



**YOUTH  
COUNCIL**

Maricopa, Arizona

CITY OF MARICOPA | YOUTH COUNCIL

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Youth Council Applicant,

Attached you will find an application for the City of Maricopa's Youth Council. We would like anyone between the ages of 13-18 to apply for this great opportunity! Youth Council members learn about city government, develop leadership skills, and participate in various programs and city events. It goes without saying that young people are the future of our communities. Therefore, it is important that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to be the next generation of local leaders. It also looks great on college applications! For a better understanding, please read through the City of Maricopa Youth Council By-Laws.

We would love to have you be a part of this amazing opportunity! Youth Council applications can be emailed to Recreation Services Specialist Rebecca Bennett at [rebecca.bennett@maricopa-az.gov](mailto:rebecca.bennett@maricopa-az.gov) or dropped off at Copper Sky Multigenerational Center. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca Bennett*

Youth, Teen, & Enrichment

Recreation Services Specialist

City of Maricopa

(520) 316-4603

[rebecca.bennett@maricopa-az.gov](mailto:rebecca.bennett@maricopa-az.gov)

## City of Maricopa Youth Council Application

The vision for the City of Maricopa Youth Council is to empower caring youth dedicated to personal development and leadership. If you are interested in applying for membership to the council, please complete the following application. Applicants must be a resident of the city or surrounding areas and be of age 13 through 18 (still in high school). Please type or print clearly in blue or black ink. You may attach additional sheets if necessary: ALL information must be completed in order to be considered for the City of Maricopa Youth Council. Youth Council members must be able to adhere to the attendance requirements for the bi-monthly meetings.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The City of Maricopa does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, sex, creed, national origin or disability. It is requested to facilitate the City of Maricopa goal of assembling a diverse group and possible federal grant opportunities. Omitting this information will not affect your application.

(Optional)

Race or ethnic group:

American Indian  African American  Asian

White  Middle Eastern  Hispanic

Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Female  Male      Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Were you asked to apply for this position? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to serve as a member of the Maricopa Youth Council? (Please feel free to add a sheet of paper; 300 – 500 word limit)

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What are the three most important issues to you concerning your neighborhood, school and / or community?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

In what ways can the Youth Council benefit the City of Maricopa and the community?

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Please list any other activities you will be involved in during the school year. Include employment, sports, community, school and religious groups.

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What personal skills and characteristics do you possess that would make you a good representative?

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If you could bring one thing to this City or change one thing, what would it be?

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Are you willing to attend the meetings, events and activities of the Youth Council for one year and commit to making a difference in our city?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please list two adult references (non-relatives) with phone numbers. We require one of the references to be from school-based personnel and the other from a community member that knows you.

1. Name of reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name of reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the commitment required for the City of Maricopa Youth Council. I also realize the importance of teamwork and cooperation and I am willing to make this commitment.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Legal Guardian Permission:**

I give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to seek the position of representative on the City of Maricopa Youth Council.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Cell number: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline to Apply: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return:**

**By email and/or return to Copper Sky Recreation Complex**

**44345 M.L.K Jr. Blvd,**

**Maricopa, AZ 85138**

## Oath of Office for Youth Council Members

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support, uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, and the laws thereof; that I will support, uphold and defend the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona, not inconsistent therewith, that I will observe and obey the laws and ordinances of the City of Maricopa, Arizona; that I will faithfully perform and discharge the duties incumbent upon me as member of the City of Maricopa Youth Council fairly and honestly and to the best of my skill and ability so help me GOD.

City of Maricopa Youth Council Member

This is the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

## City of Maricopa Youth Council By-Laws

### *ARTICLE I*

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

##### **Section 1 – Representation**

The City of Maricopa Youth Council shall seek in its membership a diverse representation of the community. All local high school students as well as students attending schools outside the city limits may be actively recruited.

##### **Section 2 – Goals and Purposes**

The Youth Council will serve as a link between the youth of the City of Maricopa, the greater community and the City Council. They will be responsible for teen interaction and communication between youth and adults to improve the opportunities to increase teen activities, engagement and enhance leadership skills among teens in Maricopa.

##### **Section 3 – Membership Qualifications**

All members must live within the city limits of the City of Maricopa, the city of Maricopa planning area, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community and must be between age 13 through 18. Members shall have at least a 2.00 GPA.

##### **Section 4 – Term Limits**

A successful term would be would be one year, but students may stay on the council until graduating high school or they reach 19 years old.

##### **Section 5 – Orientation**

Members of the City of Maricopa Youth Council will be required to attend a mandatory orientation/training meeting once they have been appointed to the group.

##### **Section 6 – Conduct**

Each member of the City of Maricopa Youth Council must conduct himself or herself in a positive, friendly and law-abiding manner at all times. There will be no smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages or using illegal drugs by any member of the Youth Council. Such behavior will not be tolerated and is ground for dismissal from the Youth Council.



## **ARTICLE II**

### **OFFICES**

#### **Section 1 – Offices**

The Youth Coordinator shall serve as temporary chair for purposes of presiding over the election of the City of Maricopa Youth Chairperson. City of Maricopa Youth Council shall elect from its members a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary.

The candidate receiving a majority vote of the City of Maricopa Youth Council members is elected.

#### **Section 2 – Officer Duties**

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

- a. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the City of Maricopa Youth Council and shall be in charged with the administration of the affairs of the Youth Council with assistance from the Community Services Department. The Chairperson shall perform such other duties as provided by these by-laws.
- b. The duties of the Vice Chair shall be to perform the duties and exercise the power of the Chair during the absence or by request of the Chair. Vice chair shall attend all meetings of the City of Maricopa Youth Council.
- c. The Secretary shall take meeting notes. The Secretary shall conduct the roll call at the start of the meeting. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the City of Maricopa Youth Council and perform the duties and exercise the power of the Chair during the absence of both the Chair and the Vice Chair.
- d. The Chairperson, Vice Chair and Secretary are required to participate in all City of Maricopa Events.

#### **Section 3 – Election of Officers**

The officers of the Youth Council shall be elected annually. The officers of the Youth Council shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting Youth Council members present.

#### **Section 4 – Term of Officers**

The term of all officers shall be for one year; however, that all officers shall continue to hold office until their successors are elected. Officers of the City of Maricopa Youth Council shall be elected at the second Youth Council meeting each year.

#### **Section 5 – Vacancies of Officers**

Should a vacancy occur in an office of the City of Maricopa Youth Council by resignation, removal or by some other reason, the office shall be filled by an election for the vacant office at the next regular meeting of the City of Maricopa Youth Council.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **MEETINGS**

#### **Section 1 – Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of the City of Maricopa Youth Council shall be held at least twice a month at a day and time set by Youth Council Coordinator. The principal meeting place of the Youth Council will be at the Maricopa Library and Cultural Center.

#### **Section 2 – Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called upon the request of the Chairperson and approval of the Youth Council Coordinator. Request for special meetings shall be sent via electronic mail, or by telephone, to the office of the City Clerk at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting. This request shall include the reason or reasons for requesting the special meeting. The Youth Coordinator shall notify every member of the Youth Council via electronic mail or by telephone. Subjects other than those stated in the notice shall be considered at the special meeting.

#### **Section 3 – Voting**

The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present shall be necessary to adopt a recommendation to be forwarded to the City of Maricopa City Council for review and/or possible action.

#### **Section 4 – Order of Business**

The Chairperson of the Youth Council shall, when present, call the members of the Youth Council to order. Before proceedings to business, the roll of the members shall be called, and the names of those present (and absent) entered in the minutes. The order of the business shall be:

- a. Pledge of allegiance.
- b. Roll call. (Secretary)
- c. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.
- d. Matters for consideration.
- f. Adjournment.

#### **Section 5 – Conduct of Members**

No member of the Youth Council shall interfere with the orderly progress of the meeting by leaving his or her seat or engaging in unnecessary conversation. Any member responsible for any unprofessional conduct will be excused from the rest of the meeting and reported to the Youth Coordinator. As a result of three excuses the member will be terminated. A student may lose eligibility under the Conduct of Members for any of the following behaviors but not limited to:

- Possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products;
- Possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine (“use” included having the odor of alcohol on one’s breath);

- Possession, use, or purchase of illegal drugs or the unauthorized possession, use, or purchase of otherwise lawful drugs;
- Engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses, regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act(s);
- Inappropriate or offensive conduct such as fighting, hazing or harassment of others, or insubordination - talking back or refusing to cooperate with staff to the point that a City of Maricopa staff member is involved at the scene or law enforcement is called to deal with the situation.
- Posting inappropriate or offensive material on a social media website (i.e. MySpace, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, etc.) that would be accessible to the general public.

### **Section 6 – Attendance**

Attendance at regular Youth Council meetings is expected from all members. Coming to meetings on time is also expected. If a member cannot attend due to sickness or for a duly authorized reason like a previous commitment, the member shall notify the Youth Coordinator who shall notify the Chair of the City of Maricopa Youth Council. Any member who fails to appear and answer to his or her name when the roll is called at any regular meeting or special meeting shall be recorded as absent (excused or unexcused). Any member of the City of Maricopa Youth Council who has missed 75% of required meetings and 50% of sanctioned events (excused or unexcused) shall be reported back to the Youth Council Coordinator.

## ***ARTICLE IV***

### **ROLE OF THE CITY OF MARICOPA CITY COUNCIL**

#### **Section 1 – Role of City Council**

The City of Maricopa City Council shall receive recommendations from the City of Maricopa Youth Council. The City of Maricopa City Council shall provide support staff to the City of Maricopa Youth Council to assist them in carrying out their duties. The City Council shall communicate upcoming issues to the City of Maricopa Youth Council so they may respond accordingly. City of Maricopa City Council preserves the right to amend or disband the Youth Council at any time.

## ***ARTICLE VI***

### **BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 1 – By-Laws and Amendments**

The by-laws of the Youth Council shall be reviewed once each year.

## *ARTICLE VI*

### Rewards and Recognition

#### Section 1 – Rewards and Recognition

The Maricopa City Council will reserve the right to determine an appropriate method for recognizing successful participation in the Maricopa Youth Council. A decision will be made at the end of each appointee’s annual term to determine how they will be recognized for their hard work and dedication. Representatives of the Community Services Department will work to determine proper recognition that aligns with all current City policies and procedures. All members will receive a Certificate of Completion and Recommendation Letter from the Youth Council Coordinator.

### City of Maricopa Youth Council Mission Statement

“Empowered and engaged young adults and teens working with a connected community to discover their passions and create memories while engaging in excellent recreation, library, and event services.”