



# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

## *Student Packet*



2019-2020

*To amplify the voice of high school students across the city of Austin*



# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

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# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

In 2011, Mayor Lee Leffingwell and City Council members by way of a Council Resolution directed the City of Austin to create the Austin Youth Council (AYC). This was a focused way to bring Austin's youth into civic engagement. When AYC began it was made up of 14 Austin-area high schools with 25 members from the schools represented. AYC has grown to over 25 schools representing 80 members. In 2015 Mayor Steve Adler and City Council has continued to lead the city council in support the efforts of AYC.

In 2014, the City of Austin changed from an at-large system with seven council members to a single district 10-1 system which was voted on by Austin residents. This change was established to increase equitable participation on the City Council dais allowing an elected council member to voice and advocate their constituents' concerns. AYC mirrors this 10-1 system with an elected member from each of the 10 districts. Elected members are voted into their position at the end of the school year to serve the upcoming school year.

AYC is the voice for high school students across the City of Austin. Student representation spans throughout AISD, DVISD, RRISD, PFISD, LISD, charter schools, home-schools and private schools. AYC meets monthly following a structured meeting pattern of three types of meetings: *Elected Council Meeting*, *District Meeting* and *General Assembly Meeting*. Members discuss issues concerning youth, listen to presentations and engage with City staff as well as organizations throughout the city of Austin. Each meeting begins with a General Assembly meeting, followed by a district and elected council member. Members also participate monthly in community service events.



# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

## BENEFITS & REQUIREMENTS

- *Practice & learn Robert's Rules of Order*
- *Learn civic engagement skills*
- *Develop communication skills*
- *Engage with peers throughout the city*
- *Participate within community service*
- *Network with organizations and businesses throughout the city*

All interested high schools must have a designated adult sponsor (i.e. teacher, counselor, staff) that will commit to attend some of the monthly meetings and take on the responsibility of checking in with student representatives in between meetings. Each high school must have 2-4 student representatives to participate within AYC. All schools will need to complete a School Form that both the principal and sponsor will sign to acknowledge their commitment to AYC.

- 1 Complete the member application.**
- 2 Get sponsor approval form completed and signed by school sponsor.**
- 3 Scan completed application to [youthcouncil@austintexas.gov](mailto:youthcouncil@austintexas.gov) with the subject AYC 19-20 application (name)**



*National League of Cities* hosts two annual conferences. The first conference is the Congressional Congressional which is always held in Washington, D.C. every March. The second is the City Summit, which is always held in a different member-city in November. These conferences offer a youth-delegate track allowing youth from across the nation to gather and discuss issues affecting their cities and develop youth-led solutions to implement when returning home.

### ***AYC members must:***

- qualify to apply and be selected to attend conferences
- uphold all expectations/commitments as an AYC member.

This year's November 2019 City Summit will take place in **San Antonio, TX** and we're excited to take selected AYC students .



***AYC members visiting the White House in March 2019***



***AYC members meeting w/ former Council member Ora Houston at City Summit 2017 in Pittsburgh, PA.***



***AYC members enjoying City Summit 2018 in Los Angeles, CA.***





# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

**AUGUST 29, 2019**

AYC ORIENTATION & WELCOME MEETING

AUSTIN CITY HALL, 301 W. 2ND STREET

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2019**

CITY HALL, 301 W. 2ND STREET

**OCTOBER 24, 2019**

CITY HALL, 301 W. 2ND STREET

**NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

AUSTIN ENERGY, 721 BARTON SPRINGS RD.

**DECEMBER 12, 2019**

AUSTIN ENERGY, 721 BARTON SPRINGS RD.

*ELECTED MEMBER  
SUMMER PLANNING  
MEETING DATES*

**6/6: 9AM-1PM**

**6/12: Noon-2PM**

**8/12: 5:30PM-7PM**



**JANUARY 23, 2019**

TBD

**FEBRUARY 21, 2019**

TBD

**MARCH 27, 2019**

TBD

**APRIL 23, 2019**

TBD

**MAY 14, 2019**

TBD

All meetings are from 5:30pm-7:30pm

MEETING SCHEDULE



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBER APPLICATION

APPLICATION  
DUE BY  
JULY 1, 2019

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_ Sex: M\_\_ F\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level school year 2019-20: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

**School activities/organizations (include any leadership positions):**

*\*Preferred involvement in one other school activity/organization*

**Extracurricular activities/organizations & community service:**

**Any other commitments that may interfere with your attendance at General Assembly Meetings?**

**Essay Question:** Please answer the following question in essay format in 500 words or less.

Please submit material via email to [youthcouncil@austintexas.gov](mailto:youthcouncil@austintexas.gov). **ESSAYS MUST BE TYPED.**

## **NEW MEMBER**

*What is one of the biggest issues you feel youth face in Austin? Discuss in detail your ideas for possible solutions to the issue.*

## **RETURNING MEMBER**

*Share your involvement with Austin Youth Council and how you plan to contribute within the upcoming school year?*



# STUDENT & PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT FORM

## Responsibilities of General Assembly Members:

- *Commitment to serving one school year*
- *Attend and actively participate in meetings (may only miss 2 meetings)*
- *Participate in an Austin Youth Council committee/committee meetings*
- *Must participate in monthly community service events*
- *Discuss and problem solve youth issues important to their community and greater Austin area*
- *Demonstrate commitment to making a positive change in youth issues*

## STUDENT AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge to fulfill my responsibilities as a General Assembly Member to the best of my ability and I have read the responsibilities as listed above.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give Austin Youth Council the right and permission to publish digitally or in print, copyright and use photographs, videography or multimedia images of me in which I may be included in whole or in part.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge to support my child with transportation, if necessary, and with their involvement as a General Assembly Member.

**Parent/guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/guardian Phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_





# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

## SPONSOR APPROVAL FORM

I hereby state \_\_\_\_\_ has been approved and recommended  
(STUDENT NAME)

by \_\_\_\_\_, the Austin Youth Council School sponsor, to  
(SPONSOR NAME)

represent \_\_\_\_\_ on the 2019-2020 Austin Youth Council.  
(SCHOOL NAME)

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

All the following documents must be submitted to ensure a completed application. No applicant is approved until all documents have been submitted

☐ **General Assembly Member Application**

☐ **Sponsor approval**  
*(applicants have until the September meeting to submit)*

☐ **Essay**

**APPLICATION DUE DATES: JULY 1st**

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO  
***[youthcouncil@austintexas.gov](mailto:youthcouncil@austintexas.gov)***  
with the subject line: ***AYC 19-20 Application (first and last name)***



# AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL

*Follow  
us on  
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media!*



**@austinyouthcouncil**



**@AustinYCouncil**



**AustinYCouncil**

FOR ALL QUESTIONS  
AND CONCERNS REGARDING  
AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL EMAIL

**[youthcouncil@austintexas.gov](mailto:youthcouncil@austintexas.gov)**

**STAY CONNECTED!**