

Youth Participation

Requirements & Eligibility



Big City Mountaineers (BCM) works closely with current Youth Agency Partners (YAPs) to identify prospective youth participants who are likely to be a great fit for our outdoor programs. While there are many factors that help determine whether someone is likely to have a positive, meaningful experience with BCM, specific requirements include the following points.

Youth participants must:

- Express an interest in participating in a Program;
- Complete a registration form, pre-program survey, participation waiver, and post-program survey;
- Agree to adhere to BCM's positive learning agreement;
- Embrace a team-oriented attitude free of exclusive relationships or groups;
- Have positive relationships with Organization Representatives participating in the Program;
- Be between 12 and 18 years old and within 2 years of all other potential Youth Participants in the Program. Any exceptions for accepting youth over 18 years old needs to be approved by the National Program Director in advance;
- BCM is committed to maintaining the safety and well-being of all participants. The Organization is responsible for evaluating the criminal history of its participants, particularly in relation to violent or sexually based offenses, and determining whether a participant should be allowed to participate in the Program. If concerns arise, the Organization shall communicate any relevant information to BCM prior to the Program start date. BCM and the Organization will then assess the situation together and make an informed decision regarding the participation of any individuals that have a criminal history that prioritizes the safety, well-being, and experience of all participants.

Additionally, each YAP is responsible for recruiting enough youth participants to ensure more than the minimum number of youth participants on each program is met, as described in the program agreement. BCM can provide youth recruitment tools by request to support the process.

If you have immediate questions about these youth participation criteria or our process, please get in touch: info@bigcitymountaineers.org.