

2025-2026 Teen Action Council (TAC) Application

The Teen Action Council (TAC) consists of a group of youth grades 8th to 12th who want to make a difference. TAC provides teens the opportunity to voice the opinions of youth within the community.

This program helps develop the tools necessary for teens to: build leadership skills; explore and identify issues and concerns important to teens; communicate issues and challenges to the Parks and Community Services Department (PCS) and to the Watsonville Public Library (WPL); organize special events for the community & participate in community events organized by PCS and WPL; and promote mutual respect, understanding, and multicultural representation for teens of different backgrounds.

TAC members implement the 41 Developmental Asset framework so youth and teens are equipped for a successful future away from gangs, violence, alcohol & drugs, and other negative influences.

Youth interested in participating in TAC must: be within grades 8th to 12th; be a resident of the City of Watsonville or a student attending a Pajaro Valley Unified School District school; maintain a 2.0 GPA and provide GPA confirmation from the most recent semester grades; provide a letter of recommendation from a school teacher, counselor, or member of the community; and commit time and energy to monthly meetings, quarterly meetings and other possible events.

For returning TAC applicants, look over the checklist for required documents. An invitation to return will be based on the submission of required documents as well as evaluations from the previous year made by TAC facilitators.

TAC requires parents'/legal guardians' participation in TAC Kick-off orientation.

Qualified applicants are considered without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, and non-job-related medical condition or disability.

Submit application to Nick Merolla at the G.H.W.R. Youth Center or Celeste Carrillo at the Watsonville Public Library no later than 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 2nd.

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Application Checklist:

- ☐ Application Form
- ☐ Activities & Motivations Response
- ☐ Letter of Recommendation
- ☐ Confirmation of 2.0 or better GPA

(For Returning TAC Members Only)

If you are a returning Teen Action Council Member, you must provide:

- ☐ Re-Submission of Application Form
- ☐ Confirmation of 2.0 or better GPA

For more information about the Teen Action Council and the application process, please attend the Candidate Information Meeting on Tuesday, August 26th from 5:30pm-6:30pm at Watsonville Parks and Community Services office (231 Union St., Watsonville). Students, parents, and educators are welcome to attend.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____ Birth Date: _____ Age: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Alternate Phone: _____

Name of School: _____ Grade: _____

How did you hear about TAC? _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent's Full Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent's Full Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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ACTIVITIES & MOTIVATIONS

For returning TAC applicants, skip this section.

- List your participation in any sports, extracurricular activities, work, or other volunteer activities.
- We would like to know a little bit more about you and your interests. In 300 words or less, please address the following questions: Why are you interested in joining TAC? How do you think our community could better serve teens? Who is a hero of yours and why?

Submit your answers on a separate piece of paper and attach to the application. A typed submission is preferable, but hand-written submissions will be accepted. If you handwrite your response, please be sure your handwriting is neat and easy to read.

If you have filled out an online application and need to submit the required documents, please email Nick Merolla (nick.merolla@watsonville.gov) or Celeste Carrillo (celeste.carrillo@watsonville.gov).

Student's Printed Name

Parent's Printed Name

Student's Signature
Date:

Parent's Signature
Date:

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Teen Action Council (TAC) Member Expectations and Requirements

What to expect as a TAC member:

- A monthly Teen Action Council meeting
- A quarterly All Youth Group Round Table Discussion
- Planning events and participating in other youth events or volunteer work
- Addressing policies and issues with other youth, city departments or to City Council
- Monthly board or committee meeting for assigned member to attend

As a potential Teen Action Council member, below are the requirements and expectations of members to receive their \$1,200 stipend, community hours and ensure that all youth are contributing within the council.

Each end of the quarter (3-month increments), \$300 of the total stipend is given to TAC members that abide by the regulations below and others that are established amongst the TAC group. Failure to do so will then lead to a one on one quarterly evaluation meeting with the TAC member and the TAC facilitators. Based on the outcome, this may result in the loss of the \$300 quarterly stipend and/or removal as a TAC member completely.

Teen Action Council Members must abide by:

- Minimum attendance at 3 monthly TAC Meetings with only one excused absence
- Attendance to the Quarterly All Youth Group Round Table Discussion unless there is an excused absence
- Adherence to TAC Community Expectations
 - Open minded
 - Active listening/No interrupting
 - Communication (late, absent, etc.)
 - Participate and contribute to discussions
 - Build off each other's ideas
 - Respect ideas and opinions of others
- Attendance at events as assigned
- *If you are a TAC representative for the **Library, Parks and Rec, Community Development, Measure R or Measure Y** – attendance is required, unless excused absence*
- If there are any questions or concerns regarding this information, please plan to attend our informational meeting on **Tuesday, August 26th from 5:30pm-6:30pm**.