

Mission

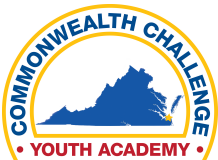
The mission of the Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy (CCYA) is to intervene in the lives of 16-18 year old teenagers by providing the values, skills, education, and self-discipline needed to produce responsible, productive citizens, and to do so in a highly structured learning environment.

Eligibility Criteria

This FREE, highly structured educational and mentoring program is available to Virginia's teens who:

- are 16—18 years old on class start date
- volunteer to participate in the program
- do not have any pending felony charges or any felony convictions
- are a citizen or legal resident of the United States
- are a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia
- are physically and mentally capable of participating in the program with reasonable accommodations

***Classes Begin Every
March and October***



Life After Challenge

Cadet Taylor, Class 42

"Challenge changed my life for the better. I went on to do things I wanted to do, including criminal justice classes, and now I have a career in the security field."



Cadet White, Class 18

"After Graduation, I joined the National Guard. I have also been a Portsmouth police officer for 12 years, own a landscaping business and have two sons. I owe Challenge a lot. I don't think I'd be where I am today without it."

Cadet Levitt, Class 45

"I miss being there. Challenge was the best choice I made! If it wasn't for Challenge, I wouldn't have been able to get into cosmetology school."



Where do our Graduates go?

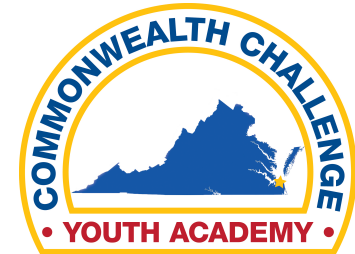
- 41% Continue to Higher Education
- 45% Enter the Skilled Workforce
- 7% Join the Military

Contact Information

1-757-491-5932 (phone)
1-757-491-2146 (fax)

Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy
Camp Pendleton
Bldg. 253 C Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
www.vachallenge.org

*Are you up for the
ChalleNGe?*



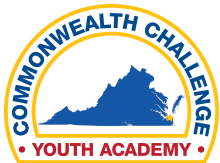
*Are you ready to take
charge of your future?*



How ChalleNGe Works

ChalleNGe is a 17 and a half month three phase program

- **Phase 1 - Acclimation Period (2 weeks)**
Subjects the candidates to physical, leadership, and mental challenges designed to assist them and prepare them to successfully complete the program. Focus is on teamwork, honor code, leadership/followership, physical fitness, drill and ceremony, military customs and courtesies.
- **Phase 2 - Residential Phase (20 weeks)** Focus is on academics, the development of the 8 core components and post residential goals.
- **Phase 3 - Post-Residential Phase (1 Year)**
Cadets graduate from the residential phase of the program but remain in the program for an additional 12 months where they will work with a trained mentor to assist them in achieving their goals. Placement during this phase is mandatory. Cadet's placement options include continuing their education by returning to high school, attending an institution of higher education or trade school, full time employment, or volunteering for military service.



ChalleNGe Academics

- Virginia Dept. of Education approved Individual Student Alternative Education Plan (ISAEF) Program.



- Two educational tracks to choose from:
 - **1. GED Program**
 - Students take classes to prepare to earn their GED at Challenge
 - **2. SOL aligned Credit Recovery Program**
 - Achieved through *Edgenuity*
 - Students can earn up to 5-7 Virginia High School Credits to apply towards their diploma
 - Students can either make up credits they have previously failed, and/or earn additional credits to increase their academic level
- Educational Field Trips every weekend
- Special Education teacher provides instruction in the classroom (inclusion) and individualized instruction when needed. IEP/504 Plan accommodations are implemented



8 Core Components

The ChalleNGe Program is built on 8 core components designed to develop life skills.

- **Academic Excellence**
TABE Test, GED testing and credit recovery
- **Physical Fitness**
Based on the President's physical fitness challenge, various team sports and athletics
- **Leadership/Followership**
Performance evaluations in leadership positions with a student command structure
- **Responsible Citizenship**
Student government association, voter registration and selective service registration
- **Job Skills**
Job shadowing, lessons on resume writing and interviewing skills
- **Service to Community**
Community service projects (minimum 40 hours)
- **Health Hygiene**
Lessons on personal hygiene and substance abuse
- **Life Coping Skills**
Anger management and conflict resolution; counselors on staff.

