



Austin Youth Council

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY
SERVICE

austin youth council

2020-2021
STUDENT APPLICATION

AMPLIFYING
THE VOICE OF
**HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS**
THROUGHOUT THE
CITY OF AUSTIN



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WHAT IS AYC?

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 GENERAL BODY

Consists of all AYC student members. Each student is then placed into the two groups below:

DISTRICTS

AYC mirrors the City of Austin 10-1 district by having each member represent their district according to their school. Each district also elects an **elected member** to represent their district mirror the position of City council members.

COMMITTEES

Each year AYC selects five committees which are centered around addressing youth-focused issues locally and nationally. for the school year. AYC members are free to join a committee of their choice and must committ to the committee's collective yearlong goal.



BENEFITS & REQUIREMENTS

All interested high schools must have a designated adult sponsor (i.e. teacher, counselor, staff, principal) committed to attending some of the monthly meetings and be responsible for checking in with AYC student representatives between meetings.

HIGH SCHOOLS MAY NOT HAVE MORE THAN 4 STUDENTS.

All schools will need to complete a School Form that both the principal and sponsor will sign to acknowledge their commitment to AYC.

AYC MEMBERS WILL:

- Learn and practice Robert's Rules of Order
- Learn civic engagement skills
- Develop communication and social interaction skills
- Engage with like-minded peers throughout the city
- Network with City of Austin departments, organizations and local businesses

**FLIP PAGE
TO LEARN ABOUT
THE TWO-STEP
APPLICATION
PROCESS**



AYC TRAVELS

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.



This year's November 2020 City Summit will take place in **Tampa Bay, Florida** and we're looking forward to it!

AYC members must:

- qualify to apply and be selected to attend conferences
- uphold all expectations/commitments as an AYC member
- present to city officials about travel experience post-conference



TWO-STEP APPLICATION PROCESS

Potential AYC members should adhere to the following to understand the application process.

STEP #1

- Complete and submit application by July 1st.
(Applicant should submit application, parent/guardian information and completed essay)
- *AYC returning members are expected to submit their applications by June 1st.*

STEP #2

- Attend the August AYC meeting and orientation
- Commit to meeting w/ your school sponsor and gain sponsor approval to serve before the September AYC meeting.



YOUTH CAREER FEST (YCF)

For the last seven years the Austin Youth Council (under the direction of the City of Austin Youth Initiatives Office) hosts an annual career fair attracting high schools to explore countless careers, college/university, trades and professions.



YCF also hosts keynote speakers to provide career advice, professional recommendations and share stories through one's success journey.



For more information regarding how to participate in the 2021 Youth Career Fest (scheduled for Wed, Jan 20th) please contact:

**YOUTHCAREERFEST
@AUSTINTEXAS.GOV**





GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATION

NAME: _____

SCHOOL: _____

GRADE: _____
(*grade during 2020-2021 school year)

D.O.B. ____/____/____ AGE: _____ SEX: F _____ M _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

ESSAY: Applicants must submit a well-structured 500 word essay addressing the following topic:

RETURNING MEMBER:

In what specific way(s) can AYC improve?

NEW MEMBERS:

What is a big issue you feel youth face in Austin? Discuss ideas.

AYC ROLES

Check the appropriate box below if you are an AYC member interested in one of the following positions below. This is **NOT** a requirement to be an AYC members.

☐ ELECTED MEMBER *If so, what district? _____*

☐ SECRETARY

☐ HISTORIAN



PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT

NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

NAME: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____



STUDENT-PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

EXPECTATIONS

**COMMITMENT TO SERVING ONE
SCHOOL YEAR**

**ATTEND & ACTIVELY
PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS***

*MAY ONLY MISS TWO MEETINGS

**PARTICIPATE IN MONTHLY
COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS**

**PARTICIPATE IN AYC
COMMITTEE/
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**DISCUSS & PROBLEM-SOLVE
YOUTH ISSUES IMPORTANT TO
THEIR COMMUNITY &
GREATER AUSTIN AREA**

**DEMONSTRATING
COMMITMENT TO
MAKING A POSITIVE
CHANGE IN YOUTH ISSUES**

STUDENT AGREEMENT

I, _____
PLEDGE TO FULFILL MY
RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN AYC
MEMBER TO THE BEST OF MY
ABILITY AND I HAVE READ THE
RESPONSIBILITIES AS LISTED.

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.

X _____
STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT AGREEMENT

I, _____
PLEDGE TO SUPPORT MY
CHILD WITH TRANSPORTATION
, IF NECESSARY, AND WITH
THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN
AUSTIN YOUTH COUNCIL.

X _____
PARENT SIGNATURE



MEETING DATES

AYC hosts a monthly general assembly meeting where all members to discuss local and national updates and focus on youth-centered issues.

**MONTHLY MEETING ON
THURSDAYS FROM 5:30PM-7:30PM**

MEETING DATES

AUGUST

08/27

SEPTEMBER

09/24

OCTOBER

10/22

NOVEMBER

11/19

DECEMBER

12/10

SPRING
SEMESTER DATES
(TBD)

MEETING LOCATION

ALL AYC MEETINGS TYPICALLY
TAKE PLACE IN DOWNTOWN-
CENTRAL AUSTIN AREA.

CONFIRMED AYC MEMBERS WILL
BE NOTIFIED OF ALL MEETING
LOCATIONS PRIOR TO THE
AUGUST AYC MEETING.

ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO WEAR AYC
POLOS TO EACH MEETING. ALL AYC MEMBERS
ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSPORTATION.



PRINCIPAL & SPONSOR PARTICIPATION

though AYC is student-focused principals and school sponsors play a major role in its success. Every school is allowed to have 3-4 students to participate in AYC.

PRINCIPAL

- Approves school's participation in all AYC events (meetings, educational travel, Youth Career Fest, etc.)
- Appoints a sponsor to represent school and students
- Assist sponsor in selecting students to participate in AYC**

SPONSOR

- Commit to attend monthly AYC meetings*
- Select students who meet/exceed minimum included in packet requirements to participate in AYC**
- Check-in with students to assist and ensure each are fulfilling tasks, goals & expectations regarding AYC

STUDENTS

- Commit to serving one school year
- Submit completed application
- Have a 2.5 GPA or higher
- Attend and actively participate in monthly meetings
- Participate in monthly community service +
- Discuss issues and solutions surrounding youth in Austin

* Sponsors are not required to attend every meeting

** There may be student representation from the previous year

+ Students unable to attend community service must make up hours independently.



SPONSOR APPROVAL FORM FOR STUDENTS

I hereby state _____ has been
(student's name)
approved & recommended by _____,
(sponsor's name)
the Austin Youth Council sponsor, to represent
_____ on the 2019-2020 Austin
(school name)
Youth Council.

Sponsor signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____



CHECKLIST

*SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO
youthcouncil@austintexas.gov with the subject:
"AYC 2020-2021 (first and last name)"*

GENERAL APPLICATION

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT STUDENT-PARENT AGREEMENT

SPONSOR APPROVAL FORM

*APPLICANTS HAVE UNTIL THE AYC
SEPTEMBER MEETING TO TURN THIS
FORM IN.*

COMPLETED ESSAY



CONTACT INFO

EMAIL:

YOUTHCOUNCIL@AUSTINTEXAS.GOV

PHONE:

(512) 972-6864

STAFF CONTACT

DIONTE MCCLENDON



@austinyouthcouncil



@AustinYCouncil



AustinYCouncil

**CONNECT
WITH US ON
SOCIAL MEDIA!**

CITY OF AUSTIN YOUTH SERVICES OFFICE

7201 LEVANDER LOOP, AUSTIN, TX 78702, BUILDING H
CHIQUITA EUGENE, PH.D, CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATOR