

INDEPENDENCE YOUTH COURT

What is Youth Court?

The primary goals of the Independence Youth Court are to teach high risk youth the necessity of taking responsibility for their own actions, to provide an alternative to the Jackson County Family Court process, for the youth to avoid further contact with the Police, and to teach the offenders skills to resist future criminal activity.

What will You Do as a Youth Court Attorney?

As a Volunteer Attorney, you will be trained in the responsibilities of participating as a Bailiff, Court Clerk, Prosecutor, and Defense Attorney. Upon becoming a Senior, you will receive additional training, to serve as an actual Youth Judge for the peer court docket. The attorney training is conducted by Judge Susan Watkins along with local adult attorneys, adult court volunteers, and area Law Enforcement Officers.

Courtroom Attire

Youth Court attire is dark slacks (not white, khaki, or jeans) and dress shoes. A dress shirt and tie for young men (a suit jacket also looks nice) and for young women slacks or a skirt and a dress shirt or blouse (blouse should not be too short, tight, or revealing and a suit jacket is nice as well). If the attire is not acceptable for court, you may be sent home to change or not allowed to participate at that court session.

What are the Benefits of Volunteering?

- Volunteer hours look great on a resume for jobs, colleges, and scholarships.
- Youth Court offers scholarships for qualified senior students.
- Youth Court allows volunteers to see the challenges that other juveniles face in the community.

Website to Application:

<https://form.jotform.com/youthct/independence-youth-court-fall-2026->

Required Training

Dates: 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**September 10th & 24th
October 8th & 22nd**

**Student must pass Bar
Exam with 75%+**

Graduation Ceremony

October 29th at

Fort Osage High School

Training Requirements

**-Must be at least 13 and
in 8th Grade**

-Appropriate court attire

-Last report card

(C Minimum Grades)

**-Completed Application
and Consent Form**

**223 N MEMORIAL DR,
INDEPENDENCE, MO 64050**

816-325-7750

YOUTHCT@INDEPMO.ORG

WWW.INDEPENDENCEYJC.COM

QR Code to Application:



