NMASBHC Youth Health Advisory Group FAQs

Youth voice is vital to the field of school-based health care in New Mexico. The Youth Health Advisory Group is a youth-led service group that gives youth, age 14-21 the opportunity to share their expertise on important health topics, advance health care access for their peers, cultivate knowledge about public health and health care and serve as a change agent in their community.

What does a Youth Advisor do?

- Represent and advocate for School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) and services in New Mexico
- Advocate for equitable and youth-friendly healthcare
- Share expertise and ideas about improving access for youth seeking healthcare in New Mexico
- Serve as a change agent in their community as reflected through a service project

How do I become a Youth Advisor?

Applications are open. We will review applications and respond within 2 weeks of application. NMASBHC requests a one school year commitment from selected students, with the opportunity to reapply in future years.

What are the benefits of becoming a Youth Advisor?

- Opportunity to have a positive impact on your community
- Build relationships and team-building skills with other youth in New Mexico
- Expand on advocacy skills and engage in public health efforts that affect youth

Who is eligible to participate?

Youth who are between the ages 14-21 that live in the state of New Mexico.

How and where will we meet?

The Youth Advisors typically meet twice a month. Meetings are usually held virtually, by Zoom. The group also tries to meet in person at least once per semester. Should students need support accessing broadband internet access, NMASBHC will assist where possible.

I don't have past leadership experience. Can I still apply?

Absolutely! Passion and willingness to learn are two key components in being a successful Youth Advisor. Also, you can get leadership experience from participating in the group.

Will I get paid?

Youth Advisors can receive gift cards for participation (up to $1000 per student/school year), as follows:

- $20 per meeting, community activity or event participation
- $100 upon completion of a community service project, per semester

Who should I contact for further information?

For more information, please contact Wilma John, Program Manager at wilma@nmasbhc.org. NMASBHC is committed to making participation possible for interested students, including organizing meeting and events with virtual options, reorganizing meetings around students' competing work and extracurricular activities, and providing technology support.

Revised 08/2025/wj