

**Professional Youth Advisory Council**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

- **How is the Youth Advisory Council different from the multiple requests (previously and recently) for the members to submit our areas of professional expertise (and/or gifts) so that administration could “use the rich talent within the church”? Why has nothing ever come of those submissions?**

Answer: The youth advisory council is a response to the question above. The realization that we could benefit from one group of individuals working together to combine efforts in cohesive manner bore the creation of the council. We are now stepping in to close that gap and make that happen. We are now trying to use this vehicle to ensure that there is something that becomes of the submissions and can hopefully tap into the rich talent of this church.

- **Why are we now asked to submit applications to be “considered” as a part of the council? Why is it so difficult for active members to lend professional support to the church?**

Answer: Everyone is a viable and a participant of this council. There is a core to create the council and then another group to help the proposal work through the feasibility to make it the best it can be to work towards a greater degree of success. To do this, we need the skill, the will and the conceptual understanding to assist on the core. Beyond that anyone has the ability to come forward with a proposal. For all interested parties who wish to work on the Council, we ask that you magnify the potential viability of your skill or idea. While we cannot change opinions of those that feel that it is difficult, we can say that now is the time to be heard.

- **Is the council the only means to get suggestions/ideas to Bishop?**

Answer: Any ideas that go to Bishop will be filtered to a department agent or representative. Anyone can send anything to Bishop at any time at their own leisure. It is his discretion to disseminate any ideas as he sees fit. He may, now that he has this council submit any idea given to him to us. But if you are talking about ideas that come directly from you to the council, the guiding coalition will make a decision based on the viability or feasibility of an idea.

- **Who will decide which suggestions/ideas "get through" to Bishop?**

Answer: Essentially, if it comes through the Coalition, us, the Professional Advisory Council. Any ideas sent directly to him will be handled by him the way he sees fit. No one should feel that they do not have access to our Bishop. If you have concerns or ideas, please feel free to share them with him.

- **Is the council a special group of young people who will be the new leaders?**

Answer: The implementation of the next leaders will be based on choices from Bishop and those he has given direction to to make such a decision. The Council simply is a group of committed individuals that applied for the role and are committed to the success of our organization.

- **Who chooses them? Would there be representation across the diocese?**

Answer: Members are chosen by the Council Core through an application process. The application process is open to everyone across the diocese.

- **How will the youth council work? What will it do? Will it make suggestions based only on their desires, knowledge, and experience or will it also obtain suggestions and ideas from the general membership?**

Answer: The Council will receive a proposal from the church body. The individual who is presenting the idea will work with the Guiding Coalition to fully check and research the viability of the suggestion. The fully researched proposal will then be submitted to Bishop for review.

- **How will I know that my suggestion/idea was received? How soon should I expect a response?**  
Answer: The process will be online and a confirmation email will be sent to the submitter.
- **Will there be transparency throughout the process?**  
Answer: Quarterly communication will be given to the church through various means.
- **Will the general membership have input in the process (i.e input on which suggestions to pursue, which ideas are most urgent/important, input on final decisions)? Once the council completes detailed proposals and/or reports, who gets to review them?**  
Answer: The Guiding Coalition will be responsible for this. The council works with you on your proposal and the Guiding Coalition will review and assist in vetting the viability of your ideas.
- **Will presentations be made to the general membership, or would they only go to the board?**  
Answer: All accepted proposals will go to our Bishop.
- **The youth are not the only members not being heard. Why are they the only group that gets a voice? What about the rest of us?**  
Answer: This is our church. This is your church. If you feel that your voice is not being heard we encourage you to work through your respective departments. (Men's, Women's and Youth). If you feel you need to reach out to Bishop directly, should there be concerns within your department, please do so.
- **How long does each group serve on the council?**  
Answer: Considering the newness of our new Council and the process, time of service will be determined. We will absolutely keep the integrity of new and vibrant ideas as well as volunteers.
- **Is the council similar to the "Blue Ribbon Committee"?**  
Answer: No, this is structured differently.
- **Is the council similar to the "Millennial Group"?**  
Answer: While similar in construct, those specific efforts were not advanced past a certain point. This was a suggestion to invigorate our Youth to utilize their skill sets to assist in this effort and to promote change through another vehicle with a different communication and review path.
- **If I know I don't qualify for the council, how else can I support the council and their efforts? Can I work with them somehow?**  
Answer: Everyone can support the council in some way. You can support by submitting proposals and additionally working to assist in field support. You can absolutely work with local members as we need dedicated commitment to succeed.
- **How often, where, and how will the council meet?**  
Answer: That is based on the council objectives and needs.
- **How soon will the council members be chosen?**  
Answer: It is our goal to have coalition members by year end. We would like to start 2020 with our first 2-3 premier proposals.
- **Why a professional "youth" advisory council? Why not just a "professional" advisory council that could include older, seasoned professionals, as well?**  
Answer: I was tasked with the chairing a committee that would allow Bishop Omega to create a useful bridge to the youth of the church. This Council was created to be the epicenter for ideas and proposed action items that we can work to put in place with accountability measures and transparency. This

Council works outside of the Youth Department. Everyone—certainly, including older, seasoned professionals--is encouraged to submit proposals and ideas.

- **Is the council our only hope for real change?**

Answer: The council was formed as a vehicle of hope. We encourage everyone to support it.