Job Opportunities in the MSYEP

The Mayor’s Summer Youth Employment Program partners with over 125 community and government agencies to provide a wide variety of first or early work experiences for Cambridge teens. When you fill-out your application, you will be asked to rank the types of work you’re interested in. Below, find brief descriptions of the types of work available, as well as some descriptions of specialized programs that teens can choose to participate in this summer.

Work with Senior Citizens—Responsibilities might include: leading or participating in games or physical fitness activities with seniors, serving snacks or meals, answering questions or providing basic assistance to seniors in a supported setting.

Community Action Projects—You will work with a group of other teens (and a supportive adult) on a project or projects, usually with a theme. Descriptions of some of this year’s specific community action projects can be found at www.cambridgema.gov/dhsp/msyep.

Arts/Theater/Music—Both visual and performing arts programs are available, including photography, dance, acting, theater technical support, set design, lyric writing, musical performance, music production and graphic design. Responsibilities might include: producing art, theater or dance; participating in a performance; or teaching others.

Office or Library Work—Responsibilities might include: filing, shredding, photocopying, scanning, organizing, collating, cleaning, putting together mailings, running errands, making or answering phone calls, interacting with clients. Almost exclusively indoor, individual work in quiet environments.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)—Responsibilities might include learning and utilizing new computer skills including coding, or doing office work or community action projects in a scientific or technical setting or applying scientific or mathematical theories to solve problems.

Media and Web Production—Responsibilities might include: writing, storytelling, filming, editing, acting, graphic design, photography, basic web design, work-related social networking.

Working with Children in Daycare or Preschool Programs—Responsibilities might include: leading games or activities with the children, modeling behaviors for the children, serving snacks or meals, cleaning, organizing, interacting with parents and teachers, going on short field trips to local parks, going in sprinklers or wading pools, all with children under age 5. Due to state regulations, 14 year-olds cannot be assigned to work in daycare or preschool programs. Also, all youth assigned to licensed childcare programs may be subject to additional background screening, including fingerprints.
**Working with Children in Summer Camps**—Responsibilities might include: leading games or activities with children, modeling behaviors for children, serving snacks or meals, cleaning, organizing, interacting with parents and teachers, going on trips which may require going in the water at beaches or pools, participating in sports and physical activities with children ages 4-13.

**Landscaping and Maintenance**—Responsibilities might include: cleaning, organizing, lifting and moving furniture, using light tools, painting, raking, sweeping, mopping. Work is often outdoors.

**Specialized Worksites**

- **Alewife Ecology Collaborative**—Want to walk on the wild side this summer? Join our outdoor adventure teams to discover community and connection in the Alewife Reservation, with woods, ponds, river, streams and wildlife. Be a part of a collaborative team and learn how to identify nature and to help preserve it for the future. Get healthy and strong with us!

- **Beyond the 4th Wall**—Are you interested in acting, singing or dancing? Or learning about building sets and running a live show from behind the scenes? Whether you want to perform on stage or support a production off stage, come spend the summer learning while putting on a show for the Cambridge community. No prior experience necessary!

- **Boys II Men**—Join a leadership and empowerment project designed to allow young men to learn while working and having fun. Work together to break down messages in the media, learn to cook healthy meals, engage in physical activities, and create personal and professional portfolios that can be used for applying to jobs and colleges.

- **Building Equity Bridges**—Join a group of Cambridge Public Schools youth to develop skills and advocate for change in your school communities. At this site you will lead the charge to address inequities in your schools. You will be heard!

- **Cambridge Community Television (CCTV)**—Apply to work as a Media Artist during CCTV’s popular Summer Media Institute! Learn to use media to tell stories about yourself, your life, and your community. No prior media or video experience is required, but you must be interested in learning how to use cameras and computers to make videos about things that matter to you.

- **City Peace**—Learn about what it takes to be a great youth worker, including supporting young people with disabilities! Participate in team-building activities, learn conflict resolution strategies, and think about what it means to support others this summer at City Peace!
**Community Art Center Teen Program Summer Intensive**—Learn the photography or videography skills you need to take a fresh, creative approach to self-discovery, deep connection and reflective learning! Or learn about and contribute to all of the amazing public art in our communities!

**Community Boating**—Spend your summer working on docks by the Charles, learning about sailing, boat safety and boat maintenance while helping other people take advantage of the opportunity to learn how to sail!

**Farrington Nature Linc**—Vegetables, nature and animals! Spend the summer working on a real farm and helping young children learn and have fun!

**Girls Taking Action**—Are you looking to enrich your mind and be the change in combatting racism in Cambridge and all over the world while engaging in fun activities, field trips, and building positive relationships with other teens and adults, all while getting paid to do so? If so, come join Girls Taking Action for an amazing six weeks that you will remember for a lifetime!

**Groundwork Somerville**—The Green Team is a teen employment program located five minutes from Inman Square that works on projects in urban agriculture, environmental justice, and civic engagement. Green Team Members develop leadership and job skills, while building a team and serving their community. The Green Team grows the leadership potential of youth to work for food, environmental, and racial justice!

**The Hip Hop Transformation**—Come learn the ins and outs of hip hop, unleash your rhyming skills, and leave as an artist and a performer! Highlights include visiting professional recording studios, recording over professional quality beats, and hearing stories and experiences from established local hip hop artists. Sound interesting? Join the THHT fam!

**Innovators for Purpose**—Dream, design and build experiences that will look amazing on your college applications, while making a lasting impact on Cambridge’s public spaces! In the Creative Doers Studio, students develop their creative confidence, tech savviness and entrepreneurial drive to put their mark on the universe...or at least Cambridge, all while working on real projects for real customers. Participants also learn math and science in new ways, preparing them for careers never imagined!

**Just A Start**—We’re looking for hard-working youth who want to learn while having a fun work experience. We get a lot of work done but enjoy ourselves while doing it. You’ll learn how to handle your money, explore future career possibilities, learn landscaping, painting and basic job skills. Plus there are field trips, games and prizes for those that do their jobs well.
Mental Health ACCESS Program—Interested in learning more about PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIAL WORK, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING, PSYCHIATRY, and other mental health related careers and college majors? Want to learn more about being mentally and emotionally healthy? Want to learn more about helping others in your family and community living with mental illness? If you answered YES to any of these questions, the Mental Health ACCESS Program is for YOU!

MetaMovements--Would you like to work in your community through the arts? Are you an artist, but unsure of how to turn that into a career? MetaMovements Arts Ambassadors for Health and Social Change is looking for young, passionate leaders interested in community empowerments through the arts. Artists learn how to WORK through dance, theatre, and the media arts to change their communities.

MSYEP Social Media Team—Are you into Snapchat, Instagram, or photo editing? You could be a social media guru, and work in a team to capture all the cool events we have in MSYEP. Design our online yearbook! What should be in it? How should it look? You decide the content! You take the photos! You design the layout! You write the articles! Help us document all the cool things teens in Cambridge do all summer, with a style all your own!

My City My Voice--Calling all aspiring creatives, storytellers, social justice warriors and sci-fi enthusiasts...My City My Voice invites you to join us on a six-week journey of discovery, collaboration, growth and transformation, working towards the building of a stronger community through art, technology and science!

Navigation Games--Come learn--and teach—map navigation skills with Navigation Games this summer! Orienteering is a cross-country sport where you run outdoors with a map and find checkpoints. We are seeking teens who want to learn orienteering, and who will also teach children to play map games. And you can help us make how-to videos!

Our Riverside—Help preserve the history of Cambridge! Conduct interviews, take pictures, tell a story! Participate in a project to create a public display that communicates the rich history of the Riverside neighborhood!

Parkour Generations--Interested in learning about parkour this summer? We’re looking for active and motivated Cambridge teens to participate in the Parkour Generations Boston MSYEP team! You’ll learn parkour, practice in a variety of spots around Cambridge, and learn about all of the different professional opportunities available through parkour, including instruction.

The Possible Project—The Possible Project is a program where high school students learn how to start and run their own business! You get paid to attend the program, use our money to start your business, and keep the money you make from selling your products! We’ll teach you how to use machines like laser cutters and 3-D printers to create the business of your dreams!
Rise Up—Rise Up offers an exciting opportunity for students entering Cambridge Rindge and Latin School as 9th graders this fall to get a head start on their high school career! Rise Up combines academics, physical fitness, career exploration and community service learning to help prepare teens for their next step. Interested students must register with both Rise Up (through Cambridge Public Schools) and MSYEP.

Team CDD--Team CDD is a fun, fast-paced summer project! Work in one of five areas: 1) implementing winning climate change communication projects from the Glocal Challenge, 2) Assisting with the transportation planning in Cambridge 3) Doing data entry for our housing and data divisions 4) working with our Community Planning Division to help plan the future of parks in our community, and 5) teaching the community about energy efficiency and climate change. This is a must-do leadership opportunity that is sure to be a ton of fun!

Team GreenSense—Go Green this summer! Not just a job, but a chance to learn about the environment and help your community. Are you an energetic, curious, positive team-player? Sign up and get paid this summer to learn about local sustainability programs and conduct service projects.

War Memorial Lifeguard in Training Program—Do you like swimming? Do you like working with children? Then consider applying to the Lifeguard in Training program where you will learn, and even have the opportunity to get lifeguard certified while helping teach summer swim lessons! Please note: Due to lifeguard certification requirements, you must be 16 to receive your lifeguard certification!

The Work Force Summer College Immersion Program—The Work Force Summer SAT Prep and College Immersion Program will better prepare rising high school seniors for the college application process. The program will teach SAT Prep and College Writing courses to youth living in Cambridge Housing Authority sites. Youth will also take weekly college tours throughout New England. By the end of the six-week program, students will have visited ten colleges and drafted their college essay.

Young People’s Project—We are a group of young people that organize other young people to radically change their education and the way they relate to it. By cultivating and meeting the demand for math literacy work, YPP demonstrates how young people can be a force for positive social change, once committed to transforming themselves.

Youth Environmental Entrepreneurship Program—Be outdoors and have fun with a team of friends planting gardens with native plants that are good for the Earth! Receive an amazing introduction to entrepreneurship and running a business! Boost your resume and develop useful skills while learning! Find out about how to land great jobs by talking to professionals, taking weekly field trips, and visiting job sites!
Youth Fire Academy—Ever thought about being a firefighter? Want to make a difference in your community? The Cambridge Youth Fire Academy can teach you how! Learn basic firefighting and medical skills in a hand-on environment that mirrors the training real firefighters get! Learn how the Cambridge Fire Department works with various agencies to ensure public safety and meet the professionals working in those roles.

Youth Police Academy—Do you wonder what it is like to be a police officer? Do you want to help make the community safer? Work at the Cambridge Youth Police Academy and you can! You will have opportunities to learn about the role and the function of the police in Cambridge and get hands-on, tactical training comparable to that of real police officers! Youth will get to learn about and meet with professionals working in state and federal law enforcement, public safety, and criminal justice.

Youth Underground—Youth Underground is the resident teen performance group at Central Square Theater. YU members receive training in acting, play-making, and public speaking. Share your voice and experiences and connect with teens from different backgrounds. Learn more about how you can advocate for issues that matter to you, and how you can have an impact on your community. Take YU’s play Act Up & Vote! on a tour around our community!

*Please note, the list of specialized programs and their descriptions is tentative and subject to change.