



## R E S O U R C E

# Pre-YPAR Readiness Assessment Tool



### Suggested Citation:

El Mallah, S. & Forrester, J. (2023, August). *Pre-YPAR Readiness Assessment Tool [for Adults]*. University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development. <http://education.virginia.edu/Youth-Nex/YPAR>



SCHOOL of EDUCATION  
and HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
YOUTH-NEX

The following checklist includes “key ingredients” that facilitate the success of YPAR work. Consider whether each item is in place, in the works, or within easy reach for your organization/community. Rushing the start of a youth-led project too quickly can lead to disempowering and counterproductive results for everyone involved.

## YPAR Readiness Assessment Tool

*1 = not at all true    5 = very true*

Critical Ingredient	Rating	Evidence
Our organization/community has buy-in and broad support for YPAR from key adult stakeholders (e.g., principals, program directors, parents).		
Our organization/community is open and willing to change current adult-only decision-making processes to include youth.		
Our organization/community has sufficient organizational stability (e.g., low staff turnover) to ensure the sustainability of the YPAR work.		
Our organization/community has the ability to fairly compensate youth and adult research team members for their time and work on a YPAR project (e.g., paid stipend, salary, course credit, incentives).		

Critical Ingredient	Rating	Evidence
Our organization/community has identified sources of adultism <sup>1</sup> and is motivated to challenge these counterproductive attitudes and actions toward youth.		
Our organization/community has identified potential sources of youth's mistrust of adults and is willing to take accountability for past shortcomings.		
Our organization/community practices cultural competency and humility.		
Our organization/ community has existing systems (or the ability to build new systems) for conducting and applying the results of needs assessments, research, and evaluations.		
Our organization/community is clear on the legal considerations for hiring a youth-adult research team (e.g., age of participants, city/state guidelines or restrictions for hiring youth, background checks, etc.).		

<sup>1</sup> Adultism is the bias towards adults, often resulting in discrimination against youth. Bias towards adults means that the ideas, opinions, actions, and outcomes of adults are more valued than those of youth.