TEEN SERVICES COMPETENCIES FOR LIBRARY STAFF

A SNAPSHOT

YALSA — Young Adult Library Services Association

1) Teen Growth & Development
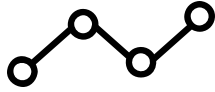
Knows the typical benchmarks for growth and development and uses this knowledge to plan, provide and evaluate library resources, programs, and services that meet the multiple needs of teens

2) Interactions with Teens

Recognizes the importance of relationships and communication in the development and implementation of quality teen library services, and implements techniques and strategies to support teens individually

3) Learning Environments

Cultivates high-quality, developmentally appropriate, flexible learning environments that support teens individually and in group experiences as they engage in formal and informal learning activities

4) Learning Experiences

Works with teens, volunteers, community partners and others to plan, implement and evaluate high-quality, developmentally appropriate formal and informal learning activities that support teens' personal and academic interests

5) Youth Engagement & Leadership

Responds to all teens' interests and needs, and acts in partnership with teens to create and implement teen activities and to foster teen leadership

6) Community & Family Engagement

Builds respectful, reciprocal relationships with community organizations and families to promote optimal development for teens and to enhance the quality of library services

7) Cultural Competency & Responsiveness

Actively promotes respect for cultural diversity and creates an inclusive, welcoming, and respectful library atmosphere that embraces diversity

8) Equity of Access

Ensures access to a wide variety of library resources, services, and activities for and with all teens, especially those facing challenges to access

9) Outcomes & Assessment

Focuses on the impact of library programs for and with teens and uses data to inform service development, implementation, and continuous improvement

10) Continuous Learning
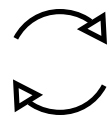
Acts ethically, is committed to continuous learning, and advocates for best library practices and policies for teen services

DOWNLOAD THE FULL COMPETENCIES FOR FREE AT: WWW.ALA.ORG/YALSA/GUIDELINES/YACOMPETENCIES