



**The City of
OKLAHOMA**



Youth Council of Oklahoma City

A Program of the City of Oklahoma City and the Youth Leadership Exchange

2010-2011 APPLICATION

Who We are and What We Do

The Youth Council of the City of Oklahoma City provides Oklahoma City youth a voice in the decisions that affect their homes, schools, friends and community. The Council is composed of 18 Youth Councilors who represent 8 wards of the City. Two youth are chosen to represent each of the 8 distinct areas of our city known as wards and two youth are selected to serve at large with the Mayor. Youth Councilors learn about local government and its processes while providing a youth perspective on issues considered by the City Council and its Boards and Commissions.

Oklahoma City Youth Councilors network with city leaders, meet with youth councils from neighboring cities, and attend classes to augment their leadership skills while learning about local government in the city where they live. This program enhances the student's ability to assume leadership positions in his school and community.

The Youth Council program provides students a unique way to experience the City and its quality of life...an opportunity not available to many youth ...or adults. Each class during the program year presents the opportunity for students to travel to one of the eight wards, observe city-operated facilities/services or other amenities that contribute to the public and private services of our City. Participants learn about the major characteristics unique to each ward. For example, previous classes have participated in police and fire training exercises, taken part in departmental interactive exercises, and toured limited access areas of Will Rogers Airport and the FAA.

Who are we looking for?

We are seeking motivated, energetic high school juniors and seniors who are dedicated to excellence. Ideal candidates are active in their school and community and are interested in enhancing their leadership skills.

Application requirements include

- Applicants must live in a Ward of the City of Oklahoma City. (A Ward Map is available at www.okc.gov).
- Applicants must be a high school junior or senior in the upcoming academic year 2010-2011. Public, private, and home-schooled students of the appropriate grade equivalent are eligible.
- Applicants must have a cumulative 3.00 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) grade point average in the current (2009-2010) academic year. A transcript must be submitted with the application.
- Applicants should demonstrate an interest in government issues and community service.
- Applicants must provide a completed application, including two letters of recommendation from adults who are familiar with your service to the community and/or your leadership skills by the April 2, 2010, deadline.

The Deadline

Applications must be postmarked on or before April 2, 2010. Mail your application to Youth Council of Oklahoma City/o Youth Leadership Exchange, 730 West Wilshire, Suite 116, Oklahoma City, OK 73116. Inquiries should be directed to Mary Walsh, Program Director, at (405) 463-3340 or ylx@lokc.org.

Completed Applications, including the two essay question answers, a school transcript, the signed commitment form, and 2 letters of recommendation, must be postmarked by April 2, 2010 and sent to Youth Leadership Exchange, 730 West Wilshire, Suite 116, Oklahoma City, OK 73116. We recommend that applicants call the YLYX office, (405) 463-3340 to tell the YLYX staff that an application has been mailed and should be expected. Questions concerning the Youth Council may be directed to Program Director Mary Walsh at (405) 463-3340 or ylx@lokc.org.

Applicant Information

Applicant Name

First (example: Thomas)	Name called: (example: Tommy)	Middle	Last	Suffix: (example: Jr., III)
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Home Address

Street Address	Apt. No. if applicable	City	State	Zip
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OKC Ward Number if known	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	E-Mail Address
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US Citizen Yes No

School Information

Name of School	Current Grade in school
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Optional Information

The City of Oklahoma City and Youth Leadership Exchange do not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, sex, creed, national origin or disability, and this information need not be provided. It is requested to facilitate YLX's goal of assembling a diverse group. Not providing this information will not affect your application.

Race or ethnic group

American Indian African American Asian Hispanic Caucasian
 Middle Eastern Other, please specify _____

Gender

Female Male Birth Date _____

Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s)

Address if different from applicant's

Home Phone if different from applicant's

Work Phone

Work Phone

Mother

Mother

Father

Father

Other guardian

Other guardian

School Transcript

Attach a transcript (available from your school office) or a photocopy of your last 2010 report card. You must have a minimum of a cumulative 3.00 grade point average on a 4-point scale to be considered for appointment to the Council.

Letters of Recommendation

Obtain two letters of recommendation from adults who are familiar with your leadership, community service, or interest in local government, such as a teacher, youth group leader, coach, club advisor, or employer. Your references should indicate the length of time they have known you, how serving as a Youth Councilor would benefit you, and the strengths you can bring to the Youth Council of Oklahoma City. Include the letters of recommendations with your application.

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Commitment Form

Youth Council of Oklahoma City

To be signed by the Applicant, applicant's Parent/Guardian, and applicant's School Principal.
This Commitment Form must be signed by all three parties as indicated and returned with the application by the April 2, 2010 deadline.

Applicant Name (Please print)

**Youth Council of Oklahoma City
2010 – 2011 Application
Commitment Form**

To be signed by the Applicant, applicant's Parent/Guardian, and applicant's School Principal. This Commitment Form must be signed by all three parties as indicated and returned with the application by the April 2, 2010 deadline.

1. I understand that students who apply for the Youth Council of Oklahoma City MUST accept appointment and participate fully as a Youth Council of Oklahoma City member.
2. I understand and consent to the student missing school one day a month for this program and understand and agree that the student will be responsible for arranging and completing make-up work with each faculty member as necessary.
3. I understand and agree that the opening retreat is mandatory, and that more than two absences from the Youth Council of Oklahoma City's scheduled sessions may result in removal from the Council.
4. I understand and agree to fulfill the expectations of Youth Councilors. I will, as assigned and appropriate,
 - Engage in structured learning activities
 - Observe various City activities
 - Attend various City events
 - Attend a minimum of 4 neighborhood meetings and other venues to solicit and/or give input from community youth on City issues
 - Regularly communicate electronically and verbally with my respective City Council member.
 - Participate in a minimum of 3 civic/community projects, such as Opening Night and Festival of the Arts
 - Attend or receive information regarding monthly board/commission meetings and be prepared to report on their respective activities/actions.
 - Prepare your monthly Ward reports a minimum of one week prior to the scheduled monthly Youth Council meeting and be prepared to report during the meeting.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Applicant's School Principal's Signature

Date

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