

# APPLICATION FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK



## Influencing Municipal Participation as a Community Teen

Applications must be received by August 31, 2026, to be considered for the 2026-2027 Committee.

- Committee members must live in the Town of Highland Park and be entering 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- In 250 words or less, explain why you want to participate in the IMPACT committee and what makes you a great addition to the program.
- Please state in your essay what school you are attending, grade level, address, clubs and/or sports you are involved in, and current GPA.
- Attached with your essay, include 2-3 adult references of someone unrelated or living with you. One preferable from school or activity involvement. (Reference Form Attached)
- Topics for the program will include:
  - LEADING CHANGE & BUILDING A COMMUNITY
  - WORKING TOGETHER: INCREASE INVOLVEMENT AND DEVELOP STRONGER CONNECTIONS
  - BALANCING YOUR COMMITMENTS
  - GENERATING INNOVATIVE IDEAS - Youth Town Hall
  - GOAL SETTING

If you have any questions, please contact Joanna Mekeal, Town Secretary at 214-559-9457 [jmekeal@hptx.org](mailto:jmekeal@hptx.org) or Kortney Nelson at 214-559-9404 [knelson@hplibrary.info](mailto:knelson@hplibrary.info).

Reference Form

Reference's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use your personal knowledge of the applicant to respond to the following questions:

1. How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity (employer, school instructor, friend, etc.)?
  
2. Please tell us what you believe the applicant's strengths in their personal, educational, or professional life. If you can, give examples of particular accomplishments.
  
3. Do you believe the applicant will represent their peers and community well?
  
4. What is your knowledge of the applicant's educational goals and his/her progress toward achieving these goals?
  
5. Is there any additional information we should know about this applicant regarding participating in this program?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Please deliver completed reference form back to the applicant for submission with their application. For any questions, please feel free to email Joanna Mekeal at [jmekeal@hptx.org](mailto:jmekeal@hptx.org) or Kortney Nelson at [knelson@hplibrary.info](mailto:knelson@hplibrary.info).



## IMPACT HP ACTIVITY PARENT PERMISSION SLIP

Activity: IMPACT, Town of Highland Park

*Please complete & return this form with your essay.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Name) (Student Name)

to participate in IMPACT at The Town of Highland Park during the scheduled times and the Youth Town Hall Meeting. All meetings will take place at 4700 Drexel Drive, Highland Park, Texas 75205.

My signature evidences that in consideration of my child's participation in IMPACT HP I accept general liability for the participation of my child in IMPACT HP and that I agree to indemnify and hold harmless The Town of Highland Park, its Town Council, officers, employees, and attorneys, and other participating agents, either jointly or severally, from and against any and all claims, injuries, damages, losses, costs, or causes of action that may arise out of or in connection with this activity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

### PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby grant permission to the Town of Highland Park to use photographs and/or video of my child taken during IMPACT HP events including meetings, retreat, and youth Town Hall in publications, news releases, online, and in other communications related to the mission of IMPACT HP.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)