determined by the respective Ministry/Department of Tourism.
2. The student who wins the national tourism competition will represent his/her country at the Tourism Youth Congress in the respective year and will be given the title of **Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism**.
3. The title of Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism will be held for one (1) year until a new Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism is selected in the following year. The student is given the opportunity to be involved in tourism-related activities throughout the year in his/her country to enhance his/her knowledge of tourism.
4. The Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism will be assigned a **chaperone** by the respective Ministry/Department of Tourism. The role of the chaperone is as follows:
 - to coach and prepare the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism to participate in the Tourism Youth Congress;
 - to travel with the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism on the same flights to and from the respective country where the Congress is being held;
 - to accompany the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism to the Congress;
 - to ensure the wellbeing and safety of the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism at all times during the trip;
 - to accompany the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism on all scheduled activities for the Congress participants;
 - to ensure that the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism behaves in a manner befitting his/her title; and
 - to respect the judges' decision when the winner of the Congress is determined.

5. In order to facilitate the participation of the Junior Minister/Commissioner of Tourism and the chaperone at the Tourism Youth Congress, each country will provide the necessary funding to cover the cost of their airfares, hotel accommodation and non-programmed meals.

STRUCTURE

6. The Tourism Youth Congress is structured to mirror a CTO Board of Directors' Meeting. Students must come prepared to share their knowledge and views with their fellow Junior Ministers/Commissioners of Tourism on **one** prepared topic. *It is not a debating competition;* it is a discussion among the Junior Ministers/Commissioners, which generates practical ideas that can be implemented at the national/regional levels. Tourism Youth Congress participants will also be asked to address a "mystery" topic.
7. The Caribbean Tourism Organization prepares three (3) topics and sends to each country. Students are required to choose **one** topic to be researched and discussed at the Tourism Youth Congress.

Students are encouraged to use several approaches in the research and preparation of their topics:

- **Ministries of Tourism/Tourism Authorities** - Reach out to representatives at your local tourism office *and they will assist you by providing:*
 - *Guidance in your approach to the topics*
 - *Tourism resources to aid in your research of the topics*
 - *General assistance in your preparation for the event*
 - **Legitimate/Official online tourism publications and websites** – Gather information from credible sources.
 - **Social Media** – Expand your research options by using effective social media to engage your contacts in discussion about the topics.
8. Students are also required to address a mystery topic. Three (3) mystery topics will be put forward. Each student is expected to randomly select a topic from a box containing the three mystery topics.
 9. Time allotment:
 - Prepared topic – each student will be given **three (3) minutes** to express his/her ideas on the chosen topic.
 - Mystery topic – each student will be given one (1) minute to make notes and prepare his/her response and then given **one (1) minute** to respond.
 10. Audio Visual
Students are not required to use audio visual aids to enhance/reinforce their ideas being put forward for the prepared topic.

Audio-visual aids will be limited to:

- **Video recordings** – students will conceptualize, script, record, and produce a 30-second informative video using any digital tools;
- **No Audio Visual Aid**

Videos should preferably be submitted in one of the following video formats:

- Windows Media Video (wmv)
- AVI Video (avi)
- QuickTime Movie (mov)

Participants will be seated when making their presentation and CTO technicians will take responsibility for running the audio-visual presentation.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judging criteria include:

- Knowledge of subject area
- Level of preparedness
- Presentation Skills
- Relevant Content
- No audio-visual aids

PRIZES

Attractive prizes will be provided for the winner and runners-up.

REGISTRATION

While in The Bahamas, Tourism Youth Congress participants will attend the State of the Industry Conference as well as have an opportunity to visit various tourism sites and attractions on the island.

Each student and chaperone is required to complete the registration form provided and return to CTO by the **August 2018.**

Students are expected to be at the conference for the entire duration (two (2) full conference days plus travel), and also attend the Orientation Session.

Each Student and Chaperone is responsible for travel documents.

Students who participate in the Congress benefit from exposure to the 3Es in Tourism: Exciting, Educational and Entertaining experiences; gain an awareness of tourism within his/her country and throughout the region; experience the tourism product of another country; meet new friends and gain a better understanding of the tourism sector, which is critical to the overall social and economic wellbeing of the Caribbean region.

For more information, visit website:

Website: www.onecaribbean.org