

## Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Guidelines for KYLA Applicants

The Koshland Young Leader Awards (KYLA) celebrate **your real story, leadership, and resilience**, so everything you submit must reflect **your real voice and lived experience**. AI can help you a little, but you must stay the main author. These guidelines explain what is **okay**, what is **not okay**, and how to keep your application **honest and safe**.

### You CAN Use AI for Light Help

AI can support you, but you must write the actual content yourself.

- **Organizing Your Thoughts**
  - AI can help turn your notes into an outline.
  - Ask AI to explain what a question means.
- **Checking Grammar & Clarity**
  - Use AI for spelling or clearer sentences.
  - AI can shorten or clean up writing that you created.

### You CANNOT Use AI to Create Content

The committee wants your voice and experiences—not AI's.

- **No AI-Written Essays or Scripts**
- **No Made Up or Exaggerated Stories**
- **No Substitution of Your Personal Reflections with AI suggestions**
- **Don't Trust AI Without Checking if it's true**

### Protect Your Privacy

Do not put sensitive personal information into AI tools. Many AI tools store or reuse input.

Examples: immigration status, address, medical info, or private family details.

### Stay True to Your Voice

Your honest voice matters more than “perfect” writing. To keep your writing authentically yours:

- Start with your own ideas or bullet points.
- If AI suggests wording, read it out loud—if it doesn't sound like you, change it.
- Remember: KYLA reviewers want to know you!

### Transparency (Recommended)

If you used AI, you could mention it briefly: "I used an AI tool for brainstorming and grammar. All ideas, stories, and final writing are my own."

### If You Misuse AI

Using AI to write your essays, invent information, or submit AI-generated text can lead to disqualification or losing the award.