

# 2015 Summer Program Application

Due April 24, 2015 by 5 pm

## Why should you apply for a summer internship?

- Get the chance to **meet civic leaders** in local, state, and national politics
- **Meet other passionate, powerful students** from across Chicago and **work on issues you care about**
- **Build on experiences** you have had in other Mikva programs
- Enhance your **resume and college application**
- **Earn \$\$\$** doing something interesting, worthwhile, and fun

Mikva Challenge works with young people in the city of Chicago to develop the next generation of civic leaders, policy-makers, activists and advocates. Working as a paid intern with Mikva could include:

- Developing your leadership and professional skills
- Critically thinking about issues of importance
- Conducting research and developing policy recommendations
- Working on issues connected to health, after school programs, education, parks, or juvenile justice
- Learning how city government works
- Working in the offices of elected officials
- Using social media to take action on community issues
- Advising elected officials and decision makers on youth issues

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## Program Details

**Program Dates:** Program begins on June 29<sup>th</sup> and ends on August 7<sup>th</sup>. You will work for 16-20 hours per week, 4 days per week. We will have a 4 hour program orientation the week of June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Award:** Interns will receive a stipend, lunch, and CTA fare to and from work.

**You can apply if:** You live in Chicago and will be between the ages of 16-20 on June 30, 2015. (You must be born on or before June 29, 1999!). You can be in high school, college, or out of school.

\*\*If you live outside of Chicago, but in Cook County, we may have positions available. Please contact [chris@mikvachallenge.org](mailto:chris@mikvachallenge.org) for more information. \*\*



## 2015 Mikva Challenge Program Application

### **APPLICATION DUE APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> BY 5 PM!!**

Submit your application by filling out the attached application and:

**Emailing it to (PREFERRED):** summerinternship@mikvachallenge.org

OR BY

**Faxing it to:** 312-268-5218

OR BY

**Mailing it to:** Summer Internship  
Mikva Challenge  
332 S Michigan, Suite 400  
Chicago, IL 60604

Applicants are encouraged to come in for interviews on May 5, 6, or 7<sup>th</sup>. Applicants will be notified by May 20<sup>th</sup> about their application status.

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### **Application Completion Checklist**

Your application is complete when you have done the following:

- Filled out Section 1 and 2 of the application and answered *all* the questions. Make sure to write clearly!
- Completed and attached answers to the two essay questions
- Attached a letter of recommendation from a teacher (Strongly recommended, not required!)
- Choose and put in your calendar the day and time you will be coming to Mikva for an interview! Please make sure to come the day/time you chose!

Any questions? Call or email Meghan at 312-863-6358 or [Meghan@mikvachallenge.org](mailto:Meghan@mikvachallenge.org).



**Section 1: Please fill out the following information!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: Chicago State: IL Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Race/Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Answer all questions!**

1. Please check all the Mikva Challenge programs you have participated in:

Issues to Action       Student Election Judge       Campaign Program

City Youth Council       Peace and Leadership Council       Project Soapbox

Other? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did you learn about Mikva Challenge? (If it was a teacher, what is their name?)

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you feel comfortable taking the bus or train?       Yes       No

4. Are you available to work from June 30<sup>th</sup> – August 8<sup>th</sup>, uninterrupted?       Yes       No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

5. If you are currently a senior in high school, will you be in Chicago next year?

Yes       No       I don't know

6. Please check the answer that best applies to you:

- Yes     No    I have experience working with Microsoft word  
 Yes     No    I have experience working with Microsoft Excel  
 Yes     No    I have experience using social media (Facebook, twitter, etc...)  
 Yes     No    I am bilingual

If yes, what language(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes     No    I have had a job before  
 If yes, where \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes     No    I feel comfortable speaking in public

7. Mikva Challenge Summer internships focus on a variety of issue areas. Please let us know which areas you would be interested in working in. If you are hired, we will do our best to focus your work on an area you are most interested in.

- Health (sexual health, mental health, nutrition)                       After School Programs  
 City Issues (transportation, parks, employment)                       Juvenile Justice  
 Interning in an elected official's office

**Section 3: Please respond to these questions on an attached sheet. Be sure to put your name on it!!**

1. What's an issue in your school or community that you are passionate about and why? Propose a possible solution to it. Please be specific in your answer.
2. What skills, experiences, or talents do you possess that would be helpful to your work in Mikva's summer program? What makes you stand out?

**Help your chance of being accepted into a Mikva Summer program!**

1. You can attach a letter of recommendation from a teacher or another adult who knows you well (not a relative). It is not required, but it can only help your application!
2. You can attend an open interview session for all Mikva Summer program applicants on Tuesday May 5, Wednesday May 6, or Thursday May 7. The interviews will be held from 4-7 pm (interviews will take about 30 minutes) and will be at 332 S Michigan, Suite 400. If you cannot make any of those interview times, please note that below and we can try to set up a time to do a phone interview. **We highly recommend coming in for an interview!!** Please check which interview session you plan to attend and mark it on your calendar now!

- May 5 between 4-7 pm                       May 7 between 4-7 pm  
 May 6 between 4-7 pm                       I cannot attend but would like to set up a phone interview