



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## WHAT IS THE SACRAMENTO YOUTH COMMISSION (SYC)?

The SYC is a youth led legislative body, established in 1993 and designated as the official youth voice of the City of Sacramento. The SYC is comprised of 19 appointed young people that serve as an advisory board providing recommendations to the City Council, the Youth Development Policy Manager, and the Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment on policies, projects, programs, and other matter pertaining to youth.

## WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE SYC?

To protect, preserve, enhance, and advance the quality of life for Sacramento youth by advising the City Council and the public on issues relating to youth policies, programs, and opportunities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SYC

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act funding recommendations for various youth programming including youth programming, mental health, workforce development, and education
- Resolution 2020-0351: Defining the City of Sacramento's Public Safety Services to Include Emergency Response and Operations as Well as Youth-Centered Prevention Services
- Support of City funding of the RydeFreeRT providing youth TK-12<sup>th</sup> grade free monthly transportation access
- Recommendation to support the adoption of amendments to Chapter 5.138 of the Sacramento City Code to prohibit sales of flavored tobacco products including electronic cigarettes or vaping products

## ELIGIBILITY QUALIFICATIONS OF A SYC MEMBER?

- Must be at least 14 years of age and not older than 22 years of age at the time of appointment **AND**
- Attend a high school in Sacramento city limits **OR** live in Sacramento city limits

## WHAT SKILLS ARE NEEDED TO BE A SYC MEMBER?

- No prior experience on a board and commission is required.
- Commission members are expected to be committed, open to learning, willing to contribute, enthusiastic, and passionate.

## HOW OFTEN DOES THE SYC MEET?

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 6:00-8:00pm – Business Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month 6:00-8:00pm – Capacity Building Workshop
- No meetings held on observed City holidays
- All meetings currently held virtually due to COVID guidelines until further notice



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### **WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT OF TIME EACH MONTH OF A COMMISSIONER?**

SYC members are expected to make a time commitment of up to 10 hours per month. These hours can include the following:

- The preparation (review of agendas, reports, and other related materials) and attendance of monthly business meetings and capacity building workshops.
- Appointment by the SYC Chair to Commission ad hocs.
- Additional engagement and attendance at community meetings, events, and activities.
- Participation and tasks related to issue-based subcommittees

### **HOW LONG CAN A SYC MEMBER CAN BE APPOINTED?**

Appointed members of the Commission shall serve a term of two years, with no more than two consecutive terms. A member shall hold office until their successor is appointed.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AT A SYC BUSINESS MEETING?**

All SYC business meetings are livestreamed and archived for the public to view. Visit [http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=58](http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=58) to view archived business meetings.

### **HOW CAN I APPLY TO BECOME A SACRAMENTO YOUTH COMMISSIONER?**

Apply online at <https://boards.cityofsacramento.org/apply/board/2943>. Review qualifications and criteria for each of the open seats.

### **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A COMMISSIONER?**

- Address the concerns and issues of Sacramento youth by actively engaging in identifying solutions and providing recommendations
- Gain first-hand experience with local governmental processes and protocols
- Engage with other motivated youth advocating for change
- Develop and strengthen personal leadership skills

### **ARE COMMISSIONERS COMPENSATED AS A SYC MEMBER?**

- Commissioners that attend the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> monthly meetings receive a \$50 stipend for each meeting attended.

### **WHO PROVIDES SUPPORT TO THE SYC?**

The City of Sacramento Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment Youth Division – Civic Engagement Unit staff serve as liaisons and adult allies to the appointed members of the SYC. The City staff are responsible for guiding, mentoring, and supporting the Commissioners during their appointed term(s).

### **HOW CAN I CONTACT STAFF SUPPORTING THE SYC?**

For additional information please email [sacyouthcom@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:sacyouthcom@cityofsacramento.org).