

Application Scholarship Parent/Guardian Permission

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2026 Youth Leadership Academy Application

APAICS Youth Leadership Academy

The APAICS Youth Leadership Academy program (YLA), in partnership with the Close Up Foundation, is a week-long leadership development and enrichment program geared towards high school students. The program provides students the opportunity to learn more about government, public policy, and the issues impacting the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community with peers from across the country while using Washington, D.C., as a classroom.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore Washington D.C., and participate in a mock Congress to learn firsthand what roles they can play in the American political system. Students will also have the chance to meet with AA & NH/PI leaders working in the White House and in Congress.

2026 Key Dates

Program: June 21 - 26, 2026

Application Deadline: March 27, 2026, 11:59PM (ET)

Eligibility Requirements

Participants for the 2026 Youth Leadership Academy must be currently enrolled high school students for the 2026-2027 academic year. Those who graduate from high school before the YLA program dates are not eligible. International students enrolled at a U.S. high school on F-1 or J-1 visas are not eligible.

Fees and Financial Aid

Tuition is \$1,717.00 plus the cost of flight to/from Washington, D.C., to participate. This tuition covers the cost of entrance fees, hotel accommodations, all meals, and programming.

A limited number of scholarships are available to students whose families demonstrate financial need. Please complete the "Scholarship Information" section to be considered for a scholarship.