



President's Youth Council (PYC) 2020 Application Overview

Robert K. Ross, M.D., President and CEO of The California Endowment is pleased to announce that the **President's Youth Council** is accepting applications for Youth Ambassadors. To access the application directly, click [here](#). The President's Youth Council is a body of youth ambassadors across California that serves in partnership with the CEO of The California Endowment to ultimately shape The California Endowment's investments and culture. As ambassadors, we provide community perspective by centering youth voices to cultivate narrative and systems change through storytelling to improve the health of underserved communities across California.

The President's Youth Council envisions a world where young people of color are at the center of the movement to create a healthy, just, and equitable California through an intergenerational approach. We value the energy, agility, and fearlessness of youth leaders who organize to uplift the voices of those traditionally excluded from public conversations and create opportunities for their stories to be told and heard.

Dr. Ross formed the PYC as a genuine effort to integrate youth input and decision making into The Endowment. PYC members are lead thought partners in redefining wellness for young Californians and providing youth perspective in advancing health equity and health justice campaigns and strengthening youth voice and leadership across communities, statewide, and nationally. PYC members earn a yearly stipend, further their skills and development, and gain access to networking and mentoring opportunities. PYC members participate in youth development opportunities to strengthen their leadership skills to help them be more effective advocates for their communities.

PYC Responsibilities:

- Help prioritize ways of strengthening youth voice and youth leadership within various Endowment initiatives
- Thought and design partners to the President and TCE program staff by exploring and analyzing issues from a youth perspective on initiatives impacting youth
- Support and connect youth with regional, state, and national youth empowerment campaigns
- Be a representative of the youth leadership body of The California Endowment and participate in youth development opportunities, work to continue strengthening leadership skills
- Participate in Monthly PYC Calls and any ongoing committee work and calls
- Attend and participate in 4 quarterly in-person meetings through the year (TBD locations)
- Selected applicants will serve a 3 year term on the PYC
- Uphold and honor the PYC Code of Conduct

Refer to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information about the President's Youth Council

Important Application Process Dates:

- **April 20, 2020:** PYC Applications Open
- **June 1, 2020:** Deadline to Submit PYC Applications
- **June 2020:** Interviews for Selected Candidates
- **August 1, 2020:** Offer Letter for Final Candidates
- **September 2020:** In-Person Orientation (Date to be determined)
- **October 10-12:** PYC Fall Quarterly Meeting. Selected applicants will participate in their first official PYC meeting



“We decided to create a President’s Youth Council, or PYC, as an experiment. We embarked on a process to identify and invite one young leader from various communities across California and provide them with organized “face time” with me a few times throughout the year. We are now in the third year of this “experiment” and I have learned a great deal about how to effectively support youth civic engagement, leadership and advocacy in the battle for health and justice in low-income, ignored communities. Among the most salient lessons: the roles that matters of adversity, trauma, and stress play in the lives of young people of color, and how we must endeavor to strengthen social-emotional health and wellness approaches to truly build healthy communities across California. It has been invaluable to me and my staff in examining the design of a strengthen narrative for wellness and health for young people of color in California. We, as an organization, want to continue to support youth voice and leadership and invite a new generation of leaders to help lead us to a healthier California.”



ROBERT K. ROSS, M.D.
President and CEO
The California Endowment



Qualifications: The application is open to youth living in California. The California Endowment values diversity, inclusion, and equity--we believe these values are essential to our effectiveness and the long-term health of all Californians. Ideal candidates should have the following experiences, skills, and qualities:

- **Strongly encouraged to apply:** Applicants residing or attending school in these areas: Central Valley, Inland Empire, Eastern Coachella Valley, Del Norte, San Francisco, San Jose (San Mateo/East Palo Alto), San Diego, Central Coast, and Orange County. While there is preference for applications from these areas, applications from youth in other areas and neighborhoods are welcome.
- **Strongly encouraged to apply:** Applicants who identify as Native American, Black, African, South East Asian, Pacific Islander, Queer and/or Trans youth; applicants who are system involved youth and/or formerly incarcerated, undocumented, and other disenfranchised and rural communities.
- **15-21 years of age**
- Passionate about and committed to social justice.
- Willingness to listen and learn.
- Problem-solving and critical thinking skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills.

How to Apply:

Application submission due **Monday, June 1, 2020 at 5:00 pm PDT**. Incomplete applications will not be considered. New PYC members will be notified at the beginning of August.

To apply, candidates must submit the following materials:

- **Full Application:**
 - Part I: Applicant Information - Must be completed by all applicants.
 - Part II: Short Answer Questions - Two options: written OR video response. Video submission guidelines below.
 - Part III: One (1) Letter of Recommendation - *Please fill out the form and make sure that the recommendation letter is received by the application deadline.*

Candidates can submit their application materials:

Online: [2020 PYC Application](#), or **E-mail:** to Josephine Young at app@calendowpyc.org.

Questions:

For more information about PYC: [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

If you have any additional questions, please contact us at app@calendowpyc.org



PART 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION - Must be completed by all applicants.

Name (First & Last): _____

Affiliation (School / Organization): Please list any and all community organizations you are currently involved in and the level of your participation.

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

What is the best way to reach you? Check all that apply.

- Call Text Email

What is the best time to reach you? _____

How did you learn about the President's Youth Council? If referred, who referred you?

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): ____/____/_____

What is your gender identity?

What gender pronouns do you use? (she/her, he/him, they/them etc.)

We value the experiences of young people who are systems impacted and closest to the issue. Please check any that apply. (optional)

- Undocumented Queer (lesbian, gay, bi, etc.)
 Formerly Incarcerated Trans (non-binary, gender non-conforming, etc.)
 Current/Former Foster Youth Other: _____
 Disabled/Differently-Abled

What race(s) do you consider yourself? Check all that apply.

- Asian/Pacific Islander Latinx/Hispanic
 American Indian/Native Decline to respond
 Black/African American Other: _____
 Caucasian/White

What ethnic group(s) do you belong to? _____

PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Please describe your qualifications and interest in joining the President’s Youth Council (PYC) by **choosing ONE option from below:**

Option 1: Respond in writing to short answer questions. No more than 300 words per response for each question below.

-OR-

Option 2: Respond in video format to short answer questions. No more than 5 mins total. See Video Guidelines.

OPTION 1: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS. Respond in *writing* to short answer questions.

1. Why do you want to serve as a Youth Ambassador for the President’s Youth Council? **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**

2. In the PYC, we center our work around the [Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\)](#).



a. What are the current issue areas that you are working on? What are you most passionate about? **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**



- b. What issues are not addressed in your community that you would like to see addressed? **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**
3. What leadership or general experiences have you had within your community, school, or organization? **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**
4. Please describe how your experience aligns with our mission and vision. **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**
MISSION: The President's Youth Council is a body of youth ambassadors across California that serves in partnership with the CEO of The California Endowment to ultimately shape The California Endowment's investments and culture. As ambassadors, we provide community perspective by centering youth voice to cultivate narrative and systems change through storytelling to improve the health of underserved communities across California.
VISION: The President's Youth Council envisions a world where young people of color are at the center of the movement to create a healthy, just, and equitable California through an intergenerational approach.
5. What type of movement leader are you? How do you identify yourself? For example: youth organizer, direct service provider, healer, activist, leader, advocate, etc. **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**
6. What are your short and long-term professional goals and interests? **(Min: 150 words; Max: 300 words)**



7. What is a fun fact that you would like to share about yourself? (You can share hobbies, favorite books, what you like to do for self-care, etc.)

OPTION 2: VIDEO GUIDELINES – Respond in *video* format to short answer questions.

No more than 5 mins total. Please note that It is your responsibility to review and make sure you are uploading the correct and final video.

1. Applicants can email a link to a video to app@calendowpyc.org.
2. If submitting a video file, acceptable file formats are: *.mov, .mp4, .mpg, or .wmv*.
3. **Videos should not exceed 5 minutes.** The selection committee is unable to consider any video that exceeds 5 minutes.
4. Room or location should be well lit to avoid shadows.
5. Make sure you are not backlit or standing in front of the sun. Standing in front of windows, bright lights or other major light sources looks terrible on camera.
6. Be aware of any background noises - turn off the TV, radio, air conditioning, ceiling fans or heating units as this will create a hum or buzz. Be aware of on site background noises such as busses, helicopters or children playing.
7. Dress up as you do. Show us your style and full authentic self! Be creative and have fun with this! Let your personality shine through.
8. Do not chew gum.
9. When you are ready to go, have someone else read you the questions. Do not have paper in hand or in front of you. Have a friend or a relative let you borrow a camera or smartphone and ask them to film you. It will make the quality of your video better!
10. Make sure your video is labeled or saved with your full name and phone number. Videos will not be returned.

CONTENT: Answers to the following questions are required unless otherwise noted.

1. Introduce yourself, tell us your name, age and what you do for a living (employment or school). Where do you live? Feel free to give a glimpse of your community by filming at your favorite community spot.
2. Why do you want to serve as a Youth Ambassador for the President's Youth Council?
3. In the PYC, we center our work around the [Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\)](#).



1. What are the current issue areas that you are working on? What are you most passionate about?
2. What issues are not addressed in your community that you would like to see addressed?
4. What leadership or general experiences have you had within your community, school, or organization?
5. Please describe how your experience aligns with our mission and vision:

MISSION: The President's Youth Council is a body of youth ambassadors across California that serves in partnership with the CEO of The California Endowment to ultimately shape The California Endowment's investments and culture. As ambassadors, we provide community perspective by centering youth voice to cultivate narrative and systems change through storytelling to improve the health of underserved communities across California.

VISION: The President's Youth Council envisions a world where young people of color are at the center of the movement to create a healthy, just, and equitable California through an intergenerational approach.
6. What type of movement leader are you? How do you identify yourself? For example: youth organization, direct service, healer, activist, leader, advocate, etc.
7. What are your short and long-term professional goals and interests?
8. What is a fun fact that you would like to share about yourself? (You can share hobbies, favorite books, what you like to do for self-care, etc.)



PART III: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION:

Please submit one (1) letter of recommendation from someone who can speak to your leadership experience, accomplishments, and/or character.

Recommender Name (First, Last): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Relationship to You: _____ Years Known: _____

Affirmation and E-Signature: I certify that all information submitted in this application is up to date and complete.

Applicant's Signature

Date