



# MINNESOTA YOUTH COUNCIL

## **Council Description**

The Minnesota Youth Council is a 36-member council selected to represent young people from all 8 congressional districts, including four at-large seats in Minnesota. [Mandated by statute](#), the Youth Council is entrusted with advising both the Governor and the legislature on matters of importance to middle & high school students. With a primary focus on shaping statewide policies and decision-making processes, the council works to amplify the voices of their peers, enhance public awareness of crucial youth issues, and champion the adoption and execution of laws and regulations that benefit today's Minnesota youth. The Minnesota Youth Council (MYC) envisions a state that prioritizes the agency and voice of young people from all backgrounds.

*The Minnesota Youth Council is a two-year term experience with a stipend awarded for service.*

## **Council Focus Areas**

- **Empowering youth participation in local governance**
- **Promoting health and safety for youth through education and resources**
- **Enhancing student preparedness for careers through expanded educational opportunities**

## **Representative Description**

A Minnesota Youth Council representative represents the district they are appointed to. Youth council at-large representatives represent youth across the state and are tasked with assuring broad representation of youth voice. Youth council members are expected to commit up to five hours per week to the work of the council, attend all council meetings and retreats, and develop relationships with their elected officials as well as youth organizations in their communities.

## **Eligibility**

- Currently living in Minnesota
- Attend a middle or high school
- Must be between the ages of 13 - 19



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## **Desired Qualifications**

- An active member of your community (school, religious affiliation, neighborhood etc.)
- A tireless youth advocate
- Alignment with one or more of the MYC focus areas
- Lead with equity, collaboration & quality
- Have a basic understanding of Minnesota's three branches of government & political systems

## **Responsibilities**

- Research important policy issues impacting Minnesota youth population
- Participate and be present in full council meetings and workgroup meetings
- Engage with your peers in the Congressional district you represent.
- Coordinate and schedule meetings with your elected representatives at least twice a year, at the beginning of term and during legislative session
- Attend all Minnesota Youth Council retreats & Youth Day at the Capitol
- Travel to Council retreats in held in different areas of the state
- Host at least one town hall session in your district per year
- Other responsibilities as assigned by the council or council director If you have any

Questions about the youth council, please contact [youthvoice@mnyouth.net](mailto:youthvoice@mnyouth.net)!