

Summer Planning Academy (SPA)

PSRC Executive Board

March 23, 2023



Puget Sound Regional Council

Agenda

1. Goals of Summer Planning Academy (SPA)
2. Development Process
3. 2023 Cohort
4. Planning Timeline
5. Next Steps & Questions



Goals of SPA

- Introduce individuals to the planning process and profession at an early age.
- Engage young people on a regular basis to provide input on PSRC's policies and programs.
- Promote equity in the region by actively recruiting and engaging youth from diverse backgrounds including Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, low-income residents, and people with disabilities.



Development Process

- Informational interviews with peer MPOs.
 - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
 - Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)-Bay Area
 - Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- Modeling program after CMAP program.
 - Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP)
- Funding set aside in the budget to begin in 2023.



2023 Cohort

- No more than 20 high school students.
 - Focusing on rising juniors and seniors.
- Representation from all four counties.
 - Direct outreach to students from marginalized communities.
- Students eligible for \$500 scholarship at program completion.



2023 Cohort

- **Schedule**
 - Session 1 (July 21): PSRC Background & MPO Basics
 - Session 2 (July 28): Regional Transit
 - Session 3 (August 4): Environmental Planning
 - Session 4: Housing and Equity (August 11)
- **Sample Daily Itinerary**
 - 10:00 am: Presentation and discussion at PSRC
 - 11:30 am: External site visit
 - 12:30 pm: Lunch
 - 1:30 pm: Panel of speakers
 - 2:30 pm: Return to PSRC

Planning Timeline

- Planning and outreach are underway.
- Outreach includes:
 - Youth councils
 - High School Counselors
 - PSRC Boards and Committees
- SPA Team assembled from staff volunteers.
- Application went live March 15.

Summer Planning Academy (SPA) for High School Students

Are you curious about how cities grow, change, and develop? Have you ever wondered how governments decide where train lines should go? Do you have ideas about how to make our communities better places for everyone? If so, you should apply for the Summer Planning Academy (SPA)!




Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is looking for high school students from King, Snohomish, Pierce, and Kitsap counties who want to learn about urban planning in our region and share ideas about how to make the central Puget Sound region a better place to live, work, and play.

SPA is a leadership development opportunity offered free of charge to students interested in planning a better future for our region. The program encourages students to think creatively about how better planning can help people lead better lives.

Upon successful completion of SPA, students are eligible to receive a \$500 scholarship. SPA sessions will occur in person on four consecutive Fridays beginning July 21, 2023.

To learn more about PSRC, SPA, and to apply, go to [our website](#) or scan the QR code.

Questions? Email us at spa@psrc.org.



Next Steps & Questions

- Application Period is open until May 15.
- First cohort will be selected by June 1.
- For more information please visit: <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/summer-planning-academy>



Thank you!

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