

SUFFOLK COUNTY

LEADERS OF TOMORROW

YOUTH COUNCIL

2020 - 2021

PURPOSE

The Suffolk County Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Council provides an effective way to engage youth in County government and creates a platform for them to share their views. This is an incredible opportunity for Suffolk youth to represent their community. Members of the Youth Council will offer their solutions to key issues facing young people in Suffolk County.

The Youth Council will be made up of 30 young people ages 14-21. The Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Council is youth-run and adult supported; its members will work to identify and prioritize issues that matter to Suffolk County youth including but not limited to Education and Careers, Civic Engagement, Juvenile Justice, Environmental Justice, Youth Violence/Cyberbullying and more. They will also design and facilitate workshops specifically for youth advancement, including but not limited to:

1. Financial literacy – Gaining and Saving money – smart spending
2. Improving your grades - ;learning environments & focus
3. Study methods – test –taking methods
4. Job preparation – resume building – interviews

This is an incredible opportunity for SC youth’s voices to be heard on issues impacting youth.

The Youth Council will be run by youth, ages 14 to 21, who will develop its organizational structure and prioritize key issues, and its members will gain hands-on experience in the democratic process. The members will serve two-year terms. Once selected, the Youth Council will convene in Hauppauge for orientation and training and will then be divided into teams to focus on specific policy issues.

Deadline for all individuals and agencies to submit online application: DECEMBER 31, 2020

Deadline for the County Selection Committee appointments: JANUARY 31, 2021

Who is eligible?

- Youth between the ages of 14-21.
- Youth must be a Suffolk county resident, US citizenship is NOT required.
Candidates must possess at least two (2) of the criteria listed below:
 1. Leadership capabilities including but not limited to advanced courses taken, extracurricular activities (sports, STEM, Community Theater, youth agency/county advisory boards, etc.) recognitions, etc.
 2. Service, including community service projects, volunteerism and activism.

How to Apply:

We are asking for your assistance in recommending outstanding youth in your community who will be committed to the work and mission of the council.

- **Youth between the ages of 14-21 can apply to the Suffolk County Leaders of Tomorrow Council. The application must be submitted through one of your agencies along with your agency's formal written recommendation. To be considered for this council each candidate must have an adult reference/referral complete the SC Youth Council referral application and submit it to ahkyra.jackson@suffolkcountyny.gov at the SC Youth Bureau.**
- **Each application will be reviewed by Suffolk County Youth bureau committee.**

Deadline for all individuals and agencies to submit the application: Friday December 15, 2020

Youth Council Member COMMITMENTS:

Youth must understand the great opportunity offered upon selection and commit to the following if appointed:

- Attend County-wide training(s) and orientation(s) on government, civic engagement and positive youth development.
- Attend regular meetings via online platforms and in-person
- Work on selecting pertinent policy issues.
- Seek out, listen and respect others' opinions and experiences
- Serve for a two year term
- Youth will be trained in basic civics, effective youth voice, understanding budgets, and other topics to support their work on the Youth Council.
- Each member will be required to join at least one policy team to address matters such as the following topic areas: Education and Careers, Civic Engagement, Women and Girls, Juvenile Justice, Environmental Justice, Youth Violence/Cyberbullying, Sexual Assault and Harassment.
- Youth will make recommendations to the State on how to effectively address concerns regarding the topic area.

Lead. Impact. Advocate. Engage.

Suffolk County Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Council Application Guidance Document

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS Application: Application submissions

1. Submissions must be received no later than the due date. All applications must be emailed to Ahkyra.jackson@suffolkcountyny.gov
2. Age: Youth between the ages of 14-21 can apply to the Suffolk County Youth Council; the County will work to have a balanced representation on the Council be based on age, gender, ethnicity and other factors that make up the diversity of New York's youth. Candidates must be no younger than 13 and no older than 21 years of age on January 31, 2020 to be selected to the Youth Council.
3. Youth must be a Suffolk County resident to apply.
4. Attendance: The Youth Council members will be required to participate in all zoom meetings
5. Further information will be provided upon selection to the Youth Council. Limitations or special accommodations for youth with disabilities will not impact the selection process and will be accommodated, if selected.