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Wyo. Youth ChalleNGe class accepting applications

CAMP GUERNSEY, Wyo. – The Wyoming National Guard's Youth ChalleNGe Program, designed to help at-risk high school students, or high school dropouts earn a GED, or work toward a high school diploma begins its next class Jan. 9, at the program's campus, at the Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center.

The new class of cadets will spend 5 1/2 months at the Youth ChalleNGe residence program, learning life skills and educational components critical to passing the GED exam and starting a new life. Core components of the program include academics, citizenship, life-coping skills, civic service, leadership and physical fitness.

"Teens that have trouble finding a place in traditional schools usually find they can succeed with us," said Don Smith, Wyoming National Guard Youth ChalleNGe director. "We have staff working 24 hours per day, mentors and educators working with individual students, and programs that are geared to heightened community involvement and social responsibility."

Applications for the Youth ChalleNGe class are still being accepted. Cadets cannot be on probation or ordered to attend by the court. All cadets enter Youth ChalleNGe voluntarily and can leave the program at any time.

For information about the Wyoming Youth ChalleNGe Program, cadet applications, or information on becoming a mentor, visit the Web site at <http://www.ngycp.org/state/wy> or call the program at 307-836-7500.