

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO ATTEND?

TEAM MEETINGS

COMPULSORY (MUST ATTEND)

Successful applicants will be required to work with a team of young people from across the State in a Ministry reflecting a specific policy area. These Ministry's work together to develop a Youth Bill on an issue that's important to them. As such, Youth Parliamentarians are required to meet frequently with their mentors (a member of Taskforce) and the rest of their Ministry to develop ideas, discuss debate tactics, and write their Bill during team meetings. It is also a great opportunity to meet everyone before Training Weekend and learn more about the program.

TRAINING WEEKEND 18th – 19th April

COMPULSORY (MUST ATTEND)

At the end of April, all Youth Parliamentarians come together over the weekend for two jam-packed days of training to learn all about parliament, democracy, bill writing, public speaking and more! In addition to equipping you with the technical skills and know-how, the Training Weekend also focuses on soft skills, personal development and team building.

Do we stay overnight? No, the Training Weekend is 9am – 5pm both days (Saturday and Sunday). For regional participants there is accommodation provided.

PARLIAMENT WEEK 12th- 17th July

COMPULSORY (MUST ATTEND)

This is it. The program culminates in a weeklong residential camp, which includes a formal opening and closing ceremony, debating issues of importance in the House of Assembly and Legislative Council chambers of Parliament, and the election of the new Youth Governor. Participants also take part in an amazing and often challenging recreation program at camp.

Do we stay overnight? Yes, Parliament Week is a residential camp - Sunday to Friday.

Please note: Both the Training Weekend and Parliament Week are compulsory to attend.

ESSENTIAL DATES & INFORMATION

Who can apply to be a part of Youth Parliament?

South Australian residents aged 15-25 years.

Where does the YMCA SA Youth Parliament take place?

Both Training Weekend and Parliament Week take place in Adelaide, South Australia. Accommodation is provided for Parliament Week but is not for Training Weekend (except for regional participants).

Is there a participation fee for Youth Parliament?

Yes. There is a \$550 participant fee which covers meals, accommodation and transport during Parliament Week.

Can I get assistance with paying the participant fee?

Yes! We do not want the participant fee to be a barrier to participation. If your application is successful, the dedicated Taskforce which runs the program can help you seek external sponsorship.

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

Of course! We also have rural and regional travel scholarships available to assist in commuting to and from Adelaide.

When do applications close?

Applications are set to close on Friday, 13th March 2026.

What are the key dates for the program?

Training Weekend: 18th- 19th April 2026 (Saturday-Sunday)

Parliament Week: 12th- 17th July 2026 (Sunday-Friday)

