



SACOG Board of Directors

Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 9:30 AM
SACOG Board Room, 1415 L Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814

The Board may take up any agenda item at any time, regardless of the order listed. Public comment will be taken on the item at the time that it is taken up by the Board. We ask that members of the public complete a request to speak form, submit it to the Clerk of the Board, and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the board on a single item, the chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of the discussion. Action may be taken on any item on this agenda.

Note: Time durations are estimates only.

7. Youth Leadership Academy Recruitment for Seventh Cohort () (Est. Time:)



Youth Leadership Academy Recruitment for Seventh Cohort

Information

Author: Rosie Ramos

Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

Issue:

The Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) is recruiting for the seventh cohort and staff is requesting the board's support with outreach.

Request:

Review & Discuss

Recommendation for Board:

None, this is for information only.

Recommendation for Committee:

None, this is for information only.

Background:

SACOG staff has been facilitating the Youth Leadership Academy to help foster a new generation of civically involved leaders in the six-county region. In the past six years, we have brought together over 200 students from across the Sacramento region to learn about local and regional government and civic issues and processes, heard from numerous elected officials, local leaders and community advocates on wide-ranging topics, and shared ways students can bring change to their community. The Youth Leadership Academy has now successfully completed six years of the program. We thank our original partners, Pro Youth and Families, for helping us stand this program up and setting us up for success as we brought this program inhouse in 2022.

Discussion/Analysis:

This seventh year of YLA will have 40 available spots for students across the region. The past years have proven that now more than ever, our young leaders in the region are eager and ready to learn and we are gearing up for another year of growth and leadership development. The application period for the program open on January 6, and will close on March 7. SACOG will target Title I schools across the region to ensure that we make YLA as accessible and as impactful as possible, as well as outreach to community-based organizations. The program will keep the same general topics and curriculum, which include learning about the role of SACOG in the region, land use and transportation planning, local government processes, local

advocacy, personal leadership development, environmental justice and more. The program will continue to find ways to incorporate more of SACOG's upcoming efforts. The program will be designed as a hybrid program with five (5) online virtual sessions, four (4) field trips, and one (1) in-person graduation/mini-conference at the end of the program. We will continue to invite local elected officials and other leadership from across the region to supplement our workshops. The board will be provided with a digital toolkit to use for recruitment. YLA has continuously been supported by a number of sponsors, with the most recent being SMUD.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in the Overall Work Program/Budget and Discretionary Grant Funded

List of Attachments:

1. YLA Flyer
2. Outreach Toolkit



**NO
EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY**

YOUth Shape the Future

2025 Youth Leadership Academy

The Youth Leadership Academy a free three-month program showcasing planning at the regional level and developing the leadership skills of young Sacramento region leaders who are in high school. Through YLA you will:

- Learn how communities are shaped by people and policies
- Discover career opportunities in planning, civic engagement, and public service
- Connect with local leaders, elected officials, community activists, and more
- Engage in local and regional government
- Connect with students from across the region about 200 YLA alumni

High school students (grades 9 through 12) in the six-county region: El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties (minus the Tahoe basin) are eligible.

The program will last April -June 2025.

Application period will be from Jan. 6 – Mar. 7.

Visit sacog.org/youth for more information and the application. For specific questions, reach out to Rosie Ramos at rrosos@sacog.org or 916.340.6208.

**Program
coordinated by:**



SACOG

Sacramento Area
Council of
Governments



*Metzli
Lemus*

YLA
CLASS OF
2021

"YLA has taught me about how my city works. I've learned that we have a say in the outcomes of our community and how to use my voice to impact decisions happening at a city level."

Program Overview

The Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) bridges the gap between youth, local leaders, and civic engagement. The program provides students with helpful knowledge and skills that are a part of the ongoing process of decision making and connects them to local organizations and community members who bring much needed change. With this program, young leaders learn about the intersection of different areas, like transportation planning, public health, and education, and how they impact everyday life.

The outreach toolkit with the items included below and additional materials will be accessible online at sacog.org/youth.

If you need any additional materials or resources that are not included in the toolkit below, we are happy to create additional materials for you, please contact Rosie Ramos at rramos@sacog.org or (916) 340-6208.

Program Timeline

Milestone	Timeline
Recruitment/Applications	January 6, – March 7 2025
Applications Due	March 7 , 2025 at 5 p.m.
Applicant Review & Interviews	March 6 - 14
Students Notified	March 17

Outreach Items

Email

Dear,

I am asking for your help to get high school students to apply to the 2025 Youth Leadership Academy. The program is a unique, hands-on opportunity for youth to learn how communities are

shaped by people and policies. Applications close on Wednesday, March 7 at 5 p.m. I've provided more information about the academy, a link to the application, and some promotional materials below. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or Rosie Ramos at rramos@sacog.org. Youth are our future, let's open a platform to hear their voice for change!

About the Youth Leadership Academy

In its seventh year, the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) bridges the gap between youth, local leaders, and civic engagement. The program provides students with helpful knowledge and skills that are a part of the ongoing process of decision making and connects them to local governments, organizations, and community members who bring much needed change. With this program, young leaders learn about the intersection of different areas, like transportation planning, public health, and education, and how they impact everyday life.

High school students, grades 9-12, who live in Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba, and El Dorado (except for Tahoe Basin) counties are eligible to apply. YLA is organized by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG). [Watch this video](#) to learn more.

Newsletter

Newsletter - V1

The Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) is now seeking high school students who want to learn more about local government, leadership, and how to make an impact in their communities. YLA provides students with helpful knowledge and skills that are part of the ongoing process of decision making in government and connects them with leaders and students from across the region. During this program, young leaders learn about the intersection of areas like transportation planning, health, and education, and how these impact our lives every day.

If you are a high school student (9th – 12th grade), or if you know a high school student, who would be interested in this hands-on opportunity to learn more about how local decisions are made and sharpen your leadership skills, share this information and encourage them to apply.

Applications close on Wednesday, March 7 at 5 p.m. Get more information and application information at www.sacog.org/youth.

Newsletter - V2

Do you know a high school student in the Sacramento region who is interested in learning how to make a difference in their community? Are they looking for experience to add to their college applications? Encourage them to apply to be part of the 2025 Youth Leadership Academy.

Through the Youth Leadership Academy, students will connect with local organizations, civic leaders, activists, and community members who will teach them how to affect change in their communities. The six-month program provides students with knowledge and skills that are part of the ongoing process of government and local decision making.

Learn more about YLA at www.sacog.org/youth. Applications are due Wednesday, March 7 at 5 p.m.

School Principal Letter

[INSERT Date]

Dear (Principal/other contact) [INSERT Name]

As a member of the [insert your organization] I would like to share this unique opportunity for one of our programs: The 2025 Youth Leadership Academy (YLA).

YLA is an opportunity for high school students (grades 9-12) to learn about the roles of local and regional government, including regional planning, transportation, sustainability, land use, and the interaction with local non-profits and communities. Today's leaders and decision makers across all sectors are

planning and making decisions for the future. Those who are most impacted by those decisions are our youth. Often youth do not have the knowledge on how to inform policymakers, decision-makers, and elected bodies like SACOG, or their local elected officials. YLA is focused on youth empowerment to create pathways for young people to understand local and regional government and learn about career opportunities in public service. Many of our students from the last three years have expressed increased understanding of local government processes, felt like they had a role to play in changing their communities, and showed interest in public sector work.

The academy brings together students from Sutter, Yuba, Yolo, El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento counties. This approach provides a rare opportunity for students to connect with peers from across the six-county region, meet and hear from their local and state elected officials and community leaders. We encourage students to apply to YLA to hear from local government staff from across the Sacramento region and gain valuable leadership skills that can help them prepare for the future beyond high school.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday, March 7 at 5 p.m. Students can apply at sacog.org/youth. Sharing the attached flyer with any of your school's teachers, administrators, or program coordinators would be much appreciated.

Thank you,
<<insert your name>>



Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is seeking a dedicated Community-Based Organization (CBO) or Non-Profit Organization (NPO) to collaborate in recruiting passionate young leaders for our esteemed Youth Leadership Academy (YLA).

YLA offers high school students in the Sacramento region an immersive experience to develop leadership skills, gain insights into local government, and engage in critical discussions on racial justice within planning and the public sector. YLA will be accepting 40 new students for their upcoming cohort starting in April 2025, all applications should be submitted by March 5, 2025. Students will be able to participate in:

- Interactive Workshops
- Field Trips
- Community Leadership Engagement
- Students who meet the attendance requirement and participation will receive a stipend at the end of the program.

We are looking for a CBO/NPO with strong community ties to assist in:

- Outreach: Promoting YLA to diverse youth communities across the Sacramento region, particularly to low income, title 1 schools, disadvantage communities etc.
- Engagement: Identifying and encouraging potential candidates who exhibit leadership potential and a commitment to community service.
- Support: Guiding applicants through the application process
- In-person recruitment, community events, high school pop ups, tabling, etc.

Benefits of Partnership:

- Community Impact: Help shape future leaders dedicated to civic engagement and social justice.
- Networking: Build connections with local government officials, educators, and other organizations.
- Recognition: Your organization will be highlighted during program events.

If you're interested in submitting an application, we'd love to hear from you! Please fill out the application [here](#).

For other questions, feel free to contact Rosie Ramos at rramos@sacog.org.