



WHY YOUTH IN GOVERNANCE?

Youth leadership development is critical in building civic capacity and long-term community sustainability in Eau Claire County. Programs that teach useful skills and build the self-confidence of young people ensure capable, effective leaders for the next generation. In addition, recent national trends including an increase in youth civic service and new emphasis on civic education in schools indicate a growing need for leadership training to ensure young people are prepared to participate in political and civic life.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Youth in Governance (YIG) program is to create a model of youth empowerment within Eau Claire County, through direct participation in local government. The overall goal is to bring the youth voice to community issues and concerns while fostering the development of confident, independent, and motivated youth leaders. Youth participating in Youth in Governance will be selected to sit on each of nine Eau Claire County Board Committees:

Committee on Administration

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the offices of the County Administrator, Corporation Counsel, Information Systems, Maintenance, Purchasing and Veterans Service. In addition, the committee shall have the following specific duties: oversee the administration of all county insurance matters; examine and settle on behalf of the county all insured claims and causes of action against the county; develop and administer policies for the operation of the county board office, staff, board chambers and committee rooms; act as the general coordination committee of the county board; oversee the management of general county business and resolve county board jurisdictional conflicts not under the jurisdiction of another committee or government body; advise the chair of the board on all appointments and to be made to boards, councils, commissions, committees, or offices where appointment is vested in the chair by law, ordinance or resolution; advise the board on calendar changes and enforce standards for the disbursement of aid to needed veterans by the veterans' service office under the supervision of the veterans service commission.

Committee on Finance & Budget

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the City-County Board of Health, County Treasurer, County Clerk and Finance Department. In addition, the committee will examine and settle all claims, demands or causes of action against the county; exercise control over all non-tax deeded land acquired by the county through any of its departments, agencies, officials and employees; examine and settle all accounts, invoices and expenditure of the county.

Committee on Human Resources

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the Human Resources Department. In addition the committee shall act as the collective bargaining representative of the county board and shall oversee the human resources director; shall act as the grievance committee under the affirmative action plan and administer the civil service responsibilities for deputy Sheriff's.

Committee on Judiciary & Law Enforcement

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the Sheriff's Department; the offices of the District Attorney, Clerk of Courts, County Medical Examiner, Register in Probate, Children's Court Services, Family Court commissioner, secure and non-secure juvenile facilities, Criminal Justice Collaborating Council and law library. In addition the committee shall advise the board on all matters pertaining to criminal justice, public safety the emergency communications and telephone numbers system and ordinance.

Committee on Parks and Forest

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the Parks and Forest Department and of all county parks, parkways, waysides, special use areas, the Exposition Center including county owned lands and facilities and the county forest. In addition the committee the powers and duties to: make reservations and acquisitions of land and improvements; to enter into agreements for timber sales from the county forest; insure that the parks & forest director utilizes concepts of multiple-use management; take options for purchase of lands in the county for authorized parks or forest purposes; appoint advisory committees for the Parks & Forest department and Exposition Center.

Committee on Planning & Development

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the Department of Planning and Development and Register of Deeds. The committee shall also: oversee the administration authorized department functions; oversee enforcement county code; recommend approval of the annual county surveying program; act as the board liaison with and act on matter pertaining to West Center WI Regional Planning Commission; report all matters relating to town boundaries, municipal annexation studies and amendments; oversee county industrial development planning and promotion matters; oversee or report on county library service matter and oversee the county recycling program.

Committee on UW-Extension Education

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the UW-Extension department and the Eau Claire County Fair Committee and county 4-H Youth Program.

Highway Committee

The committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the county Highway Department. In addition the committee shall oversee the construction and maintenance of all county trunk roads and bridges; report to the board on all matters under the jurisdiction of the department including highways, county highway speed limits and traffic control devices.

Human Services Board

A policy making board known as the County Human Services Board shall have charge of the integrated Human Services program. The Board shall be subject to the following purpose: improvement of the social condition and mental health of residents of the county; improvement of accessibility, acceptability continuity and quality of the program; restraint of increases in the cost of the total human services program; prevention of unnecessary duplication of services and facilities.

LENGTH OF TERM

Youth members will serve a one-year term (September 1 to August 31). There are no term limits, but returning members must re-apply.

MEMBERSHIP

The YIG program consists of youth members from Eau Claire County. No more than two youth members will serve on a committee. The requirements to participate in the YIG program are:

- Must be a high school student in 10th or 11th grade
- Must have a GPA of 2.5 or greater
- Must be an Eau Claire County resident
- Must be able to attend the monthly meetings of their committee
- Must attend at least one Eau Claire County Board meeting during their term
- Must be able to attend additional committee meetings that are combined with other committees

Committee meetings are held in a professional, formal manner, based on Robert's Rules of Order. Each youth member will have a non-binding advisory vote on the committee. The youth members will be included in all open session discussions and votes at the committee level; however, they will not be provided an opportunity for participation in the debate on the county board floor. Youth members will not be paid a stipend or mileage for attending meetings.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Prospective youth members will be required to submit a written application and recommendation. The application consists of basic contact information, school, GPA, and short answer questions about their intended objectives for the YIG program and how the program will increase their civic awareness and leadership skills. The Eau Claire County UW-Extension Education Committee will interview selected youth applicants and make final recommendations to the Eau Claire County Board Chairman for official appointment.

MENTORS

One adult member from each of the committees will serve as a mentor to the YIG youth committee member(s). The mentor's role is to offer support and guidance to YIG youth member throughout their tenure on the committee.

RECOGNITION

YIG members who complete the program will be recognized for their contributions at an Eau Claire County Board meeting in August. The Eau Claire County UW-Extension Education Committee will recognize both youth and mentors by hosting a reception and provide YIG members a certificate of appreciation.

Eau Claire County Youth in Governance

Eau Claire County UW-Extension
227 1st Street West
Altoona, WI 54720
715-839-4712
<http://eauclaire.uwex.edu/>

Eau Claire County Youth in Governance is a program of Eau Claire County UW-Extension in partnership with the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors.

University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.

Eau Claire County Youth in Governance

227 1st Street West

Altoona, WI 54720

715-839-4712

(FAX) 715-839-6277

APPLICATION

Please hand write (print) this form. NO typing or additional sheets allowed.

Last Name: _____ First: _____ M.I. _____

Street Address: _____

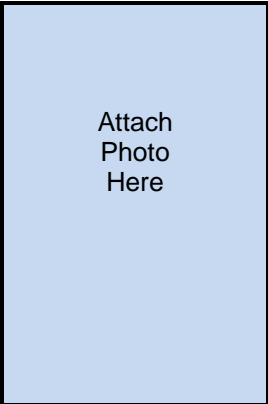
City _____ Zip: _____ Gender: M F

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ GPA (4.0 Scale) _____

Ethnicity (circle one): 1) Hispanic 2) Non Hispanic

Race (circle one):	1) White	2) Black	3) Alaskan/Am. Ind.
	4) Asian	5) Hawaiian/Pac. Island	6) White & Black
	7) White & Alaskan/Am, Ind.	8) Black & Alaskan/Am. Ind.	9) White & Asian
	10) Other _____		



1. Why are you interested in participating in Youth in Governance?

2. Rank your interest in Eau Claire County Board Committees – 1st (first choice) – 2nd (second choice). *For more information about Eau Claire County Board Committees please visit: <http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/>*

_____ Committee on UW-Extension _____ Committee on Judiciary & Law Enforcement

3. What qualities do you possess that would benefit the Eau Claire County Board Committee you serve on?

4. How would you benefit from serving on an Eau Claire County Board Committee?

5. How would the Eau Claire County Board and the community benefit from your representation on an Eau Claire County Board Committee?

6. Please note any leadership positions you have held.

7. Who is your Eau Claire County Board Supervisor? _____

For more information about the Eau Claire County Board please visit: <http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/>

8. If selected, will you be able to serve for one year and commit your time and energy to this important role?

_____ Yes _____ No

9. Is there any information you would like to add?

_____ Yes _____ No I grant the University of WI Board of Regents and University of Wisconsin Extension (hereinafter UW-Extension), the right to use, publish, and copyright my child's image (including audio, moving image or photograph) for educational programs, website, and promotion of UW-Extension programs. UW-Extension adheres to all Federal and State laws associated with this use.

I **do not** want UW-Extension to reveal my child's name, address, or telephone number as part of a public record or list.

I want UW-Extension to be aware of the following disability: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I, Parent/Guardian (Print Name): _____ acknowledge that youth participating in Youth in Governance will complete an evaluation of the program.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

**PLEASE SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM AND REFERENCE FORM
BY MAY 1, 2015, TO:**

Eau Claire County Youth in Governance
UW-Extension Eau Claire County, 227 1st Street West, Altoona, WI 54720
Fax to 715-839-6277 or email to sara.donnerbauer@ces.uwex.edu

REFERENCE FORM

(Completed by an ADULT who will serve as reference for you)

**THIS FORM IS TO BE RETURNED TO THE CANDIDATE IN A SEALED ENVELOPE
FOR SUBMISSION ALONG WITH THEIR APPLICATION.**

Name of Youth Applicant: _____

As part of the process for selecting youth representatives on various Eau Claire County Board Committees, the Selection Committee is seeking recommendation and information for each candidate. Please provide us your input regarding the following areas:

	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>
• Leadership qualities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Maturity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Interest in service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Responsibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Positive attitude	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please provide additional comments in the space below:

Print Your Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Phone#: _____

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THANK YOU!