



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY  
5500 ARMSTRONG ROAD, BUILDING 13  
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49016-1099  
[www.NGYCP.org/mi](http://www.NGYCP.org/mi)  
1-800-372-0523

30 October 2009

TO: Parents/Guardians of Class 21 Cadets

SUBJECT: Pick up and Return Instructions for Class 21's Thanksgiving Break

Dear Parent:

This letter provides information to you regarding MYCA's procedures for the pick up and return of your cadet at the upcoming Thanksgiving Break. Please read these instructions carefully. Questions may be directed to any of the following:

Master Sergeant Travis Try, Operations NCO-269 968-1185 or email: [tryt@michigan.gov](mailto:tryt@michigan.gov)  
1SG Lyle Forcia, Academy First Sergeant-269 968-1006 or email: [forcial@michigan.gov](mailto:forcial@michigan.gov)  
Colonel John Wemlinger, Commandant, 989 205-7345 or email: [wemlingerj@michigan.gov](mailto:wemlingerj@michigan.gov)

**Due to the volume of calls received, email is the preferred form of communication.**

Please **do not** request an exception to the below instructions unless the reason is absolutely compelling; for example, the sudden death of a sibling or grandparent.

**PICK UP DATE, TIME & LOCATION**

- ✓ **25 November 2009, 1600 HOURS (4:00 pm) at Bldg 22, VA Medical Center. Residents of the Upper Peninsula may pick up their youth at 1200 hours, BUT MUST CALL OR EMAIL MASTER SERGEANT TRY INDICATING THAT IS THEIR INTENTION. If UP residents fail to do this, their cadet will not be ready to go at 1200 hours on 25 November 2009.**
- ✓ **YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR CADET NO LATER THAN 1800 HOURS (6:00pm)**
- ✓ **Please line up at the front door of Building 22 and have ID available**

**RETURN DATE, TIME & LOCATION**

- ✓ **29 November 2009, 1600 (4:00pm) to 1800 (6:00pm), return to Bldg 22, VA Medical Center. DO NOT RETURN LATE. Meal service will not be provided on Sunday evening. Please make sure you feed your cadet dinner before returning to the MYCA.**
- ✓ **Cadets are required to be wearing their Grays to MYCA uniform standards when they return to the Academy**

- ✓ **If you are late, your cadet will be penalized. No excuse will be accepted, regardless of the circumstances causing you to be late. We suggest you plan ahead and arrive at 1600.**
- ✓ **Please line up at the back door (loading dock) located in the parking lot behind Bldg 22**

The staff here at MYCA want you to have a great Thanksgiving Break, but there are some things I would like you to keep in mind over the days that your cadet is home with you:

- Securing placement is a requirement for graduation. If your cadet is not yet placed, encourage your cadet to use this time to his or her advantage by filling out on-line applications, talking with potential employers and even doing on-the-spot interviews. Remember, cadets will need a placement letter as verification of employment. This letter should be written on company letterhead. We will also need to know the number of hours the cadet will work, when he or she will start, the wage they will earn and the name and phone number of the owner or manager.
- Encourage your cadet to stay home. Sometimes the old temptations come back with a vengeance, especially when old friends are involved. At the Academy, cadets receive “tough love.” I encourage you to do the same if you are concerned that your cadet’s behavior may get him or her into trouble.
- A drug test will be administered within 12 hours of your cadet returning. We have a zero tolerance policy for illegal drug use. If the results of your cadet’s urinalysis are positive, he or she will be dismissed immediately.
- Cadets need to be at Building 22 signed in already or standing in the line waiting to sign in at 1800 hours (6:00pm) on Sunday. If a cadet is late for *any* reason, disciplinary action will be taken. There will be no exceptions to this policy, regardless of the circumstances.
- Cadets are authorized to return with only the following items. Everything else will need to be mailed in.
  1. Checks or cash for any of the these purposes: yearbooks, class rings, medication co-pays, 5K run, coffee cups and donations to the MYCA, the PTSA or the MYCA Endowment Fund at the Battle Creek Community Foundation.
  2. Prescription medications
  3. Prescription eyeglasses
  4. Placement letters
  5. Employment applications

Again, we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving Break.

Sincerely,

John V. Wemlinger  
Colonel, US Army (Retired)  
Commandant of Cadets  
MYCA