

4.60.275 - Youth advisory commission; youth representative to the assembly.

- A. There is established a youth advisory commission consisting of 15 members between 14 and 22 years of age whose terms shall commence October 14, except as to members appointed to fill an unexpired term. This commission will advise the mayor and assembly on issues, services and programs. The special assistant on youth development, or a designee selected by the mayor shall act as executive secretary for the commission. Members will be appointed by the mayor, subject to approval by the assembly.
- B. The youth advisory commission shall have the following powers and duties:
1. Advise the mayor and assembly on issues, services and programs from the youth perspective in our community.
  2. Assist and advise the administration and assembly in developing plans for the establishment of programs and services where none now exist.
  3. Assist in coordinating youth services and programs.
  4. Assist and advise the mayor and assembly on existing services and programs for youth.
  5. Conduct educational and public relations programs designed to create public awareness of the needs of youth and the services which youth can provide to the community.
  6. Conduct surveys and compile and disseminate information concerning housing, health, nutrition, transportation, education, recreation, legal services, and social and mental health services available or not available to youth.
  7. At their own initiative, or in response from the mayor or assembly, make recommendations to the mayor and assembly regarding policies, practices and legislation from the youth perspective.
  8. The commission shall select three adult community members to serve as its advisory board. Members will be appointed by the youth commission, subject to approval by the mayor.
  9. There is established a Youth Representative to the Anchorage Assembly seat for one person. The commission shall nominate individual youths for appointment as the youth representative and an alternate to the Anchorage Assembly. Candidates for the position may shadow a current assembly member prior to nominations or appointment. The youth representative and an alternate shall be appointed for a certain term by the chair of the assembly and confirmed by the assembly. The alternate for the youth representative shall serve in the absence of the youth representative and have all the privileges of the position, but does not automatically assume the position if it becomes vacant.
    - a. The Youth Representative to the Anchorage Assembly.
      - i. Shall be seated with the Anchorage Assembly during regular and special meetings, may join committees, participate in work sessions and informal meetings, but shall not attend or participate in executive sessions or quasi-judicial hearings;
      - ii. May be recognized for comment by the presiding officer of the Assembly and participate in asking questions and discussing issues;
      - iii. Shall receive all materials presented to assembly members for regular and special meetings of the body except materials confidential or related to executive sessions or quasi-judicial hearings;
      - iv. May indicate a "yes" or "no" preferential vote prior to the official vote on matters coming before the Anchorage Assembly except discussion related to executive sessions or quasi-judicial hearings; the Youth Representative vote shall not be counted in the vote totals by the municipal clerk but may be

recorded; and

- v. Shall not be counted in determining a quorum of the Anchorage Assembly.
- b. At the time of appointment, the Youth Representative shall be at least 16 and not more than 19 years of age. Service as the youth representative is voluntary, without compensation. The chair of the assembly may assign an assembly member to mentor the youth representative, and the chair or municipal clerk may provide for training and orientation for the youth representative.
- c. The youth advisory commission shall determine the term of appointment at the time of sending nominations to the chair, with a minimum term of six months and a maximum of one year. No appointee may serve more than a total of one year. The youth representative shall not hold or run for public elected office during the term of appointment. The code of ethics, chapter 1.15, shall apply to the youth representative.
- d. The youth representative seat becomes vacant in the same manner as the office of an elected official becomes vacant as provided in section 7.01(a) of the Charter. Removal may be based on the same grounds as removal of an elected official set forth in section 2.70.030A. The procedure is by a motion for removal approved by a majority vote of the Assembly. The youth representative seat automatically becomes vacant without further action necessary if the person:
  - i. Is absent from three regular meetings without excuse,
  - ii. Is absent from six regular meetings, or
  - iii. Fails to attend two-thirds of the regular meetings scheduled during the person's appointed term.

C. This commission shall terminate on October 14, 2021, unless affirmatively continued by the Assembly in accordance with section 4.05.150.

(AO No. 95-64, § 1, 3-7-95; AO No. 95-132, § 1, 6-6-95; AO No. 96-64, § 1, 4-23-96; AO No. 98-26, § 1, expires 3-7-2001; AO No. 2001-61, § 1, 3-27-01; AO No. 2004-69, § 1, 4-13-04; AO No. 2004-96, § 1, 6-8-04; AO No. 2005-80, § 2, 9-27-05; AO No. 2011-64(S-1), § 5, 6-28-11; AO No. 2015-119, § 1, 11-10-15; AO No. 2017-51(S), § 1, 9-12-17; Ord. No. 2018-47, § 10, 10-9-18)

**Editor's note**— Section 2 of AO No. 2015-119, states, "With this reenactment of the Youth Advisory Commission, the mayor shall appoint members as an initial commission, with terms staggered at 1-year, 2-year and 3-year terms so a pro rata number of its members shall be appointed annually hereafter, in accordance with AMC section 4.05.040."