

CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT



72ND MODEL LEGISLATURE & COURT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

California YMCA Youth & Government's Model Legislature & Court (MLC) is the state's premier youth leadership and civic development program since 1948. MLC provides a learn-by-doing experience that gives our high school students the opportunity to participate in programs emphasizing leadership and civic engagement.

PROGRAM STAFF VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for 21+ year old volunteers who are enthusiastic, positive, work well with youth, and possess strong facilitation/communication skills that want to invest in our youth to shape not only their lives but our society's future!

Volunteer Position Title: Program Staff Volunteer

Duties/Expectations: As a Program Staff Volunteer, under the guidance of your Lead Program Staff, you may be tasked with facilitating lessons and running simulations that teach the delegates about the democratic processes and current issues related to the state government. Furthermore, Program Staff Volunteers train delegates on the importance of civic engagement, empowering them to go home and make a change in their local communities. Additional tasks/duties vary depending on the program area you help with.

Benefits: Y&G covers housing at every conference, travel reimbursements, flights for the MLC Sac conference, as well as meals during the conference.

CONFERENCE DATES & LOCATIONS

TRAINING & ELECTIONS II - FRESNO: January 18th-20 th, 2020

MLC SAC - SACRAMENTO: February 13th-16th, 2020

To learn more about which programs are looking for staff, or want more details about the conferences, please contact Danielle Soba at danielle@calymca.org.

CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT VOLUNTEER OPENINGS

PROGRAM AREAS

These are the areas that make up and reflect the various sectors and departments of the California State Government. Within these program areas, delegates are discussing current state issues, practicing court cases, debating and writing bills, presenting proposals, and/or running for office.

BENCH TRIAL

The Bench Trial program gives delegates a chance to feel what it's like to actually be in a courtroom trying a case in front of a judge. Delegates are split into teams to argue a criminal case as either prosecuting or defense attorneys.

Need: 2 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Knowledge of the procedures/process of a bench trial

Commitment: T&E II & MLC Sac, To view the other Bench Trial volunteer opportunities, please go to [BIT.LY/VOLJUDGE](https://bit.ly/voljudge)

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Delegates in the Constitutional Convention program create and adopt a new California Constitution from scratch with their fellow delegates. Delegates can propose language to be added to the document via a unique debate structure that facilitates fast-paced and direct discussion. At the end of MLC Sacramento, delegates sign the approved constitution in a special ceremony.

Need: 2 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Basic knowledge about the state constitution is ideal, strong facilitator, possess strong writing & public speaking skills, flexible, good memory, basic tech skills

Commitment: T&E II & MLC Sac

FORUM

Forum is specifically designed to introduce new freshman delegates to the legislative process, how to write bills, and basic debating skills. You will oversee one group of freshmen, choosing from the following roles: bill sponsors, chairpersons, lobbyists, chaplains, clerks, legislative analysts, courts, and media. The roles vary in duties, but they all support their Forum committees, which are designed to draft a piece of model legislation specific to their topic.

Need: 3 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Positive attitude, strong communication skills, team player, flexible, willing to lead training sessions, patience, strong public speaking skills, youth development background is ideal, background knowledge in California legislative process

Commitment: All three conferences: T&E I, T&E II, & MLC Sac

FORUM COURT

Forum Court is one of the roles within the Forum program and provides freshmen high school students with an introduction to the Court programs within MLC. Delegates are provided with a fictional court case and assume the role of an attorney or justice in a judicial simulation at the end of the conference. The program is a "moot court" trial simulation (attorneys present to justices, not a jury).

Need: 1-2 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Same as Forum*, knowledge of appellate court process, interest in legal research & analysis, strong public speaker, works well with kids, strong facilitator

Commitment: All three conferences: T&E I, T&E II, & MLC Sac

LEGISLATIVE HOUSES

Delegates in the Legislative Houses program debate bills in committees and in-house chambers as the bills go through the legislative process. Delegates will be assigned to either Assembly or Senate by the program.

Need: Looking for Program Staff Volunteers & One-Day Volunteers

Skills: Oversee/facilitate committees made up of delegates, assist with supervision, knowledge on the legislative/bill process & state government desired

Commitment: Varies, To see the Legislative House volunteer opportunities, please go to [BIT.LY/LEGHOUSE](https://bit.ly/leghouse)

CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT VOLUNTEER OPENINGS CONTINUED

LOBBYISTS

Delegates in the Lobbyist program are separated into Political Action Committees and assigned legislation to speak for or against in the legislative committees. PACs also write initiatives and seek delegate support to get initiatives on the ballot.

Need: 1 Program Staff Volunteer (must commit for both T&E II & MLC Sac)

Skills: Possess training experience on legislative/bill process, public speaking, or writing & advocacy background preferred

Commitment: * T&E II and MLC Sac

MEDIA

Delegates in the Media program produce written news articles, social media posts, and a broadcast news program covering the activities of the Model Legislature & Court conferences. Delegates create and produce their own content within formed news teams where each team focuses on a specific aspect of the MLC program.

Need: 5 Program Staff Volunteers (T&E II & MLC Sac only)

Skills: Media &/or journalism experience desired, prior teaching experience ideal, strong writing, photography, videography, photo-editing skills, AV/tech experience ideal, enthusiasm for civic engagement & media

Commitment: T&E II & MLC Sac

SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court is an advanced version of the Appellate Court program. Delegates serve as either justices or attorneys. Attorneys present an oral argument about a decision made by a lower court to a panel of justices, who will determine whether the lower court committed a legal error in their handling of the case.

Need: 1 Program Staff Volunteer

Skills: Knowledge of the appellate process/standards & a legal background preferred, work well with youth, facilitator

Commitment: T&E II & MLC Sac



VOLUNTEER OPENINGS (SUPPORT AREAS)

SUPPORT (NON-PROGRAM) AREAS

These are the teams that help ensure everything behind the scenes of our conference goes smoothly. This includes our safety/first aid teams, logistics, production services, & tech support. These groups are a part of the conference service staff who might have limited exposure to delegates but are extremely fundamental for a successful conference.

EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT

The Risk and Emergency Management team work in partnership with the Safety & Wellness Advisors to ensure the safety of all program participants by providing oversight, support, and enforcement of the conference risk management, emergency preparedness, and overall safety. The team serves as the primary response and planning group for emergencies or disasters that may occur during conferences. Additionally, the team serves in direct support of the SWA team through street, hotel, and conference facility patrols, enforcement of the code of conduct, and other support as requested.

Need: 3 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Problem solver, analytical, detail-oriented, vigilant, risk management background highly recommended. Knowledge of basic First Aid skills is ideal, be able to stand/walk for long periods of time, strong communication and listening skills

Commitment: All three conferences: T&E I, T&E II, & MLC Sac

FIRST AID

This team provides a high level of first aid coverage like minor treatment, emergency response, and any other medical issues that is available for Y&G participants every conference. They also support our other safety and risk teams like Emergency Risk Management and Safety & Wellness Advisors.

Need: 2 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Knowledge on basic First Aid skills highly recommended, adaptable/flexible, calm under pressure/patient, counseling background specializing in youth desired

Commitment: T&E I and MLC Sac

CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT VOLUNTEER OPENINGS CONTINUED (SUPPORT AREAS)

IT SERVICES

IT services serves as an expansion of the logistic team where the main priority is tech support. IT staff is responsible for helping solve computer problems, whether minor troubleshooting, application problems, or issues with the network. Strong technical support preferred but not required. This position can be trained.

Need: 2 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Ability to analyze technical issues, familiarity with basic computer systems/software preferred

Commitment: All three conferences: T&E I, T&E II, & MLC Sac

LOGISTICS

Logistic staff is responsible mainly for set up/preparation and take down of our conferences (with some tasks throughout the conference). Tasks include unloading/loading a trailer, setting up tech/audiovisual equipment, and distributing supplies to rooms throughout various facilities. Logistic staff are dedicated to getting the job done to ensure that Y&G participants have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Need: 5 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Able to lift 40 lbs, able to walk around for long periods of time, problem-solvers, able to work independently and as a team, flexible/adaptable, good work ethic and a sense of humor

SAFETY & WELLNESS ADVISORS (SWA)

The SWA team (with the First Aid and Risk Management team) primary functions are to help assist the implementation of the overall safety for all Y&G participants. SWA provide day to day supervision at conferences for delegates. The SWA team patrols their assigned area and help prevent delegates from going outside the pre-marked "boundaries." SWAs are also placed at every hotel throughout conference to provide extra safety support for delegations. All members are responsible for the compliance and enforcement of Y&G's policies.

Need: 8 Program Staff Volunteers

Skills: Be able to stand/walk for long periods of time, must be present for the entire length of the conference, strong leadership skills, counseling background specializing in youth desired, strong communication and listening skills, training on conflict resolution highly desired, CPR/First Aid training a plus

Commitment: All three conferences: T&E I, T&E II, & MLC Sac

If you will like to learn more about these volunteer opportunities, please visit us at www.calymca.org or contact Danielle at danielle@calymca.org

