2020-21 Membership Application

(For New Members Only)

City of Wichita Mayor's Youth Council

City Hall | 455 North Main Street | 13th Floor

Wichita, Kansas 67202

(316) 303-8051 | WichitaMYC@gmail.com

https://www.wichita.gov/MYC/Pages/default.aspx

MYC is a youth-led initiative made possible by the generous support of our sponsors:

Mayor's Youth Council Membership Criteria and Application

Deadline for Applying: May 22, 2020 at 11:59 PM

What is the Mayor's Youth Council?

The Wichita Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) was established in 2008 to provide Wichita youth with the opportunity to weigh in on community issues and learn about local government. MYC provides an outlet for young leaders to discuss and take action on issues that are important to them. Members have opportunities to develop their leadership skills through community engagement activities, advocate for youth in community matters, and represent their peers in the development and adoption of public policy at the local, state, and national levels.

MYC is composed of approximately thirty high school students who live within the City of Wichita. As a student-led organization, the Executive Committee functions as the governing body of the Council and its six members, who are in at least their second year on the Council, are voted into their positions at the beginning of each MYC year. The Council is further divided into sub-committees called "issue groups" which are established each year by the Council and focus on the specific public policy issues which the members are most passionate about. Each issue group elects its own Chairs or Co-Chairs and spends the year working to complete a key project which will advance the group's position on the issue.

Want to Join Us?

You can apply to join the Mayor's Youth Council if the list below describes you.

- You are currently in grades 8-11.
- You live in the City of Wichita.
- You have a grade point average of at least 2.5.
- You have a passion for serving your community.
- You want to learn about city government and be a leader among Wichita youth.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the Mayor's Youth Council or this application, please contact:

Anthony Taylor, MYC Coordinator | (316) 303-8051, WichitaMYC@gmail.com

How to Apply

1. Complete (please type or print in blue or black ink) and sign this application.
2. Attach two (2) letters of recommendation (see page 8 for details).
3. Attach an official/unofficial copy of your transcript or other school-issued verification of your *cumulative* grade point average (see page 8 for details).
4. Submit your application by **May 22, 2020 at 11:59 PM** using one of the following methods:
    a. Mail or deliver the application to:

    Mayor's Youth Council
    City Manager's Office
    City Hall, 455 N. Main St., 13th Floor
    Wichita, KS 67202

    b. Email a signed copy of the application to WichitaMYC@gmail.com.

    - In the subject line, please type, "[First Name] [Last Name] – MYC Application." *Example: John Doe – MYC Application*
    - Send only PDFs or Word documents, no image files or pictures of the application.

Selection Criteria

Selections will be made based on the following criteria:

- The student's interest in serving on the Council. Participation includes attending one MYC regular meeting and one MYC issue group meeting each month, along with regular volunteering outings and other events as they arise.
- The student's history of active community involvement, volunteerism, a desire to serve others, and public service.
- The student's interest in potentially pursuing a college education and career in public service.
- The student's desire to develop his/her leadership potential.
- The student's history of academic achievement.
- Feedback from the student's references.
- An interview with the selection committee.

Personal Information

Name: _____ Age: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current GPA: _____

School: _____

Grade Level for the **2020-21** School Year: *Freshman* ☐ | *Sophomore* ☐ | *Junior* ☐ | *Senior* ☐

Cell Phone:_____ Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Will you live within the City of Wichita during the **2020-2021** school year? *Yes* ☐ | *No* ☐

If NO, then you are not eligible to serve on MYC. All members must reside within the Wichita city limits.

The responses to the following questions will be used to gauge the diversity of the applicant pool:

Race/ethnicity:_____ Gender: _____

Name of Your School District: _____

Number of Your City Council District (1-6): _____

If you are unsure, visit http://gismaps.wichita.gov/Council%20District%20Checker/ *and follow the instructions to find your district number.*

List all of the major extracurricular activities that you are involved in outside of your academic program:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Essay Responses

Please respond thoroughly to the following questions in one (1) to two (2) paragraphs. Responses may be provided on additional pages, if needed.

1) What does the term "public service" mean to you?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2) Describe a moment from your past when you practiced public service.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3) How do you hope to develop as leader in the Mayor's Youth Council?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4) What makes you a unique candidate for the Mayor's Youth Council?

5) **Short Essay**: Describe one (1) or two (2) issues that you believe is/are important for Wichita as a city and a community to address. In regards to this/these issue(s), answer the following questions:

- What do think is an appropriate role for the city's youth to play in addressing this/these issue(s)?
- How, as a member of the Mayor's Youth Council, would you work with area youth, the local government, and local nonprofit agencies to fulfill this role and address this/these issue(s)?

Your essay should be a maximum of two, double-spaced pages. Use the space provided or attach the essay to this application.

Additional Information

6) **Recommendation Letters**: Include two (2) letters of recommendation from adults you have worked with in school or non-school activities (e.g. teacher, counselor, coach, supervisor, etc.). Ask the letter writers to include their name, phone number, and email address in the letters. Please communicate with us at wichitamyc@gmail.com if you any questions or concerns about fulfilling this request.

7) **Transcript**: Include an official/unofficial copy of your transcript or other school-issued verification of your *cumulative* grade point average. Report cards are not acceptable, unless they provide your cumulative GPA. Due to COVID-19 we understand that you may be unable to send in a transcript. In that case, please provide the most accurate estimate of your GPA that you can provide and we will verify your GPA with an official transcript if you are accepted to the council when the school year re-starts.

8) **Meeting Availability**: Council meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:00-8:00 PM. Issue group meetings occur on the 4th Tuesday from 6:00-8:00 PM. Each member is allowed three (3) excused absences from these meetings per semester. If you have a reoccurring conflict with these meeting times, it will be difficult to meet the attendance requirements to remain a member.

☐ I am available to attend meetings at those times.

☐ I am not available to attend meetings at those times.

9) **Previous Membership**: Have you previously served on the Mayor's Youth Council? *Yes* ☐ | *No* ☐
If yes, what school years did you participate? _____

Certification

By signing below, you hereby certify that you have read this application in its entirety and that all statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of your knowledge and the essays submitted are your own work. You understand that any false or incomplete section of this application may result in the rejection of the application as a whole.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

As the parent / legal guardian of the applicant, I hereby grant my permission to the applicant to participate in the Mayor's Youth Council (MYC), which includes, but is not limited to, bi-monthly meetings, volunteering outings, day and overnight trips, and other activities as they arise. I understand that if accepted, the applicant will need reliable transportation to events and activities.

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____