

YWCA Princeton NEXT GEN Board Application

Building the NEXT generation of women

YWCA Princeton is on a mission! In our mission to empower women, we offer an incredible opportunity to prepare young women to become the NEXT generation of leaders.

Our NEXT GEN Board engages a diverse group of women, ages 21-34, in peer-relevant mission work to end racism and empower women; all while learning the responsibilities of a non-profit board, developing professional skills, building self-confidence, honing financial literacy, and becoming community leaders.

NEXT GEN Board

The YWCA Princeton is on a Mission and has a responsibility to develop and empower the next generation of women leaders in our community. That's why our NEXT GEN Board engages young women in board leadership activities that directly tie in with their interests and talents working collaboratively with members of the YWCA Princeton Board of Directors who will help them continue to grow well into the future. The most unique aspect of the NEXT GEN Board is that participants will have the opportunity to be mentored by influential community leaders in business, education, finance, healthcare, technology and media, while serving on a selfgoverning board.

The YWCA Princeton NEXT GEN Board is designed to:

- 1) Recruit, train and empower a diverse group of women to become the next generation of women leaders and champions of the YWCA Princeton Mission among their peers;
- 2) Link their enhanced skills to the needs of the community; and
- 3) Create a supportive environment for relationship building among participants, established community leaders and trusted community partners.

Through the NEXT GEN Board, participants are engaged in career enhancement, goal setting and personal, professional and board leadership development. The NEXT GEN Board is designed to provide the resources and learning opportunities young women need to grow into leaders.

Ideal Candidate

The ideal applicant is a woman between the ages of 21 and 34 who is at the beginning of her career and leadership journey. She is eager to develop, both personally and professionally, and

wants to learn ways to connect, in meaningful ways, with her peers and seasoned community leaders to effect positive social change in the greater Mercer County area.

She may have attended or graduated from college or other post-secondary education, but it is not required to serve on the NEXT GEN Board. She may have prior experience being involved in her community, her school or volunteer organizations, but it is likewise not required to serve on the NEXT GEN Board.

Program Curriculum and Time Commitment

Between 15 and 25 women will serve on the NEXT GEN Board. However, opportunities exist every six months to join, as members cycle through their terms on a staggered schedule in order to provide continuity. Women with different backgrounds and experiences are desired to create rich cross-cultural experiences for each other.

With a small group of up to 25 participants, the women will gain significant experience in board governance, including fiduciary responsibility, financial oversight, strategic planning, community outreach and fundraising.

Through our 18-month learning program, the women on the NEXT GEN Board will participate in discussions with each other, workshop presenters and community leaders around myriad personal and professional development topics.

Each presentation will focus on an aspect of board governance to help participants become more strategic, insightful and confident leaders.

Monthly Board meetings are held the third Monday of each month, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the YWCA Princeton. In addition to the monthly Board meetings, individual committees meet or hold conference calls each month. Meeting locations may vary throughout the greater Mercer County area. Participants will be encouraged to organize additional informal sessions or gatherings around topics or projects of their choosing.

Candidate Criteria

The YWCA Princeton seeks candidates who are committed to advancing our mission within the greater Mercer County community and among their peers. An ideal candidate;

- Embodies the YWCA Mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.
- Demonstrates leadership, talent and/or passion.
- Has made contributions academically, professionally or through community service.

Eligibility

- Women between the ages of 21 to 34 years old.
- If selected, candidates must agree to serve 18-months on the NEXT GEN Board.

- Only complete applications received by the application deadline will be considered.

Application Procedure

- Selections will be made within 45 days following the deadline. The YWCA Princeton's selection decisions are final.

Birthday: _____

Name of Organization you are representing: _____

Select the category(ies) that best fit(s) the candidate:

Education / STEM

Student Leadership

Professional (Business, Education, Finance, Health, Legal, Technology, Media)

Fine Arts

Community, Non-Profit and Volunteerism

Other (please specify)

How did you find out about the YWCA Princeton NEXT GEN Board? (select all that apply)

- School: _____
- Work: _____
- Website: _____
- Friend/Acquaintance: _____
- Social Media: _____
- Other: _____

The YWCA Princeton is trying to ensure the NEXT GEN Board is a diverse pool of women whose backgrounds reflect the community. Please provide the information below to help us ensure the NEXT GEN Board reflects the racial and ethnic diversity as well as the talent within our community.

Race (optional):

- White: _____
- Hispanic: _____
- Asian: _____
- Black or African American: _____
- Native American: _____
- Multi-Racial: _____
- Other: _____

Household Income:

- \$10,000 - \$29,999: _____
- \$30,000 - \$50,999: _____
- \$51,000 - \$59,999: _____
- Over \$60,000: _____
- Prefer not to say: _____

Age:

- 21 – 24: _____
- 25 – 29: _____
- 30 – 34: _____

Section 2: Personal Statement

Please attach your personal statement, not to exceed one (1) page. Please share information in your personal statement that will help the selection committee learn more about you; include the answer to the following questions in your response:

MISSION STATEMENT: YWCA Princeton is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

1. Given the YWCA's mission statement, why are you interested in this program?
2. What is your passion as it relates to the mission of the YWCA?
3. How will this program help you achieve your personal and professional goals?
4. Since this program requires each woman to "show up and be engaged" in her development, why is this the right time for you to commit to a 18-month learning experience. How do you intend to maximize this unique opportunity?

Section 3: Resume

Please attach your current resume, or CV to this application, not to exceed two (2) pages.

Section 4: Support

Please provide **either** 1 letter of support written by non-family members **or** two references (either personal or professional) that we may contact for a brief phone call. Examples include, but are not limited to: employer, mentor, spiritual leader, community service organization, or teacher. The persons writing your letter of support or speaking on your behalf should address the following questions in his/her letter:

1. In their opinion, why you are the ideal candidate for this opportunity?
2. In their opinion, what strengths will you bring to the program?
3. In their opinion, what will you learn by participating in the program?

Section 5: Confirm all sections of application are complete and attached.

- Completed application
- Resume or CV
- Personal Statement
- 1 Letter of Support or 2 Personal/Professional References

Please email or mail applications to:

NEXT GEN Nominating Committee
YWCA Princeton
59 Paul Robeson Place Princeton,
NJ 08540
Email: nextgen@ywcaprinceton.org