



Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel
With Generous Support in Memory of Jerold C. Hoffberger
Application for the Class of 2017

OUR VISION

A world guided by ambassadors of cross-cultural relations who demand high expectations of themselves and are committed to working for a better tomorrow.



Program Overview

The Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel (ECYP) is a two-year leadership fellowship that builds bridges between the African-American and Jewish communities. ECYP is a partnership between the Baltimore Jewish Council and Congressman Elijah Cummings.

ECYP ALUMNI Over the past 16 years, the Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel (ECYP) has achieved tremendous success. In total, 182 participants have completed the program. Our graduates have gone on to higher education and successful careers! Examples include a CNN news anchor, commercial airline pilot, Peace Corps volunteer, United States Naval Officer, entrepreneur in early childhood education programming and investment banker.

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

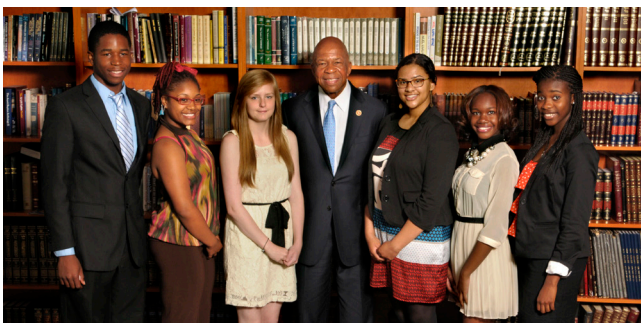
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| Acquire leadership skills | Obtain a better understanding of self |
| Travel abroad to Israel | Increase comfort in public speaking |
| Build new friendships | Receive service-learning hours |
| Become a community leader and activist | Receive support throughout college application process |

HOW YOU WILL LEARN ECYP promotes a hands-on approach to learning. Fellows will have ample opportunity to interact with various community leaders, facilitators and guest speakers. In addition to monthly training sessions, ECYP fellows perform community service throughout the year as middle school mentors to increase awareness of the community and provide the opportunity to serve.

ISRAEL TRIP After completing Year 1, ECYP fellows travel to Israel at no cost. They reside at Yemin Orde Youth Village in Haifa and are paired with displaced teens from over 24 countries including Ethiopia, Israel, South America, Europe and the former states of the Soviet Union.

The Israeli and American students tour historic sites in Israel, such as Jerusalem, the Jordan River and the Dead Sea. While in Israel, these young ambassadors attend workshops on diversity, Israeli culture, group dynamics and leadership. The Israel experience allows ECYP students the opportunity to gain independence, develop a respect and appreciation for other cultures, and reflect on their self-worth and character.

Salena Long, Class of 2009, reflects, *“Never in a million years would I have ever dreamed of visiting a foreign country. Traveling to Israel shed light on not just a place where my feet hit holy ground, but a place that resides in me; a place that let me know I am better than my circumstance and I have so much to live for. I walked away from my Israel experience compelled to make a difference in my life and in others.”*



Congressman Cummings with a few members of the Class of 2015



ECYP fellows and Israel teens in Tel Aviv



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MISSION To invest in promising teens from Maryland's 7th congressional district and prepare them to serve as open-minded leaders with the skills, community ties, and global exposure critical to success in a diverse society. Our efforts are infused with the spirit of bridge-building exemplified by the longstanding partnership of Congressman Elijah E. Cummings and the Baltimore Jewish community.

REQUIREMENTS Applicants must be entering their junior year of high school in the fall of 2015 and residing or attending school in Maryland's 7th congressional district (<http://cumplings.house.gov/>). Applicants must be able to commit to the program for two years. Please note that all ECYP programming is provided at no-charge to admitted fellows.

INSTRUCTIONS Complete this application on your computer and **save a copy for your records**. Email the finished version to application@ecyp.org. Scanned transcripts are permitted and may be sent in the same email or separately. Please use the subject, 'ECYP Application for LAST NAME, FIRST NAME.' See Part Three for recommendation letter instructions. Applicants who cannot send all documents by email may send any remaining documents by postal mail to ECYP Application, 5750 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215. Questions may be submitted to information@ecyp.org.

DEADLINE All application materials are due by midnight or postmark on **March 15, 2015**. Selected applicants will be notified by mail and/or phone in April for a second-round interview.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Personal Information
- Short Essays
- Recommendation Letters (Two)
- Required Certification and Release
- Official School Transcript

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/ECYPIsrael
or online at ecyp.org

We look forward to reading your application.
Thank You!

In Cooperation with Congressman Elijah Cummings





Student Name:

High School:



Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel

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PART 1 : PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name (Legal First, M.I., Last): _____

Preferred Name (Nickname): _____

Gender: Male Female

Ethnicity (Optional): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth (City/State): _____

Name of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s): _____

Street Address: _____

Apt # _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Student Cell Phone: _____

Parent Email: _____

Student Email: _____

High School: _____

Phone: _____

G.P.A. (on 4.0 scale): _____

Name of Guidance Counselor: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes No

If not, are you a permanent resident? Yes No

How did you hear about ECYP (check all that apply)?

- Media (radio, print)
- Religious organization

- School counselor or teacher
- Relative or friend

- ECYP alumnus
- Other (Please specify) _____

What are your plans upon graduating high school?

- Four-year college/university
- Technical college/trade school
- Two-year community college
- Join the workforce

- Unsure

If you have thought of continuing your education, please list the institutions you are considering.

1. Institution's Name: _____

City/State: _____

2. Institution's Name: _____

City/State: _____

3. Institution's Name: _____

City/State: _____

Please complete the chart below. Do not use abbreviations for clubs or activities, write out the full names and titles.

DATES	SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES (Extracurricular, volunteerism, athletics)	POSITION HELD

DATES	COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES (Volunteer work, religious involvement, other affiliations)	POSITION HELD

DATES	AWARDS & HONORS (academic or extracurricular)

4. During the Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel you will be an active member of a group of your peers. Describe a time when you worked well in a group and a time when you struggled to work in a group.
5. Identify one problem in your high school that you would like to change. Tell us what steps you would implement to make that possible? How would you evaluate that change once it is implemented?
- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you? You may send or attach documents that you feel would help the selection committee get to know you better. Additional submissions should be brief in nature (artwork, poetry, photography, short papers, etc.) and are not required.



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PART THREE: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (STUDENT PAGE)

DEADLINE References and all other materials are due by midnight or postmark on **March 15, 2015**.

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT Obtain two letters of recommendation. Direct your references to **ecyp.org** in order to complete a recommendation letter. The individuals writing your recommendation must use the form listed on the website (please designate as source A or B). Letters of recommendation should be written by an academic advisor, teacher, religious clergy, mentor, or employer. Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that your references submit letters by the deadline.

STUDENT NAME: _____

PLEASE LIST YOUR REFERRAL SOURCES

REFERRAL SOURCE A

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

In what capacity do you know this individual?

REFERRAL SOURCE B

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

In what capacity do you know this individual?



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PART FOUR: REQUIRED CERTIFICATION AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION

- I certify that all the information on this application is true to the best of my knowledge.
- I certify that I live or go to school in the Maryland's 7th congressional district
(Please visit mdelect.net to confirm the congressional district of your residence and/or school.)
- I understand that if selected, it is mandatory that I attend two monthly events and participate in community service/mentoring activities during my 11th and 12th grade years of high school.
- I will participate in at least three public-speaking engagements as an "ambassador" during my 12th grade year.
- I hereby authorize ECYP to share or publish portions of my application for the purpose of evaluation, recruitment, public relations, possible scholarship and internship opportunities, or any other related activity.
- If selected as a fellow, I understand that I will be held to an Honor Code during my time in Baltimore and in Israel.

APPLICANT'S NAME

(Signature)

(Date)

By typing your name above, you create an electronic signature and affirm that you have read and agree to the disclosure statement.

My annual household family income is approximately:

- \$0 - \$25,000
- \$25,001 - \$50,000
- \$50,001 - \$100,000
- \$100,001 - \$150,000
- \$150,001 or higher

My household size is:

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more

Please answer this question to the best of your knowledge. There are **no income guidelines** for participation in the Elijah Cummings Youth Program.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME

(Signature)

(Date)

By typing your name above, you create an electronic signature and affirm that you have read and agree to the disclosure statement.

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