

## **NLC Youth Advisory Council Application**

Membership on NLC's Youth Advisory Council is an opportunity for youth to have an ongoing voice in the work of NLC and its national efforts to promote youth participation in civic affairs. NLC continues to enthusiastically recommend promoting youth voice and youth leadership development across the organization and highly values the opportunity provided to future leaders to lead and plan a conference for their peers.

NLC invites any youth leader who serves on a city-affiliated youth council, commission, or advisory board and who is also currently enrolled as a high school sophomore or junior (will be a rising junior or senior) to become a member of the NLC Youth Advisory Council.

NLC will appoint up to six young people from across the country for terms starting in June 2026 through March 2027.

**The Council's main role will be to lead the planning of the youth programs that coincide with NLC's City Summit in November 2026 and Congressional City Conference in March 2027.** Starting in August, the Council will *meet weekly via Microsoft Teams* to plan the youth program's workshops and will be leaders to additional youth who will join to help with the logistics of each workshop (the Youth Program Planning Committee).

In addition, youth may be requested to attend or speak at a general conference session or other general conference workshops.

**NLC *does not* pay travel expenses for youth to attend NLC conferences and expects that each youth member's hometown (i.e., municipal government or community partners) will cover these costs as part of their continuing support for local youth participation initiatives. The estimated cost to attend per youth includes a ~\$365 registration fee, \$200-\$400/night hotel for 3-4 days, transportation and meals not provided by the conference. **Before applying, please make sure your city has guaranteed funds for you to attend City Summit in Nashville and Congressional City Conference in Washington D.C.****

If you wish to be considered for an appointment to the NLC Youth Advisory Council, please complete the [online application](#).

**FIRST NAME**

**LAST NAME**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

**CITY (Of Youth Council)**

**STATE**

**ARE YOU CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF A YOUTH COUNCIL/YOUTH COMMISSION/YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP FOR YOUR CITY?**

Yes            No

**HIGH SCHOOL NAME**

**GRADE FOR 2026-2027 YEAR**

**HAVE YOU ATTENDED AN NLC YOUTH CONFERENCE BEFORE?**

Yes            No

Please list out which conference(s) you attended (e.g. City Summit in Salt Lake City 2025).

**NAME OF YOUTH COUNCIL/COMMISSION**

**YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER FIRST NAME**

**YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER LAST NAME**

**YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER JOB TITLE**

**YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER EMAIL ADDRESS**

**YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER PHONE NUMBER**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN FIRST NAME**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN LAST NAME**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL ADDRESS**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE NUMBER**

**PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Please upload one document with responses to each of the following prompts:

1. Why do you believe you would be a good fit for this position? (150 words max)
2. Describe your experience with youth leadership, public speaking, and event planning (e.g. participation in your city's youth council, student government, student clubs, internships, jobs and/or other civic engagement activities). (150 words max)
3. How do your experiences enable you to represent the diverse perspectives of youth across the country? (150 words max)
4. What skills are you hoping to gain from this leadership experience and how do you plan to use this experience/new skills into civic leadership in your community? (150 words max)

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT 1– Elected/Appointed City Official**

Please provide a letter of support from an elected or appointed official (mayor, city council member) in your city indicating their support for your participation *including the following sentence*:

**The City of X commits to covering the travel and registration costs for NAME and one eligible youth council chaperone to attend NLC City Summit in Nashville in November 2026 and Congressional City Conference in Washington D.C. in March 2027.**

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT 2 – Youth Council Leader**

Please provide a letter of support from your youth council leader indicating their support, including:

- how long they have known the applicant;
- the extent of the applicant's participation/experience on the youth council;
- the applicant's strengths;
- why you would recommend them to the NLC Youth Advisory Council, and;
- The following sentences: **NAME is an active participant in our city's youth council. CITY/ORGANIZATION commits to covering the travel and registration costs for NAME and one eligible youth council chaperone to attend NLC City Summit in Nashville in November 2026 and Congressional City Conference in Washington D.C. in March 2027.**

*Note:* Eligible youth council chaperones must be city staff or a youth council supervisor 25 years of age or above. Chaperones need to be employed by a city youth council or local non-profit organization that is involved with a city youth council. Family members nor sitting elected officials are eligible to act as chaperones. Chaperones must accompany youth delegates to all sessions and events.

### **3. PARENTAL TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION**

Please upload a brief letter from your parent or guardian indicating:

1. Permission to serve on the NLC Youth Advisory Council, if appointed, including permission to travel to Nashville, TN in November and Washington D.C. in March with an eligible chaperone. *Note:* Parents cannot act as chaperones.
2. Confirmation that you are an active member of your city's youth council/commission
3. Acknowledgement that NLC *does not cover the costs for youth to attend these conferences and it is an expectation that the City will pay for all travel, accommodation and registration costs for both conferences.*

Example:

***I acknowledge that the youth for which I am responsible has permission to serve on the NLC Youth Advisory Council. I confirm that they are an active member of a city-led youth council. I understand being on this Council requires weekly meetings, travel to Nashville TN for City Summit (November 2026), and travel to Washington DC for Congressional City Conference (March 2027). Travel to these conferences may require missing school. I acknowledge that my youth must travel to these conferences with an eligible chaperone and that NLC does not cover the registration, travel, or other affiliated costs for these conferences. By submitting this letter, I give my youth permission to be a part of NLC's Youth Advisory Council and understand the responsibilities and travel it requires.***