



## D.C. Student Leadership Opportunities

- Student Representatives – SBOE
  - Student Representatives to the D.C. State Board of Education act as a connection between the student population of the District of Columbia and educational policymakers. The two students selected for this position display leadership, are passionate about their role in their community and cherish the opportunity to be involved with the District of Columbia educational system. For more information, please contact [sboe@dc.gov](mailto:sboe@dc.gov).
  - Student Representatives are responsible for:
    - Attending and actively participating approximately six (6) hours per month at two (2) monthly scheduled meetings, which are usually on Wednesday evening;
    - Participating and exchanging on current activities (Public Meetings, Public Hearings, Working Sessions, webinars, community engagement opportunities, etc.);
    - Serving as a student representative for a full school year with the position available upon reapplication annually; and
    - Having effective communication skills and promoting a teamwork environment.
- Student Advisory Committee – SBOE
  - The D.C. State Board of Education's Student Advisory Committee is a voice for all students in the District of Columbia and a communication link between the State Board and other education decision-makers and students. Committee members will also engage in service-learning projects that will help them develop their leadership skills.
  - The Student Advisory Committee will meet at least four (4) times a year and will also conduct student forums throughout the District. The SBOE's Student Representatives co-chair the SAC and the SAC is comprised of 17 students: 5 students from the most populous DCPS high schools, 5 students from the most populous charter high schools, and 5 students from other DC schools.
  - For more information on the SBOE's Student Advisory Committee, please visit [www.sboe.dc.gov](http://www.sboe.dc.gov).
- PCSB Student Advisory Council
  - Student Advisory Council members are advocates and ambassadors of their schools. As leaders of their community, they are invited to speak at community meetings, council. And other special PCSB events to represent charter schools and students in DC.
  - The Student Advisory Council will be comprised of current DC charter students



and will meet on a monthly basis to offer insights, personal experiences, and feedback to the Public Charter School Board. For more information, contact Sara Maldonado at [smaldonado@dcpcsb.org](mailto:smaldonado@dcpcsb.org).

- Youth Advisory Council – Mayor
  - Membership with the DCYAC is a unique opportunity for youth, ages 13-22, to influence policies and programs in the District of Columbia that impact youth. Members of the DCYAC serve the youth of the District of Columbia by representing their ideas and concerns regarding various issues to the Mayor, Council of the District of Columbia, and other leaders and officials. In doing so, members gain valuable experience, as well as personal and professional skills as they engage in:
    - Community organizing of DC youth;
    - Community service projects;
    - Collaboration with other youth and youth organizations; and
    - Special retreats, training, and seminars designed to enhance leadership, professional development, and life skills.
  - Youth selected to serve on the DCYAC must first successfully complete the DCYAC's Summer Enrichment Program before beginning their term of office. A typical term of office lasts from September through June. During a term of office, members are required to attend at least two DCYAC meetings per month, serve on committees, and perform other tasks as assigned. Members are also expected to attend community meetings and to keep District of Columbia youth informed of the DCYAC's activities, initiatives, and programming. Members of the DCYAC are required to attend 75 percent of the DCYAC's meetings. For more information, please contact [dcyac@dc.gov](mailto:dcyac@dc.gov).
- Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute
  - The Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute (MBYLI) was founded in 1979 as a year-round program to train District of Columbia youth in the concepts of leadership and self-development. The MBYLI training model emphasizes practical, hands-on experience and a holistic approach to developing leaders for the 21st century. Each year, 150 young people participate in the year-round program and 350 youth participate in the Summer Training Program. Thousands of DC youth have received leadership training to date.
  - Youth leaders are active in a variety of programs and special projects that allow them to demonstrate their acquired skills. These activities include:
    - MBYLI Youth Government - a replication of the District government
    - Overnight residential training on local college campuses and local camp sites
    - Serving as hosts to youth visiting the Nation's Capital from cities across the United States and from countries around the world.
    - Developing and publishing a MBYLI newsletter



- Hosting an annual public speaking competition for youth
  - Hosting an annual Community Awards Banquet
  - Performing community service work
  - Sponsoring issues forums with local government officials and prominent industry professionals
- Members of the Institute come from a wide cross-section of ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds, reflective of the general population of the city.  
 Leadership development training begins for members of the Institute at age 14, and generally concludes at age 17, when they are ready for college or other post-secondary opportunities. The Institute is strongly supported by its Alumni Association, an auxiliary group which meets regularly to generate support for the Institute. For more information, please visit  
<http://does.dc.gov/service/marion-barry-youth-leadership-institute>.
- Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE)
  - The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is comprised of 21 middle and high school students from across the District of Columbia. The mission of the YAC is to develop a cadre of young leaders with critical-thinking skills who will share their knowledge and expertise around adolescent health issues. The YAC meets every week to develop youth led projects and ensure the activities implemented are meeting the needs of young people in the District of Columbia. The YAC is sponsored by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education and is in collaboration with District of Columbia Public Schools.
  - For more information about the YAC please visit [The Healthy Youth Development Team](#) or contact us at [OSSE.HYDT@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.HYDT@dc.gov)
- YMCA Youth & Government
  - What would you do if you had the chance to lead Washington, DC? The YMCA DC Youth & Government program gives high school students like YOU the chance to see what it is like being the Mayor, a member of the City Council, or a member of the Board of Education, and speaking out on issues that matter to you.
  - During the fall, you will have the opportunity to meet with students from across the city at a one-day Youth Summit conference. At the Youth Summit, you will meet with community leaders, government officials, and discuss local issues that matter to you. In the spring, you will take part in the two-day Legislative Weekend conference, where you will present and debate bills on how you would improve the city if you were in charge. For more information, please visit [www.dcyag.org](http://www.dcyag.org).