

Dear Youth Council Candidate:

We would like to thank you for your interest in applying for a Merced Youth Council position. Being on the Youth Council is an important job that requires a lot of time, effort, dedication, and responsibility. It is very rewarding, allows for great memories and opportunities to have fun, and it gets you involved in your community. It also allows you to make decisions that affect every youth in Merced. The Youth Council is in charge of representing the voice of the youth and presenting their ideas to the City Council. We are here to try and satisfy the wants and needs of the youth. We are proud of our city and want people to know the Merced Youth Council is here for them. Holding a Youth Council position comes with great responsibility and if you become a YC member, you will need to represent the Council in a positive way.

Please read the following information in this packet very carefully and make sure to fill out all information and return it back in the time allotted. Please read the information on the expectations and criteria for selection to the Youth Council. You must be a City resident to hold a seat on the Youth Council. Youth Council members represent one of three geographic areas in the City, Northern Merced – from Bear Creek to the northern City limits; Central Merced – from Bear Creek to Highway 99; and Southern Merced – from Highway 99 to the southern City limits. There is one at-large position.

Name of Candidate _____

Year of Graduation _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone/Cell: _____

Read the following qualifications for office carefully and indicate that you meet and/or agree to each item by initialing beside each statement. Please obtain all the appropriate signatures where necessary.

_____ I will maintain a good attendance record.

_____ I will attend all meetings required of my position and participate as a team member in the Merced Youth Council.

_____ I am aware that the members are the selected young leaders of the City and represent the youth in many community functions. The youth will model city policy. If there is evidence of a member not meeting the above standards, he or she may be dismissed from their position.

_____ I will share equally in all the duties of the Council, which include attending and actively participating in the committee.

School, Athletic, Work, Awards, Community Service, Organizations, Student Government and other activities. (Use separate sheet of paper if necessary.):

ACTIVITIES	9	10	11	12

I, the undersigned, swear that I will abide by the following Code of Conduct set forth by the Merced Youth Council. The following standards of eligibility, conduct, and responsibilities shall apply to all members during their term in office.

The term in office shall be for two years, beginning on the last day of the school and running for two years.

I. Behavior Standards:

A. As a member of the Merced Youth Council, I realize that my conduct must be beyond reproach at all times.

B. I will cooperate with all Youth Council members and help wherever help is needed.

C. I will not carry nor use chemical substances or stimulants, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, etc., at any time.

G. I will display good sportsmanship at all times and serve as an ambassador for the Youth Council.

H. I understand that if I am suspended from the school I attend or arrested, I may be suspended or removed permanently from my position as determined by the Youth Council.

I. I will maintain a satisfactory citizenship record.

J. Internet use – I will conduct myself above reproach when using the internet. I am representing the reputation of the City, school, parents, and community. I understand that pictures posted on the internet, whether by myself or on my friend’s pages could be under scrutiny and if I have any inappropriate pictures, I may be removed from office. These include, but are not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc.

K. Failure to comply with any of these rules may result in the immediate removal from office as determined by the Merced Youth Council.

II. Responsibilities of Office:

A. If selected I understand that I must make the Youth Council a priority while maintaining a balance in my academic, family and social life.

B. I understand that I will be required to assist with all Youth Council activities that are planned.

C. I understand that I will be expected to cooperate with my peers, and accept the will of the majority and what is in the best interest of the City and Youth.

D. I understand that I may be assigned tasks by the City Council.

E. Youth Council members are responsible for ALL assigned activities throughout the year.

F. Any Youth Council member who “drops out” of the Youth Council or is dismissed before the end of the term will not be eligible to apply for another position the following year.

G. I will keep in regular communication with my fellow Council members and City staff.

BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION, I ACKNOWLEDGE FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE ATTACHED TERMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. IF SELECTED I PROMISE TO HONOR THESE COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO MEET MY RESPONSIBILITIES MAY RESULT IN FORFEITING AND/OR REMOVAL OF MY POSITION AS A MERCED YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBER.

Signature:

NAME (print): _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

After reviewing the candidate packet and requirements of the Youth Council of the City of Merced, I give permission for my child to apply for a Youth Council position and serve in that capacity if selected. I realize it is an honor to be selected but there are several responsibilities and a huge commitment my child must uphold during his/her term in office. An effective Youth Council member requires time and effort spent outside of regular activities and at least 8 hours a month service will be expected. I will support and advise her/him to maintain academic eligibility and be a responsible role model as a youth leader of Merced. I understand that it is the duty of the Youth Council member to obtain transportation to meetings and functions.

I, _____, have read and understand the Youth Council

NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

Expectations and Procedures and understand that _____ is

NAME OF STUDENT

applying with my knowledge and consent.

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

Parent phone or email easiest to reach if needed _____

Please return the completed application to a Youth Council member or to

Merced City Parks and Recreation Department
Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th St.
Merced CA 95340

The Parks and Recreation Office is open at the Merced Civic Center from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Fridays.

Questions? Call 209-385-6855.

Answer the following questions. You may answer these on a separate sheet or on the next sheet.

1. Why are you applying for this position?

2. Why do you feel you are qualified for the Youth Council?

3. What positive influences will you have on the community next year?

4. What experience do you have that has prepared you for this position?

5. What does it mean to be a Leader?

TEACHER EVALUATION (two required if in school, one if not)

This information will remain confidential. Upon completion, please return to designated individual in the provided sealed envelope.

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

NAME OF TEACHER: _____

Please give this student a score from one to five on their overall performance in the following areas.

Promptness	1	2	3	4	5
Attendance	1	2	3	4	5
Responsibility	1	2	3	4	5
Dependability	1	2	3	4	5
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5
Attitude toward:					
Fellow students	1	2	3	4	5
Authority	1	2	3	4	5

Overall score: _____/35

Please answer the following questions:

1. Conduct: ___Excellent ___Average ___Poor
2. Comes to class prepared: ___Always ___Often ___Sometimes
3. Is this student a complainer? Yes ___ No ___
4. Does this student show a positive attitude in class? Yes ___ No ___
5. Would you recommend this student for a position on the Merced Youth Council?
Yes ___ No ___

ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

TEACHER SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

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5. Would you recommend this student for a position on the Merced Youth Council?
Yes ___ No ___

ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

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DATE: _____

