



Mayor's Youth Action Council Structure

Mission:

The Mayor's Youth Action Council (MYAC) is dedicated to empowering Manitowoc's diverse youth by continuously improving unity and engagement through government and civic participation. We strive to raise awareness within our community and develop a sense of pride among our peers.

Purpose:

- To familiarize, orientate, and involve youth with the various functions of City government. With these experiences come opportunities to see first-hand how City departments and officials carry out their duties and responsibilities, seeing and experiencing democracy in action;
- To provide opportunities for Youth Action Council members to identify, select, and carry out community service projects that improve the quality of life for residents;
- To provide opportunities for Youth Action Council members to build skills and gain awareness in areas related to professional development, i.e. resume building, interviewing, public service, and public speaking; and
- To have fun while learning about and making a difference in Manitowoc!

Composition/Roles:

- Up to 5 youth in grades 9 through 12 from each of the 3 high schools in the City of Manitowoc; Lincoln High School, Manitowoc Lutheran High School, and Roncalli High School
- Members are appointed to two-year terms (unless senior at beginning of term); those wishing to continue past the first term must re-apply after the first term has expired
- Each class will elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Public Relations Coordinator
- Each meeting will be co-led by the President and the Mayor

Eligibility:

- Must reside in the City of Manitowoc OR attend a school in the City of Manitowoc
- Demonstrate leadership in school and/or other activities within the community
- Express an interest in learning more about their community
- Be open-minded and willing to work with their peers
- Commit to an annual term from October – May

Timeline:

- Remaining members from the previous year's class will meet in August to determine needs of this year's class; the application will be opened in August
- The deadline to apply will be September 30th
- Interviews and final selection will be done in October
- First Youth Action Council meeting/orientation session will be held in October
- Final Youth Action Council meeting/farewell session will be held in May

Responsibilities:

- Attend the orientation session
- Attend and participate in regular monthly meetings during the 8-month term (October to May)
- Attend 3 Common Council meetings per school year (they're held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall)
- Attend 4 Standing Committee meetings of the Common Council (Standing Committees are Personnel, Finance, Public Infrastructure, and Public Safety) per school year, but cannot attend the same meeting more than twice (unless choosing to do so on your own time)
- To act as an advisory body to the Mayor and Council on matters which have an impact on youth in Manitowoc
- To identify, bring forward, and advocate for issues which will have an impact on Manitowoc youth
- To foster a positive image of youth in our community by participating actively in community events and activities in Manitowoc
- To promote positive meaningful activities for youth in partnership with the community
- To encourage youth to become more familiar with the workings of local government through education, involvement, and participation

Learning Opportunities and Benefits:

- The Mayor's Youth Action Council is a youth-led initiative where area youth will have the opportunity to be responsible for various roles (i.e. running meetings, taking notes, decision making)
- Members will be provided the opportunity to brainstorm and select tours, special speakers, and other learning opportunities to further their goals
- Learning about approaches for engaging youth in community service
- Partner with like-minded youth with unique perspectives
- Act as a youth service ambassador in Manitowoc by participating in and doing outreach around teen initiatives