



California Youth and Government
“Democracy Must Be Learned by Each Generation”
www.calymca.org

California Youth and Government is a program in which 2,500 high school students create a model legislature and court to learn about our government in an interactive way. This student-run program is one of the only programs in the state that gives students this opportunity.

Meetings- Our delegation represents the Central Coast and is open to students from all high schools in the area. We meet once a week on a day that is best for the majority of our members. During our meetings, we discuss ideas for our bill, practice delivering speeches and prepare for our trips to Camp Roberts and Sacramento. Meetings usually last one hour and take place in the Youth Center of the YMCA. They are lead by our president, Annie Ryan, and supervised by our advisor, Abraham Rosas.

Camp Roberts- Delegations meet at Camp Roberts for a weekend in November and a weekend in January. The purpose of these trips is to prepare delegates for their roles in Sacramento. Elections for leadership positions on the state level also take place at Camp Roberts. Youth and Government is completely student-run, so all meetings are led by other delegates and supervised by advisors of the delegations.

Sacramento- Our trip to Sacramento is the main purpose of Youth and Government. While in Sacramento, delegates will learn about government while passing bills, creating proposals, and debating ideas about current issues. Sessions are held in the Capitol Building and in the Convention Center. As with Camp Roberts, all meeting are lead by delegates and supervised by advisors. All delegates wear business attire while in Sacramento.

Cost- The cost to participate in Youth and Government is approximately \$800.00-\$1,000.00. The payment covers transportation, most food expenses, lodging, and conference fees.

Fundraising- To help reduce the cost to our members, our delegation will have fundraisers. Any delegate who participates in the fundraiser will receive a portion of the profit. We will also be soliciting support from any businesses who wish to support us.

For more information- Contact Abraham Rosas, Youth Development Director, Salinas YMCA, at (831) 758-3811 or arosas@ymcacentralcoast.org.