

California Youth Leadership Corps

What is the California Youth Leadership Corps?

California Youth Leadership Corps (CYLC) is a statewide partnership among the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the California Workforce Development Board, selected California community colleges, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the Community Learning Partnership, nonprofit organizations, the California Endowment, the Hilton Foundation, Haas Jr. Fund, the Grove Foundation, and other partners. CYLC has launched community change career pathways in the cities of Los Angeles, Riverside, Fresno, San Bernardino, and Cupertino/San Jose.

CYLC learn-and-earn career pathway programs are preparing youth with low incomes – including youth of color, Opportunity Youth, and immigrant youth – for community change careers. CYLC participants take credit-bearing courses leading to a postsecondary credential in a community change career pathway. To ensure that students succeed, student fellows are part of a cohort and receive critical supports, leadership development, mentoring, and enrichment activities while enrolled. An integral part of the CYLC model is the paid work-based learning component, which provides student fellows with opportunities to participate in meaningful work-based learning with partner organizations who organize in low-income communities, communities of color, and immigrant communities and provide critical services to historically marginalized communities. Student fellows receive a stipend of up to \$10,000 and a scholarship of \$5,000 while they are enrolled in the CYLC program.

Who is CYLC designed to serve?

CYLC is designed to serve historically marginalized students, low-income students, students of color, Opportunity Youth, LGBTQIA+ individuals, immigrants, individuals impacted by the criminal legal system, and students who are eager to make a change in their communities. CYLC serves community college students who are primarily between the ages of 18-24; however, students who are over the age of 24 are eligible to apply. This includes young people who face barriers to education and employment due to poverty, lack of opportunity, immigration status, and other issues. DACA students are eligible to apply.

CYLC Student Fellows...

- Earn a postsecondary credential in a community change field.
- Receive up to \$5,000 in scholarship.
- Gain experience and receive up to \$10,000 for participating in work-based learning opportunities doing work that benefits their communities.
- Learn community organizing skills.
- Engage in leadership development, enrichment, and mentoring activities.
- Receive holistic academic, social-emotional, and career advising supports to succeed.
- Are part of a cohort of CYLC student fellows.

CYLC Community Change Career Pathways

- Public and community health
- Clean energy planning/development
- Leadership and social change
- Community planning and economic development
- Community-based immigration legal services
- Language justice/Interpretation and translation

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