

YWC MEMBER ROLE DESCRIPTION



ROLE TITLE	Young Women's Council Member
ROLE DURATION	Two years (1 July 2025 until 30 June 2027)
LOCATION	Australia-wide, from urban to remote locations

THE ROLE

YWCA Australia is looking for our next group of young women and gender-diverse people who are motivated to advocate for gender-equality and housing security!

We are committed to the leadership of young women and gender-diverse people. When joining the Young Women's Council ("YWC"), you will be part of a remarkable group contributing to the organisation's advocacy campaigns, strategic directions and policy outputs.

Membership of the YWC offers the opportunity to gain new skills and networks and be part of the global YWCA movement of passionate young people. You'll represent the Council for a period of two years with 8 other young women and gender-diverse people aged 18 – 30 years old from all around Australia.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Shape YWCA Australia's advocacy and campaigns as a young person passionate about improving Australian policies and systems to meet the needs of young women and gender-diverse people.
- Strategically collaborate with YWCA and other YWC members to support the delivery of YWCA's strategic outcomes. You can read our youth-focused [Strategy here](#).
- Contribute to the growth of the Young Women's Council by reviewing the Council's Charter annually and considering ways to improve the Council.
- Contribute to producing content and sharing insights on issues of housing insecurity and homelessness risk for young women and gender-diverse people.
- Represent YWCA Australia across platforms and at events.
- Undertake any other tasks that may be delegated to the Council by YWCA Australia's Board from time to time.

If you want to see what the fabulous Young Women's Council 2023 – 2025 achieved, you can [check out their latest End of Year Report here](#).

ABOUT YOU

Member Attributes

- You are a young woman (cisgender or transgender woman) or gender-diverse person. It is important to YWCA Australia that the YWC represents the voices of both young women and gender diverse people.
- You are between 18 – 30 years old at the time you commence on 1 July 2025.

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- You are based anywhere in Australia - from urban to remote.
- You are a member of YWCA Australia. Haven't joined yet? [Click on this link to join.](#)
 - When applying, we encourage you to tick the box to also join our Digital Activist Community – this is where a lot of the campaigns you will be engaged in will be hosted for young women and gender-diverse people!
- You are passionate about advocating for gender equality and housing security for women, gender diverse people and their families in Australia.

Skills, Knowledge & Experience

There is no specific experience required to be a member of the YWC. You do not need a formal qualification or work experience to apply. This is an opportunity to elevate the voices of young women and gender diverse people.

It is important that you have a passion for a future where young women, women and gender-diverse people experience greater safety, security and wellbeing in their homes and communities. You might have work experience or studied this area, or you might want to build your skills, knowledge and experience through advocating with YWCA. In addition to passion, it is important that you can commit to the time requirements of the Council (see section below for more information).

YWCA recognises the importance of voices with lived experience. If you are a person with lived experience, there will be no obligation to share details of your experiences. However, if members with lived experience wish to utilise their lived experience to inform YWCA's advocacy for change, you will be supported to do so. Diversity of voices is also a priority for us, and we highly encourage you to apply if you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person, living with a disability, coming from a culturally or linguistically diverse (CALD) background, or as a member of the LGBTQIA+SB community.

It's important to remember that research shows that men apply for a position when they meet only 60% of the qualifications, but women apply only if they meet 100% of them. If you feel like you have something to offer the YWC, then we encourage you to apply today.

THE BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S COUNCIL

This is a voluntary role. The benefits of being a member of the YWC are:

- Building connections with a group of like-minded young women and gender-diverse people who are equally passionate about creating change.
- An annual opportunity to travel to Sydney for a two-day Young Women's Council session which will happen twice during your term. Your travel, accommodation and food expenses will all be covered by YWCA Australia for these trips.
- Building your skills in advocacy and government relations with the support of YWCA Australia's Advocacy and External Affairs team.
- Opportunities to represent YWCA and to build your skills in using your experiences as young women and gender-diverse people to create real-world change.
- Opportunities to contribute to YWCA's Digital Activist Community, campaigns and advocacy and policy influence.
- Two Young Women's Council End of Financial Year Reports published on the YWCA Australia website which showcase your campaigns, advocacy and volunteering

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contributions.

TIME COMMITMENT

The two core activities that are expected of the YWC are:

- **1 x online meeting every three months with your YWC members**
 - The meetings are held after work hours to accommodate your schedule and runs for 2 hours. You may need an hour to review materials in advance of the meeting, and follow-up on some agreed activities after the meeting.
 - Council members who are unable to attend a scheduled meeting must let YWCA's Campaigns and Advocacy Officer know ahead of time.
- **1 x in-person meeting over two-days once per year in Sydney**
 - Your travel, accommodation and food will be paid for to attend this meeting.
 - The in-person meeting is held over a weekend or Friday-Saturday to accommodate your schedule.

In addition to the above, it is expected that the Young Women's Council members will be interested in contributing to some of our campaigns and advocacy projects.

- **Depending on what projects spark your interest, it is anticipated that you will contribute approximately 6 – 9 hours towards a project every three months**
 - Examples of previous campaigns include our 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based-Violence social media campaign, our Federal Budget submission, our research into the housing experiences of young women and gender-diverse people.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS – WHAT COMES NEXT?

First – **a big thank you for applying.** Your voice matters and we appreciate every application from young women and gender-diverse people across Australia!

How to Apply?

Fill out the online application form which will be linked [on our website](#) when applications open from Monday, 24 March 2025 until Sunday, 13 April at 11:59pm AEST. The form will ask you a few questions about yourself and your interests. From there, your application will be reviewed by a small YWCA panel. Applications will be shortlisted and then YWCA members will vote to determine who will make up the next Young Women's Council for 2025 to 2027!

If you have accessibility requirements, you can reach out to Bianca.Brunozzi@ywca.org.au to make alternative arrangements, such as a phone call application.

If you are elected as a YWC Member, your commencement date will be 1 July 2025. You will be provided with our volunteer agreement which you will need to abide by and be asked to complete a Volunteer's Working With Children's Check (or equivalent check in your State or Territory).