

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego's Summer Civics Program Returns for Third Year in a Row

YOUTH-CENTERED INITIATIVE OFFERS HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE-LEVEL INTERNS THE CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT CAREERS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SAN DIEGO – This week the City of San Diego kicked off its third iteration of the state-funded Summer City Civics program by welcoming 50 students ages 16 to 30 who will participate in this unique internship opportunity. Over three years, the total number of Summer City Civics participants has grown to more than 300.

The core program will run until June 25, with the opportunity for interns to interview for an extended, paid traditional internship and participate in City summer initiatives through August. Summer City Civics offers workshops, team challenges and projects that build skills for college and future careers.

"Programs like Summer City Civics are emblematic of our City's continued commitment to invest in opportunities for young people across our city," said Mayor Todd Gloria. **"This program gives participants real-world experience in public service, helps them build skills and professional connections, and opens doors to future careers. With more than 300 young people participating over the past three years, Summer City Civics is creating pathways to opportunity and helping the next generation see that there is a place for them in shaping the future of San Diego."**

Throughout the internship, high school and college-level interns collaborate with each other and explore how local government operates, research and present solutions to real City challenges, and develop a professional portfolio that reflects their strengths, career goals and readiness for the workplace.

"Summer City Civics is exactly the kind of investment San Diego should be making in our young people," said Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera, who represents District 9. **"Every young person deserves to know that there is a place for them in shaping the future of our city, and this program opens doors for students who may not have otherwise seen local government as a path for them. By connecting youth to paid opportunities, mentorship, and real-world experience, we are helping build a City workforce that reflects and understands the communities it serves."**

Participants will engage in interactive workshops, career panels and applied projects designed to strengthen communication, leadership and critical thinking skills. Successful completion of all program requirements is necessary to be eligible to interview for a paid internship, as placement is competitive and not guaranteed.

All Employ & Empower workforce training initiatives are made possible through funding received from California Volunteers and Youth Service Corps in the Office of the Governor. Employ & Empower prioritizes youth in [Communities of Concern](#) with a focus on those who are transitioning from foster care, are low-income, military or military dependent, currently or previously unhoused, formerly justice system involved, or have engaged with mental health or substance abuse systems.

The Employ & Empower program is open to California youth between the ages of 16 and 30 who are enrolled in an academic or training program. Participants can receive transit passes and other support resources if needed.

For more information, visit sandiego.gov/Employ-Empower.



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