



NFTYx Youth Professionals (FAQs)

My teens and I want to plan a NFTYx experience, now what?

Yay! First, you should participate in a **NFTYx training**. You can see if one is being offered on nfty.org/x. If one is not available, then reach out to your regional president or area manager for more information about creating a NFTYx event. Next, fill out **NFTYx Virtual Experience Planning Form A**. Your area manager will follow up via email with next steps. Please keep in mind, every NFTYx event should be planned by at least one teen leader (or a group of teen leaders) and an adult mentor. The adult mentor can be a youth group advisor, clergy, or someone from the [Alumni/Adult Mentor Network](#). The regional board and area manager are available to help too.

What is the role of the adult mentor for a NFTYx experience?

They are **the adult** for the experience. The adult mentors are meant to support the teen organizers in planning their NFTYx experience in addition to their youth professional. Mentors are not meant to replace the role of the youth professional, but rather enhance the experience for our teens. Adult mentors should be prepared to help with all aspects of planning, quality control and execution of the virtual event. By committing to be an adult mentor, they are committing to supporting the planning and preparation process for the event as well as attending the event itself. It is imperative that an adult who has completed the NFTYx mentor steps is present during the program. Youth professionals are welcome and encouraged to serve as adult mentors.

What is the role of the youth professional in relation to NFTYx?

We want and need your support! Youth advisors are an integral part of youth engagement. We want youth advisors to be part of NFTYx experiences! While NFTYx is virtual, you are welcome to attend any and all NFTYx experiences, but the traditional NFTY *adult:teen* chaperone guidelines have been loosened. Once we move forward with in-person experiences then we will transition back to the *1:10* staff to teen chaperone requirements. Please feel free to sign up to be a [NFTYx Adult Mentor](#).

What role does the regional board play in the experience?

Regional board members want to help you! They will be looped in on all communications between the Area Manager and NFTYx Organizers. The regional communications vice president will promote your event on the region's social media. Other board members are happy to help with whatever you need, programming and t'filah prep, group leading, brainstorming, outreach, etc.

What role does the NFTY Area Manager play in the experience?

NFTY Area Managers are ready and available to help with any challenges or questions. Specifically, Area Managers can help with the following:

- communication with Youth Professionals in the region about the program
- parent questions/concerns that may come up before, during, or after the program
- zoom or tech questions
- list of registered participants
- anything else you have a question about, just ask!



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If you have **concerns about ANYTHING** that happens during your event and/or if there are any **infractions of the [NFTYx B'rit K'hilah — Code of Conduct](#)**, reach out to your Area Manager immediately.

Use your best judgement in deciding when to report an incident. If something doesn't feel right to you, don't hesitate to reach out to a NFTY staff member. Incidents you should consider reporting include comments or actions of:

- A sexual nature
- Violence or threats of violence, either directed towards others or themselves
- Bullying or ostracizing
- Anything that feels like someone needs help – suffering from anxiety or depression, shares about a challenging family situation, etc.

Where do my teens and I register for the event?

Go to nfty.org/x to register for NFTYx events. You can share these [instructions](#) with them as well as these videos – [How to log on to RJ on the Go \(1\)](#), [How to log on to RJ on the Go \(2\)](#).

How will know if an event is happening?

Your area manager will be sending regional/area updates monthly. You can also check nfty.org/x to see upcoming events. This site is live and constantly changing.

How will know if a teen from my community is planning a NFTYx event with a different adult mentor?

On [NFTYx Virtual Experience Planning Form A](#), we ask teens to share their mentor's information with us as well as their advisors name and email. We will cc their advisor on the pre-confirmation email from there are manager.

Important Resources – Please review these resources if you are planning an event on any of these topics.

- Supporting LGBTQ Youth in Online Programming
- Considerations in Mental Health/Suicide Prevention Programming
- [Racial Justice Work and NFTYx](#)
- URJ Youth Guidelines for Israel Engagement Programming

Overview of the NFTYx Planning Process

1. A teen leader in partnership with an Adult Mentor (alumni, clergy, youth professional, parent, etc.) decide to plan a virtual experience/event!
2. NFTYx Organizers (Teen and Adult Mentor) complete [Form A: NFTYx virtual experience planning](#) at least 4 weeks prior to your experience or event.
3. Your Area Manager will send a Pre-Confirmation email to you and the regional president.
4. NFTYx Organizers complete Form B: RJ on the Go Session Page Request. The link for this will be shared in your pre-confirmation email from your Area Manager. Once completed and confirmed by your Area Manager, your event will be posted on RJ on the Go. NFTY will (a) promote your NFTYx experience; (b) manage virtual



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registration and share the RSVP list with you 24-48 hours before your experience; and (c) create a zoom room for your experience. NFTYx Organizers are responsible for all other aspects of the experience.

5. Have an amazing (virtual) experience or event!
6. Celebrate your success and complete the post-experience form.

The [planning toolbox](#) has a number of resources available to help ensure you have a terrific event. Please contact your Area Manager with any questions.

East Area: Emily Messinger, emessinger@urj.org

West Area Manager: Jackie Kleinstein, jkleinstein@urj.org

South Area Manager: Rabbi Andrew Terkel, aterkel@urj.org

Midwest Area Associate Manager: Stacy Bernstein, sbernstein@urj.org

NFTY National: Lynne Butner, lbutner@urj.org