



# YMCA JUNIOR PARLIAMENT

## South Australia



- ☐ Debate issues important to the Youth of South Australia
- ☐ Develop leadership and personal skills
- ☐ Learn how to make change in your community

*Empowering the young leaders of now and the future to advocate for change.*

# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

YMCA South Australia Junior Parliament is a non-partisan program that empowers young people to be advocates for their community.

Junior Parliament provides a forum for young South Australians to express their views in a safe and supported environment. It's all about personal development, youth empowerment and connecting politicians and decision makers with youth voices and opinions.

Your role as a Junior Parliamentarian is a privilege – you will use your voice to represent young people across the State. Use it wisely.

Junior Parliamentarians will learn about one way of enacting change; through Parliamentary process. They will learn how legislation comes into affect, and the process of going from an idea, to a written bill, to a law. They will also develop their public speaking and teamwork skills.

Best of all, Junior Parliamentarians will join other young South Australians who want to learn more about creating positive and effective change in their community.

We can't wait to see the range of issues chosen by young people to be debated in the chambers of the Junior Parliament!

This booklet outlines the Junior Parliament journey for 2023.

# WHAT HAPPENS AT JUNIOR PARLIAMENT?



At Junior Parliament, you will learn about a common way of enacting change; the Parliamentary Process. You will also have the opportunity to develop your public speaking and debating skills, and build your confidence.

Junior Parliamentarians are allocated into teams and work together to write a Youth Bill, and set personal goals to work towards!

Junior Parliament is a platform for young South Australians like yourself to *Make Your Mark* on issues and topics that matter to you. The program brings together young leaders from across the State. Youth are part of a passionate group of people and by collaborating and working together, you can make a big difference in the South Australia community.



Junior Parliament is an opportunity to engage with the wider South Australian public. At Junior Parliament 2023, you will have the opportunity and support to advocate for your Youth Bill or Motion topic in the community.

# WHAT IS A YOUTH BILL?

Junior Parliamentarians work together to write a Youth Bill on a topic of importance. These Youth Bills are debated in a Parliament House setting and final copies are presented to the Minister for Youth for the Government's consideration.

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## What can you write a bill about?

In South Australia, the Government is responsible for making laws in relation to and delivering services in the following areas;

- Health
- State Roads
- Public Transport
- Public Works
- Primary and Secondary Education
- State Courts
- Public Service
- State Taxation
- Emergency Services
- Police and Correctional Services
- River Murray
- Environment and Conservation
- Arts
- Volunteers
- Mineral Resources
- Agriculture
- Food and Fisheries
- Consumer and Business Affairs
- Multicultural Affairs
- Youth
- Housing
- Social Justice
- Tourism
- Trade
- Science and IT
- Employment and Training
- Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation
- Gambling and Racing
- Recreation and Sport
- Higher Education - TAFE

# PROGRAM TIMELINE

## **APPLICATIONS**

Applications open on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023. Applications are set to close on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## **PARTICIPANTS NOTIFIED**

Successful applicants will be notified by Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023. Invoices for participation fee will be sent out the following week.

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## **3-DAY RESIDENTIAL CAMP**

**9<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**COMPULSORY (MUST ATTEND)**

### **TRAINING DAY – 9<sup>TH</sup> October 2023**

The first day of camp is where you will learn all about Parliament, bill and motion writing, public speaking and more! In addition to equipping you with the technical skills and know-how, the Training Day also focuses on soft skills; personal development and team building.

### **PARLIAMENT DAY – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

This is it. The cord of the program which includes a formal opening and closing ceremony, debating issues of importance in the House of Assembly chambers of the Junior Parliament.

### **RECREATION DAY – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

The last day of the camp is all about fun! This is the day you get to rest and enjoy yourself with some fun activities before you go home!

*Do we stay overnight?* Yes, Junior Parliament is a residential camp.

***Please note: The residential camp is compulsory to attend.***

# ESSENTIAL DATES & INFORMATION.

## *When do applications close?*

Applications are set to close on Sunday, **17<sup>th</sup> September 2023**.

## *Once accepted, when will the Code of Conduct form be due?*

The forms will need to be returned by Friday, **6<sup>th</sup> October 2023**.

## *Once accepted, when will the program fees be due?*

Once you have received your invoice, payment of fees will need to be received before Friday, **6<sup>th</sup> October 2023** (unless otherwise negotiated).

## *I'm from a regional area, can I participate?*

Of course!

# YMCA SA JUNIOR PARLIAMENT

#JP23

*Make Your Mark.*

Don't forget to follow us on our **socials!**



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Resources available on the website:

<https://www.sa.ymca.org.au/what-we-do/youth-empowerment/junior-parliament>

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