

Application Process

Applicants must send in completed applications by the deadline. The application consists of brief answers regarding the applicant's desired goals for the Youth In Governance program and how it will advance their civic consciousness and leadership abilities, along with basic contact information and school information.



Applications Due
March 27th



To apply to be part of the
program, scan the
QR code!

The Calumet County Youth in Governance Program officially launched in Spring 2024. The Calumet County Youth in Governance Program's (YIG) goal is to get young people excited and engaged in county government! To meet this goal, youth are invited to join Calumet County committees and bring their voices to the table. By doing this, youth will get to develop valuable life skills such as leadership, communication, and networking skills, as well as grow in their knowledge of county government. This will foster the development of the next generation of youth leaders in Calumet County.

An EEO/AE employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



Youth in Governance
CALUMET COUNTY

**Grow in your leadership,
while helping your
community!**



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
CALUMET COUNTY



Program Participants



Ariana Holcomb
Brillion High School
Health & Human Services



Mckenna Maronn
Kaukauna High School
Health & Human Services



Katie Jones
Homeschool
Extension Education Committee

The requirements to participate in Youth in Governance are:

- Youth entering the program must be in high school during the 2026-2027 school year when applying and during their term.
- Youth must be a Calumet County resident.
- Must be able to attend the committee meetings, typically occurring once or twice a month and one County Board meeting.
- Stay up to date on committee business and read necessary material in advance in order to stay engaged in committee meetings.
- No more than 3 absences without notice.
- Youth must attend orientation held in May.
- Youth members will not be paid a stipend or mileage for attending meetings.

Program Structure

Each Calumet County youth representative serves a one-year term, from May to May, and is appointed to a county committee. Youth representatives learn about how county government works and how they can be involved in it. Committee meetings are run in a professional and organized way using Robert's Rules of Order (the rules many official meetings follow). Youth members are encouraged to share their ideas and perspectives and have a non-binding advisory vote, which means their vote is heard but does not make the final decision.

In addition to attending committee meetings, youth representatives also take part in Youth in Government (YIG) meetings. These meetings give youth time to connect with other youth representatives from across the county. Youth will have the opportunity to attend full county board meetings, along with some other statewide opportunities that connect with other YIG programs and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

"I like that I'm freely able to voice my opinion to my committee members. I like meeting with my members whenever we have meetings. The members treat me like an adult and this allows me to thrive."

-Program Participant

Top 5 Reasons to Participate in Youth in Government

1. **Make Your Voice Heard** - You get a real seat at the table in county government. Share your ideas, perspectives, and opinions on issues that affect your school, community, and future.
2. **Learn How Government Really Works** - This program gives you a behind-the-scenes look at how county decisions are made.
3. **Build Leadership and Life Skills** - Develop skills that matter —public speaking, teamwork, critical thinking, and professionalism.
4. **Connect With Other Motivated Youth** - Meet and work with other youth representatives from across the county who care about making a difference. Build friendships, networks, and connections with like-minded peers.
5. **Strengthen Your Resume and Future Opportunities** - Participation shows colleges, scholarships, and employers that you are involved, responsible, and committed to your community. It's a unique experience that helps you stand out.