

Chapter Application Guide

How to prepare, submit, and follow up on an application to start a YouthConnect Network chapter.

Before you apply

- Identify a specific community: an HOA or neighborhood, a school, or a partner organization.
- Identify a real local need or opportunity you want to work on first.
- Identify a proposed adult advisor, aged 21 or older, who is willing to be contacted.
- Talk informally with two or three other young people who would join.
- Read the Youth Safety and Conduct Guide and the Civic Engagement and Nonpartisanship Guide.

What the application asks

Field	What we are looking for
Your name and email	A contact we can reliably reach.
Age or grade	Helps us match support and supervision expectations.
School or organization	Context for where members will come from.
Community name	The HOA, neighborhood, school, or organization the chapter would serve.
City and state	Delaware applications are prioritized in the current phase.
Your role	Student, parent, HOA leader, educator, community member, or partner.
Proposed adult advisor	Name and email of the adult who has agreed to be contacted.
Why you want to start a chapter	Your motivation, in your own words.
Identified community needs	One to three specific, observable needs.
Existing support	Anyone already supportive: HOA board, school, nonprofit, family.
Availability	Roughly how much time you can commit each month.
Consent and acknowledgment	Parent or guardian consent where applicable, and acknowledgment that submitting does not approve a chapter.

Review process

- 1 We confirm receipt of your application.
- 2 We review the application and contact your proposed adult advisor.
- 3 We hold a short conversation with you and the advisor.
- 4 We confirm scope, expectations, and a realistic first initiative.
- 5 We approve, ask for more information, or suggest an alternative way to get involved.

Submitting an application does not automatically approve a chapter. Approval depends on adult advisor commitment, community fit, capacity, and alignment with our safety and nonpartisanship standards.

Writing a strong application

- Be specific. "Older residents on my street have no easy way to hear about community events" is stronger than "improve the community."
- Name your first initiative and keep it small.
- Show that an adult has actually agreed — not that you hope to find one.
- Be honest about time. A steady two hours a month beats an unrealistic promise.

After you apply

Expect a response by email. If you have not heard from us within two weeks, write to admin@youthconnect.network and reference the community name you applied with.

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Questions: admin@youthconnect.network · Version 1.0 · Last updated: August 2, 2026