

2021 FAQ's DC SUMMIT



What is the WTS Foundation?

The WTS Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization (WTS Foundation Federal ID Number is 26-4058230) launched in 2009 to support the advancement of women in transportation by: Expanding existing scholarship opportunities to women pursuing transportation related degrees; Providing and promoting educational opportunities and career development to advance women in transportation; and Initiating, sponsoring and publishing related research.

What is DC Summit?

DC SUMMIT is the signature program of Transportation YOU. The mission of the Transportation YOU program is: To change the face of the transportation industry by growing the involvement and interest of girls and young women in STEM studies. Historically, the DC Summit brings mentees (students age 15-17) and mentors (transportation professionals) to Washington, DC in June, for a 4-day program of tours, lectures and interactive experiences showcasing careers in Transportation.

How will DC Summit be held in 2021?

The 2021 DC summit will be the 1st held virtually. The Zoom video platform will be utilized to hold (3) 4 hour sessions over 3 days. Breakout rooms will be used to divide the approximately 195 students into 9 smaller groups of 21 students each for some interactive transportation related games and activities. Students will register to attend through WTS Professional Chapters. Each of the 65 WTS Chapters will have the ability to register 3 mentees + 1 mentor.

What is the proposed schedule for DC Summit in 2021?

DAY ONE Tuesday, June 22, 2021

1:00p EST – Opening Session, Welcome, Introductions

2:00p EST – Speed Networking

BREAK

3:30p EST – VIRTUAL TOUR (LOCATION TBD)

4:30p EST – Day 1 Wrap up, evaluations

DAY TWO Wednesday, June 23, 2021

1:00p EST – Opening Session, Panel Discussion

2:00p EST – Transportation games + trivia!

BREAK

3:30p EST – VIRTUAL TOUR (LOCATION TBD)

4:30p EST – Day 2 Wrap up, evaluations

DAY THREE Thursday, June 24, 2021

1:00p EST – Opening Session

2:00p EST – Transportation Careers Ask Me Anything! (AMA)

BREAK

3:30p EST – VIRTUAL TOUR (LOCATION TBD)

4:30p EST – Day 3 Wrap up, closing session, evaluations

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Can chapters register additional mentees or mentors?

No additional registrations are being accepted at this time. When your chapter registers, one of the questions asked is: If additional space becomes available for mentees, would your chapter be interested in submitting additional applicants? No additional mentor will be required or accepted. Once Registration closes, we will contact chapters who are interested in submitting additional applicants if space allows – at no cost (for example if a chapter does not use all 3 spaces).

Are there requirements for Mentees to attend DC Summit in 2021?

Students should be age 15-17 and must apply through a WTS Professional Chapter. The student must be able to attend all three days of the program. The student must attain the consent of a legal guardian upon registration. Students must complete and return an online pre-summit career assessment by June 8, 2021.

What will the consent form ask parents or legal guardians to agree to?

The consent form will ask parents or legal guardians to consent to their child participating in the DC Summit program with other youth from across North America, as well as adult members of WTS as Mentors (who have been screened including criminal background check). It will also ask parents or legal guardians to consent to a photo and video release. The consent form will also allow parents to indicate special accommodations requests for their child. The consent forms will be sent to the chapter once registrations are confirmed and can be sent to parents for electronic signature.

What is the Pre-Summit Career Assessment?

The pre-summit career assessment will be an online survey sent to mentees once registration is confirmed. The short questionnaire will contain casual-style questions about the mentees level of interest in certain activities. Based on their responses, they will receive a career assessment with transportation related careers they may enjoy! This assessment is based on a U.S. Department of Labor career assessment tool.

Are there requirements to serve as a Mentor for DC Summit in 2021?

Mentors must be a member of WTS in good standing serving in a WTS Professional Chapter. The mentor must be appointed to serve in this capacity for the 2021 DC Summit. All mentors must attend or listen to the Virtual Mentor Training June 15, 2021 at 3pm EST June 7, 2021 (will be recorded). The mentor must be able to attend all three days of the program. **The mentor must be willing to undergo a screening including a criminal background check.**

Where could chapters find students who may want to participate?

Chapters with TransportationYOU programs can reach out to current or past participants. Chapters with established relationships with schools or youth organizations like Girl Scouts can reach out to those contacts. If a chapter does not yet have a TransportationYOU program or relationship with a school or youth organization, what an excellent reason to make a first contact! A few suggested youth outreach resources are: County school districts, Individual teachers, School counselors, Parent portals, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club, Future Farmers of America (FFA) youth clubs, Future Business Leaders of America youth clubs (FBLA), DECA youth clubs.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

If you have additional questions, please email: wtsf@wtsinternational.org Subject: DC Summit question