

www.dekalbcountyga.gov

Office of Youth Services

Human Services Department

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DEKALB COUNTY

YOUTH COMMISSION
LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Dekalb County Leadership Initiative | Youth Commission

2018 Student APPLICATION

CEO: Michael Thurmond

COMMISSIONERS: Jeff Rader, District 2, Presiding Officer
Nancy Jester, District 1 | Larry Johnson, District 3
Steve Bradshaw, District 4
Mereda Davis Johnson, District 5 | Kathie Gannon, Super District 6
Gregory Adams, Super District 7



DeKalb County Youth Commission



Overview

The DeKalb County Youth Commission is a leadership program, sponsored in March 2008 by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners was designed to involve youth, from varied socioeconomic backgrounds and multicultural neighborhoods, with opportunities to have a voice in their communities.

By learning the roles of county government, and participating in civic and community activities, and while representing the views of the youth of DeKalb County, the Youth Commissioners will sustain their efforts to becoming effective leaders of the future.

General

This vision seeks the involvement of DeKalb County youth in the planning, development and implementation of community activities and services.

We believe that early involvement of our youth in the spectrum of governmental mandates and processes will increase their awareness and enable them to become more effective leaders.

With the motto of "Learn, Serve, Lead," the DeKalb County Youth Commission will establish an environment in which the youth of DeKalb County can learn about DeKalb County Government, reinforce that learning through civic activities, and develop a foundation to lead in the future.

Administration

The DeKalb County Youth Commission is administrated by Ms. Karrianna Turner, manager of Office of Youth Services Division of the DeKalb County Human Services Department, along with Mr. Jashawn Williams, project manager , Office of Youth Services and Youth Commission coordinator.



DeKalb County Youth Commission

Membership

Students, enrolled in DeKalb County's high schools from the tenth and eleventh grades, are encouraged to apply annually to participate in the DeKalb County Youth Commission program. Selection is based on a completed application that contains an essay, and a referral from a community member, school administrator, teacher, counselor or civic leader. Other considerations may include a student's GPA, community involvement (i.e., volunteerism, clubs, youth groups, etc.), and their presentation during an interview process. Students should have a rich history of recognized leadership potential, as well as extra time to actively participate during school hours and after-school events. Applications are presented in January to all of DeKalb County's private and public high schools, public libraries, community youth organizations and others requesting information. Newly selected applicants will be notified in July of their acceptance into the program and may maintain membership in the Youth Commission until they graduate from high school.

The parents and guardians of Youth Commissioners have the opportunity to participate on the DeKalb County Commission's Parental Advisory Council. This Council will meet twice a year during the Youth Commission term, providing parents/guardians an avenue to stay well informed on matters concerning the Youth Commission agenda and events.

The DeKalb County Youth Commission

Goals

- Participate in annual Opening Planning Retreat
- Attend monthly meeting and training sessions
- Participate in the Official Induction Ceremony
- Create a Youth Agenda
- Present Youth Agenda and other related-issues to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners
- Partner with DeKalb County departments and community service organizations to observe youth programming and engage in youth-related activities.

Administration

The DeKalb County Youth Commission elects officers on an annual basis. The officers consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian. The Youth Commission's operating interval is from September to May, however, administration planning, activities and initiatives occur on a year-round basis. This period will be divided into the fall and spring terms.



DeKalb County Youth Commission

Youth Commission Application

(For 2018-2019 Term)

Submission Deadline: Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 18, 2018

For more information, contact Jashawn Williams, Youth Commission Coordinator
Phone: (404) 687-7108 / FAX: (404)-371-7060 / email: jrwilliams@dekalbcountyga.gov

Applications must be submitted to:
jrwilliams@dekalbcountyga.gov

In order to be considered, students must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of DeKalb County.
- Currently enrolled in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade and attend a DeKalb County high school.
- Must commit to participation requirements (See attachment).
- Must attend the annual retreat in September 2018.
- Submittal of a completed application with includes: the dossier section, and
 - o A one page typed nomination statement from a teacher, counselor, principal, or community member.
 - o A two page, doubled space essay (See essay section).

Application

DOSSIER SECTION:

Applicant Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____ County of Residence: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Age: _____

Birth Date: ____/____/____ Gender: F M Race: _____ (Optional)

High School: _____ Grade: _____ GPA: _____

Email address: _____

Shirt Size (Male Shirt) (Circle one)

S M L XL 2X 3X 4X

DeKalb County Youth Commission

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian daytime phone number: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____

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NOMINATION SECTION:

TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINATOR (Teacher, counselor, principal, or community member who has known the applicant for at least one year). (If additional space is needed, attach sheet(s) to application).

Nominator's Name: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

NOMINATION STATEMENT:

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Will you be able to attend the annual retreat in September 2018?

Please circle: YES or NO (If no, please explain)

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List a few of the extracurricular activities you have participated in during the past three years.
Add any offices held and/or awards received.

Organization	Position Held	Date of Involvement
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

DeKalb County Youth Commission

ESSAY SECTION:

In your opinion, what are the three most important issues facing DeKalb County youth today, and how would you address these issues?

1.

2.

3.

ESSAY TOPIC: From the three topics listed above, choose and write about an issue that you think is the most important one facing DeKalb County youth today.

Your check list of attachments:

o **NOMINATION STATEMENT** from teacher, counselor, school administrator, commissioner or civic/community leader.

o **ESSAY** (Two page, double spaced) - An organized document that includes an introduction, a body with supportive ideas and a conclusion with a specific positive action that you think will resolve this issue.

NOTES SECTION

