



## **Garland Youth Council Applications Being Accepted**

The Garland City Council wants to hear from the city's youth and invites young people to apply to serve on the Garland Youth Council. The Youth Council's mission is to provide a forum, which educates Garland's youth to the various workings of City business, and allows youth to voice ideas and concerns.

Garland residents who will be juniors in high school in the 2008-09 school year are eligible to apply. Each applicant should submit a completed standard Boards and Commissions application, two letters of reference, and an essay explaining why he or she wants to be a part of the Youth Council. All applications should be submitted by May 16, 2008 to Dorothy White, Public & Media Affairs Manager, 200 N Fifth Street, Garland, TX 75040.

Applicants should plan to attend at least one Youth Council meeting. Regular meetings are set for the first Tuesday of each month, with committee meetings scheduled by the committee members themselves. Meeting agendas and locations are available at [www.garlandyouthcouncil.org](http://www.garlandyouthcouncil.org). The Mayor and each of Garland's eight City Council members will select one applicant to serve a one-year term.

Applications are available in your high school office or at City Hall, 200 N. Fifth Street, in the City Secretary's office and [www.garlandyouthcouncil.org](http://www.garlandyouthcouncil.org). For additional information, contact Dorothy White at 972-205-2879 or [dwhite@ci.garland.tx.us](mailto:dwhite@ci.garland.tx.us).

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# Board & Commission Application

Please Print or Type. Return completed application to:

City Secretary's Office, 200 North Fifth Street, Garland, Texas 75040

Board or Commission of first, second, and third choice:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Garland Cultural Arts Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Plan Commission *                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building and Fire Codes Board                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Garland Youth Council            | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing and Mechanical Codes Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens Environmental and Neighborhood Advisory Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Standards Board          | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens Advisory Committee  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Multicultural Commission                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Library Board                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Advisory Board              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Board       |  |

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Other): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of Garland for \_\_\_\_\_ years Resident of Texas for \_\_\_\_\_ years

Are you a registered voter in Dallas County?  Yes  No

Voter Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_ City Council District No. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?  Yes  No

Have you ever been convicted of a Class A misdemeanor?  Yes  No

Please list any experience that qualifies you to serve in the areas you have indicated.

If you have served on a City Board or Commission, please specify and list dates of service.

List civic or community endeavors with which you have been involved.

What is your educational background?

What is your occupational experience?

*\* Plan Commission members must own property within the city.*

I hereby affirm that all statements herein are true and correct. \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature of Applicant*

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Ad Valorem Tax Status	Current <input type="checkbox"/>	Past Due <input type="checkbox"/>	Signatures _____ <i>Tax Clerk</i>
Status of Utility Accounts	Current <input type="checkbox"/>	Past Due <input type="checkbox"/>	_____ <i>Accounting Clerk</i>
Suit/Claim Filed in City Secretary's Office	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	_____ <i>City Secretary</i>

Date Appointed \_\_\_\_\_

Appointed By \_\_\_\_\_

Date Notified \_\_\_\_\_

Date Disclosure Form Filed \_\_\_\_\_

# DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

The American democratic experience is built upon the foundation of concerned and caring citizens becoming actively involved in local government. Consistent with this principle, Garland's Charter provides for the City Council to utilize citizen volunteers to assist in carrying out the many functions of municipal government by serving on the City's Advisory Boards and Commissions. Please give serious consideration to becoming more involved in helping make Garland the best city possible by applying to serve on a board or commission of your choice. For further information, call 972-205-2403.

## Process For Selection

Board members are selected for two-year terms by the City Council in August. Terms are usually staggered whereby at least half of the membership has board experience.

All applicants and incumbents must submit a Board and Commission Application form by July 1. Members of some boards must possess certain technical skills as specified by ordinance. All board and commission members must file a Code of Ethics Disclosure Form with the City Secretary.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by mail after their appointment. Because vacancies may arise during the year, all applications are kept on file for one year.

## Qualifications

The Garland Charter and Code of Ordinances establish certain qualifications that must be met by members of boards and commissions. In addition to special qualifications for service, a board member must:

- have been a resident of the state of Texas for one year and of Garland for six months prior to the date of appointment;
- be a qualified voter at time of appointment;
- not be in arrears on City taxes, utility service charges or other obligations owed the City;
- have not been convicted of a felony;
- have not been convicted of a Class A misdemeanor;
- not be an adversary party to pending litigation against the City.

## Boards and Commissions

### Board of Adjustment

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 3rd Wednesday of every month
- Considers applications for variances to zoning ordinance regulation, hears appeals regarding determinations of the Zoning Administrator, and considers action concerning non-conforming uses

### Building and Fire Codes Board

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets on call
- Reviews proposed amendments to Building and Fire Codes and hears appeals on rulings of the Building Official or Fire Chief

### Citizens Environmental and Neighborhood Advisory Committee

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month
- Reviews, develops and recommends new and expanded projects to the City Council

### Community Multicultural Commission

- Consists of 13 members
- Meets 3rd Thursday of each month
- Researches issues and makes recommendations to Council concerning the City's changing demographic composition and diverse needs

### Electrical Board

- Consists of 9 members: 8 members specializing in electrical work and 1 lay person
- Meets on call
- Reviews proposed amendments to Electrical Codes, hears appeals on rulings of the Building Official, administers electrical exams to license electricians, and approves electrical contractors to operate in the city

### Garland Cultural Arts Commission

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets quarterly
- Advises on policies of the Arts Center, negotiates contracts for usage of Heritage Park, awards grants to arts groups, and promotes the arts in general

### Garland Youth Council

- Consists of 9 members; all high school juniors
- One-Year Terms
- Meets 1st Tuesday of every month
- Advises Council of wants and needs of Garland youth and acts as ambassadors for the City of Garland

### Housing Standards Board

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 1st Thursday of each month if needed
- Reviews staff recommendations and issues orders requiring repair/demolition and/or civil penalties

### Library Board

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 2nd Monday of every month
- Advises Council on library services and programs

### Parks and Recreation Board

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 1st Wednesday of every month
- Advises on acquisitions, maintenance, operation and use of parks, playgrounds and open spaces

### Plan Commission

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 2nd and 4th Monday each month
- Reviews rezoning applications, subdivision plats and site plans, and advises Council regarding comprehensive planning issues

### Plumbing and Mechanical Codes Board

- Consists of 9 members: 7 members specializing in the construction industry and 2 lay persons
- Meets on call
- Reviews proposed amendments to Plumbing and Mechanical Codes and hears appeals on rulings of the Building Official

### Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets 1st Thursday of each month
- Advises Council on senior citizen issues

### Utility Advisory Board

- Consists of 9 members
- Meets quarterly or at Council's request
- Reviews and makes recommendations to the City Council on various matters concerning the City's utility services

**Garland Youth Council  
2008-09 Meeting Calendar  
(subject to updates)**

The Garland Youth Council has regular monthly meetings and weekly committee meetings. The GYC also participates in the annual Texas Youth Summit, usually held in February.

**Regular meetings** of the Garland Youth Council are on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:15 p.m. There are exceptions, primarily due to holidays. We have been meeting at one of the City recreation centers, but locations for 2008-09 have not yet been reserved.

**The 2007-08 regular meeting schedule at this time is as follows:**

Thursday, August 21, 2008 6-8:30p.m.  
Location : TBA  
Get Acquainted Meeting for new appointees.

Tuesday, September 16, 2008, 5:15 p.m.  
Garland City Hall Work Session Room  
Installation Ceremony & First Official Meeting  
New GYC members will also be introduced at regular City Council meeting at 7pm

Tuesday, October 7, 2008 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, November 7, 2008 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

December 2, 2008 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, January 6, 2009 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, February 3, 2009 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

Tuesday, May 5, 2009, 5:15 p.m.  
Regular meeting  
Location TBA

**Committee meetings** are scheduled by the members of each committee, usually on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall in one of the meeting rooms. The GYC bylaws provide for three standing committees. The new appointees will formalize the 2008-09 committee structure and assign committee members at its first full meeting in September 2008. Only assigned committee members are required to participate in committee meetings.

**The Texas Youth Summit** is an annual conference of youth advisory commissions sponsored by the Texas Municipal League. This summit is two-day event, usually held in February. The information for the 2009 event is not yet available. Participation in this event is optional. The City of Garland pays for GYC participation in this event.

# **THE GARLAND YOUTH COUNCIL**

## **MISSION**

The mission of the City's Youth Council is to provide a forum which educates Garland's youth to the various workings of City business, and allows youth to be a voice to address their particular ideas and concerns.

## **PURPOSE**

- To serve as a vehicle to make sure the City Council is aware of needs and wants of Garland youth throughout the City.
- To promote and educate participants to the local political process.
- To assist the Mayor and Council in scheduling meetings which address youth concerns.
- To assure youth adherence to the criteria for membership in the Youth Council.
- To serve as ambassadors and messengers for the City of Garland.

## **STRUCTURE/ORGANIZATION**

- The Youth Council will be comprised of nine members.
- The Mayor and Council Members may appoint one member each.

## **THE GARLAND YOUTH COUNCIL (Page Two)**

- The Youth Council will meet once a month, September through August. Committees will meet as needed.
- The Youth Council Members will elect their own Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Historian.
- This program will be for a two-year term, and applications will be received from High School Juniors only. \*
- Applicants for the Youth Council should reside in Garland.
- Applicants shall complete the standard application (Boards and Commissions); attach two letters of recommendation; and submit an essay of why they want to be part of the Youth Council.
- The City Manager's Office will assign a staff member to be the liaison for the Youth Council.
- City Council participation is highly recommended.

*\*The Youth Council is considering an extension of this term to two years. See [www.garlandyouthcouncil.org](http://www.garlandyouthcouncil.org) to read the Youth Council bylaws.*