

OBV YOUTH BOARD

Application Pack



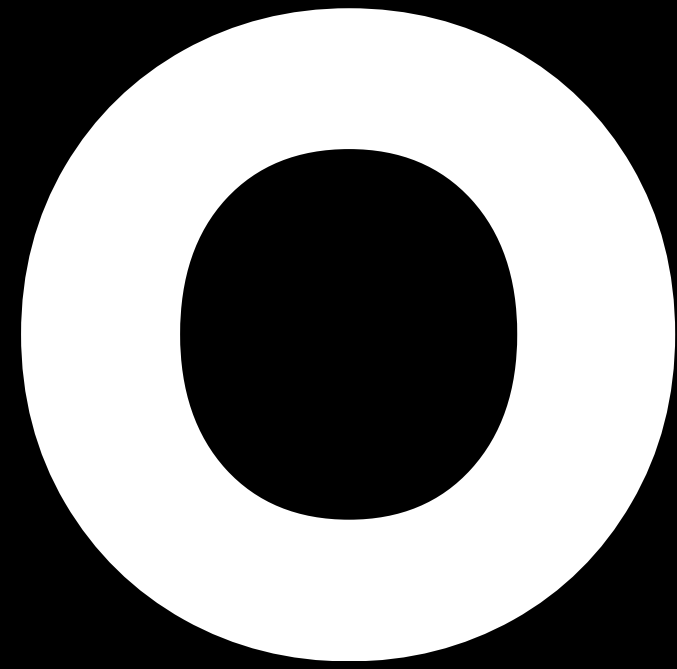
Introduction

Be the change. Lead the future.



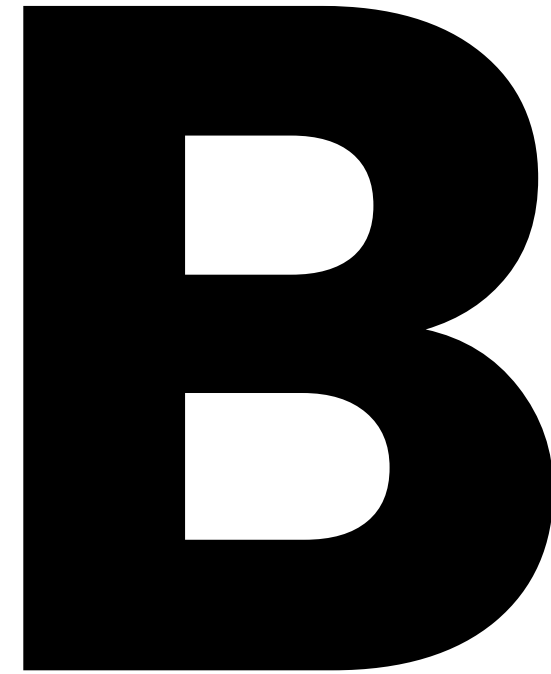
Operation Black Vote (OBV) is building a Youth Board of young leaders (18–24) who want to make a difference in politics, representation, and civic life. This is your chance to amplify the voices of young people of colour, shape political conversations, and gain real leadership experience.

Youth Board Objectives



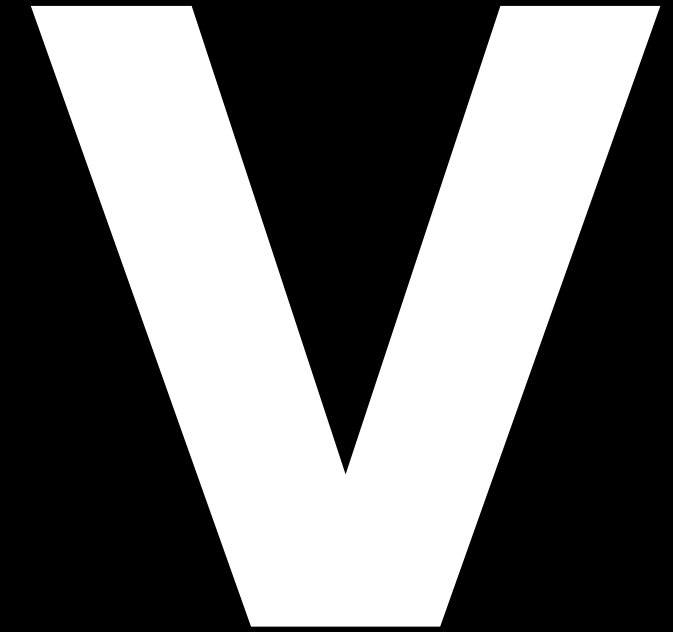
ORGANISE

Strategically set goals and create plans to take action for political issues impacting young people of colour. This can include but is not limited to: planning and coordinating meetings, events and campaigns that unite young people with shared lived-experience and inspire change.



BUILD

Build a network by inspiring, empowering and mobilising other like-minded individuals to join your cause. Create a safe space, both physically and digitally for young people to organise, share ideas and build a thriving movement and community.



VISABILITY

Amplify under-represented voices in foreign spaces. Challenge people to think differently and inspire others to be vocal. Use the incredible platforms and networks OBV has already established to shed light on the perspective of the next generation.

The Role of the OBV Youth Advisory Board

Critical Friend:

- Opportunity to give constructive feedback to the main OBV board about the work they are doing and how well it represents young people.
- As representatives for your peers, youth board members will also receive constructive feedback from a selected committee in the Young Advocates Network.

Representation:

- Putting the voice of young people in political spaces by attending political events and OBV meetings to advise on best practice, put forward ideas or concerns and propose actions for change.
- Listening/understanding what is important to young people and planning and organising campaigns/events that platform these opinions.

Organising:

- Creating strategies to mobilise and engage young more people of colour into politics.
- Identifying key issues impacting young people of colour and hosting Think Tank Workshops to give other young people the opportunity to create campaigns based on the issues that are important to them.

Leadership:

- Opportunity to chair meetings, host events and lead on important conversation.
- Be acting committee for future 'Young Advocates Network', connect with young people interested in politics and/or inspiring to have a career in politics.

Expectations

Role Length:

- 1 year with option to re-run for second term (2 terms max)

Meetings (this could be revised upon appointment):

- Mandatory training/residential
- Monthly youth board committee meetings
- Quarterly designated meetings with OBV Board (opportunity to ask for slots on OBV board meeting agenda if you wan a meeting outside the existing)
- Bi-Monthly mentorship meetings
- Varied optional meetings/Events (at boards discretion) e.g. workshops, events, planning, think tanks
- Annual General Meeting for wider OBV Youth Advocate Network

Recruitment

Platforms:

- Linked In
- W4MP
- Social media platforms

Oragnisations/Groups:

- National Union of Students (NUS)
- Culture and Faith Societies (ACS)

Recruitment Process:

- Pre-Registration register interest
- Application
- Skills Audit
- Accessible Interview: Project with free reign on how to present it e.g. *Prepare a Presentation about something you think impacts young people of colour currently, what would you like to change and how would you go about changing it.*
- Unsuccessful candidates have the option to become a member of the OBV Youth Advocate Network.

Elections:

- After first cohort, all board recruitment will be done via elections where members of the OBV Young Advocate Network can nominate themselves for different position and be selected by their peers. This is beneficial as it is offering a first hand experience of governance and putting more young people on the right trajectory for civic leadership opportunities.
- Elections for scrutiny group once network is established with 30 + Members

Remuneration

Mentorship Schemes:

- All youth board members will be buddied with a mentor from the the OBV Board where you will have a scheme in place for youth board members to set targets, journal progress and get constructive feedback on ideas in a series of bi-monthly meetings.
- Can support with job applications and other professional needs

OBV Ladder:

- Opportunity to progress onto the board when you surpass age threshold for a young advocate
- Get first hand notification about internal job roles on offers

OBV Leadership Courses/Training:

- Board members get placement on one of the OBV Courses for personal development

Politcal work experience:

- Amazing opportunity to great professional transferable skills
- Experience working in governance, democracy and organising
- Build an great political network when attending events and meetings with OBV

Trips and Residentials

- A training residential to prepare members for the role and meet team mates.
- Trips to parliament, conferences and special events in political calendar.

Skills

We want passionate, motivated young people who are:

Brave Voices – willing to speak up, challenge norms, and inspire others.

Team Players – collaborative, respectful, and open to learning.

Organisers & Creators – people who can plan, mobilise, and bring ideas to life.

Future Leaders – ambitious about change, politics, or community action.

No “perfect” candidate – if you’re committed, curious, and want to grow, we want you.

Good Luck

Don't worry about trying to fit a mold of what you think someone should be, politics is reflected in all aspects of society and we what are board to welcome people from all diverse backgrounds.

Be bold, step out your comfort zone and try something new!