



Apply here!



NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

heartland@gscf.org
785-621-4090



WHO WE ARE

The Heartland Community Foundation Youth Action Council is a leadership and enrichment program for high school students, grades 10-12, in Ellis, Rooks, and Trego counties. The program brings teens together from area high schools to learn about community needs, while empowering them to be changemakers. YAC members should want to make a positive impact in their communities and be eager to share ideas to help address the needs of their peers. Council members will have the opportunity to learn about generosity in a practical way – by being generous.

WHAT WE DO

The mission of YAC is to empower youth to be involved in community decision making, to encourage active community participation, to cultivate a spirit of philanthropy, and to instill in members a deeper sense of community pride. YAC members will learn about the grantmaking process by awarding grant dollars in their communities and by developing a community project.

HOW TO APPLY

Students entering 10th or 11th grade in 2026-27 are eligible to apply. Apply online at www.heartlandcommunityfoundation.org by May 8, 2026. Questions? Call 785-621-4090 or email heartland@gscf.org.

The Youth Action Council is hosted by the Heartland Community Foundation.

FUTURE YAC MEMBERS SHOULD...

- Care about their community and want to make a difference.
- Be open-minded, critical thinkers who can discuss tough issues and come up with creative solutions.
- Demonstrate integrity and initiative in their actions and decisions.
- Be in 10th or 11th grade during the 2026-27 school year. Seniors must be returning YAC members.
- Reside in Ellis, Rooks, or Trego counties.

EXPECTATIONS OF YAC MEMBERS...

- Attend a half-day YAC orientation in Hays in August before school starts.
- Attend a monthly (1 hour) meeting during the school day in your home county in person. Meeting location will rotate among schools.
- Attend a half-day YAC retreat in Hays in January.
- Actively participate in discussions and activities.
- Be an advocate for the YAC, the Heartland Community Foundation, and the youth in your community.