



2024 WTS CAPITAL SUMMIT FAQs

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 THE CAPITAL SUMMIT?

The **WTS 2024 Capital Summit**, formerly the D.C. Summit, is the signature program of the WTS Foundation's Transportation YOU initiative. This onsite summer program brings high school and undergraduate students (Mentees) and transportation professionals (Mentors) to the D.C. area for an immersive experience showcasing a variety of careers in transportation.

WHERE AND WHEN WILL THE 2024 SUMMIT BE HELD?

The 2024 Capital Summit will be held from June 22–28, 2024 at the [University of Maryland, College Park](#) campus.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

WTS Members, high school (10th, 11th, and 12th graders – “Student Mentees”) and undergraduate college students (“College Counselors”) are eligible for the 2023 Capital Summit. **WTS members who wish to be Mentors may apply for themselves and up to three (3) high school-Mentees.** College-age participants may apply without a WTS mentor. Student mentees should have completed the 9th grade (entering 10th graders) through 12th grade (recent HS graduates), and must apply through a WTS Chapter. The student must be able to

attend all four days of the program. The student must attain the consent of a legal guardian upon registration.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY TO THE SUMMIT?

The deadline to apply is **Friday March 1, 2024**.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS, WHO PAYS, AND WHAT IS INCLUDED?

For WTS mentors and high school-age mentees, the cost to attend is \$2,000 per participant. A discount will be offered for each additional student mentee participant. For example:

1 WTS mentor + 1 mentee: \$4,000 (\$2,000 per person) total

1 WTS mentor + 2 mentees: \$5,500 total

1 WTS mentor + 3 mentees: \$7,000 total

All food and housing costs are included. **All travel arrangements and costs to and from the Capital Summit are the responsibility of the WTS Sponsoring Chapter.**

WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?

The five-day program includes classroom sessions on transportation modes and issues as well as leadership activities and tours around the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. Tours and activities in past Summits have included behind-the-scenes operations at the Washington Area Metro Authority, visits to the U.S. Capitol and U.S. Department of Transportation, visits to airports, rail, and highway research labs, and other hands-on STEM and leadership activities.

SAMPLE AGENDA

Arrival Day: Saturday June 22, 2024: Arrival Day | Departure Day: Friday June 28, 2024

DAY ONE | ARRIVE Saturday, June 22

Meet your classmates and roommates
Settle in and unpack
Icebreakers

DAY FOUR | Tuesday June 24

Opening Session
Morning and Afternoon Tours
Daily Wrap-up

DAY TWO | Sunday, June 23

On Campus Activities
Classroom Sessions/Panels
Leadership Teambuilding

DAY FIVE | Wednesday June 25

Opening Session
Morning and Afternoon Tours
Daily Wrap-up

DAY THREE | Monday, June 24

Opening Session
Morning and Afternoon Tours
Daily Wrap-up

DAY SIX | Thursday June 2

Opening Session
Morning and Afternoon Tours
Daily Wrap-up
Summit Graduation Dinner

WHAT WILL THE CONSENT FORM ASK PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS TO AGREE TO?

The consent form will ask parents or legal guardians to agree to their child participating in the 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.

DO WE MEET WTS STAFF AND MENTORS PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM?

Yes! We will request students, mentors, and guardians attend at least one pre-Summit Virtual Orientation in late Spring 2024.

WHERE ARE STUDENTS HOUSED?

Homesickness happens, but we are excited to provide an excellent opportunity for high school students to get a taste of a typical college experience! Student mentees will be housed in supervised UMD dormitories. Dorms are secured and accessible by pre-coded key and monitored by both UMD and WTS International Staff. WTS International staff will be in the building at all times, including overnight.

STUDENT MENTEES STAY IN THE VERY COOL DORMS, GOT IT. WHERE ARE MENTORS HOUSED?

WTS Chapter Mentors will be housed in the nearby (and on-campus!) [UMD Hotel](#).

HOW IS TRAVEL TO AND FROM UMD ARRANGED?

Travel arrangements are the responsibility of applicants. WTS International and the WTS Foundation do not supply support for travel arrangements or payment. Once on campus, all program travel is arranged for by WTS.

I'M A STUDENT MEMBER OF A CHAPTER WITHOUT A TRANSPORTATION YOU PROGRAM – CAN I STILL APPLY?

Students **can** apply even through Chapters that don't have official Transportation YOU programs. See below regarding WTS member participants/volunteers.

WHERE CAN WTS CHAPTERS FIND STUDENTS WHO MAY WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

Chapters with Transportation YOU 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 Transportation YOU program or relationship with a school or youth organization, what an excellent reason to make a first contact! If you are interested in finding out where other WTS Chapters have successfully made meaningful connections in their cities and regions, pose a question in the [MyWTS Communities](#).

WHAT IS THE CANCELLATION POLICY?

All cancellation requests must be made in writing to WTSF@wtsinternational.org with the subject line

“2024Capital Summit Registration Cancellation Request.” You may request to cancel your registration up to fifteen (15) days before the date and time of the program (June 10, 2023) for a full refund or a transfer to a mentor or mentee – please note that these are **requests** for cancellation and are **not guaranteed**. Any requests for cancellations that occur after this time period will be denied. Completed registration for the 2024 Capital Summit is agreement to these terms and conditions.

WHAT ARE THE COVID REQUIREMENTS/RESTRICTIONS?

WTS International requires that all attendees, whether it be a mentor or mentee/student, be fully vaccinated in order to attend the 2024 Capital Summit. WTS International follows CDC guidelines on COVID vaccinations and restrictions, and closely monitors the [CDC website](#) for any updates or changes. WTS International also follows and abides by local, state policies, and campus policies regarding masking mandates, etc.

I DON'T HAVE A MENTEE OR A WAY TO FUND ONE THIS YEAR, BUT I WANT TO VOLUNTEER.

Volunteers are always appreciated! As of January 2024, we are well staffed for this program. However, if additional volunteers are needed, WTS members will be notified. We hope to have more information available closer to the event regarding an accurate head count of volunteers.

IS INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE LANGUAGES?

WTS International does offer all parental forms in Spanish. Please contact wtsf@wtsinternational.org if you or your chapter would like to discuss additional options!

MY ORGANIZATION IS INTERESTED IN SPONSORING THE 2024 CAPITAL SUMMIT.

Interested in sponsoring? Please email WTSF@wtsinternational.org with the subject line “**2024 Capital Summit Sponsorship.**”

WHO CAN I CONTACT WITH ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Please contact WTSF@wtsinternational.org with the subject line “**2024 Capital Summit.**”