

# YOUTH & GOVERNMENT™

*Democracy must be learned by every generation in order for it to survive.*

## TEXAS

### Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in YMCA Youth & Government.

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS, comprise the state-mandated curriculum that establish what every student, from elementary school through high school, should know and be able to do. They were developed to comply with §28.002(c) and (d) of the Texas Education Code and can be found in the Texas Administrative Code in Chapters 113 and 118.

## Knowledge and Skills

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### Psychology

**PSY1 The individual in society.** The student understands that beliefs, decisions, and actions have consequences.

**PSY4 The individual in society.** The student understands the influence of sensory perceptions on the shaping of individual beliefs and attitudes.

**PSY13 Social studies skills.** The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology.

**PSY14 Social studies skills.** The student communicates in written, oral and visual forms

**PSY15 Social studies skills.** The student used problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of setting.

**PSY16 Social studies skills.** The student develops long-term and short-term goal-setting skills for individual and community problem solving.

#### Sociology

**SOC1. Citizenship.** The student understands that individuals require knowledge of the dynamics of the relationships between self and others to be contributing members of the community.

**SOC8. Government.** The student understands different styles and forms of leadership, political socialization, and communication techniques that influence perception, attitudes, and behavior.

**SOC14. Social studies skills.** The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology.

**SOC15. Social studies skills.** The student communicates in written, oral, and visual forms.

**SOC16. Social studies skills.** The student uses problem-solving skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of settings.

## United State Government

8. **Government.** The student understands the American beliefs and principles reflected in the U.S. Constitution.
9. **Government.** The student understands the structure and functions of the government created by the U.S. Constitution.
10. **Government.** The student understands the concept of federalism.
11. **Government.** The student understands the processes for filling public offices in the U.S. system of government.
12. **Government.** The student understands the role of political parties in the U.S. system of government.
14. **Citizenship.** The student understands rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.
15. **Citizenship.** The student understands the difference between personal and civic responsibilities.
16. **Citizenship.** The student understands the importance of voluntary individual participation in the U.S. democratic society.
17. **Citizenship.** The student understands the importance of different expressions of points of view in a democratic society.
21. **Social studies skills.** The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology.
22. **Social studies skills.** The student communicates in written, oral, and visual forms.
23. **Social studies skills.** The student uses problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others in a variety of settings.

## APPLYING KNOWLEDGE and SKILLS

All students will prepare as needed throughout the fall semester and will then apply knowledge and skills in two competitions:

- District Conference
- State Conference

Each student must attend one District Conference in order to qualify to go to the State Conference.

**DISTRICTS:**

- 1** Abilene, San Angelo, Midland, Odessa  
**2** Austin, Corpus Christi, Waco, Killeen, Victoria  
**3** Houston, Beaumont, and surrounding areas

- 4** Fort Worth, Arlington, Cleburne  
**5** Dallas, Corsicana, Palestine, Tyler  
**6** El Paso  
**7** San Antonio, the Valley (*currently with District 2*)  
**8** Amarillo

The **State Conference** is **January 27-30, 2011** in Austin, TX

The top 25 students in Texas will be selected to go to the Conference On National Affairs. Each student will present a proposal on a national or international issue. **July 2010.**