



# YOUTH DIPLOMATS PROGRAM

— *Activating the Next Generation of Global Citizens* —

*Gulf Coast Diplomacy challenges you to think about a world **MUCH BIGGER** than your own.*

The **Gulf Coast Diplomacy Youth Diplomats** is an 11 month experiential learning program to equip & empower teens in Northwest Florida to become active **global citizens**.

We meet once a month to explore topics in **global affairs & diplomacy**. You'll build your **leadership & intercultural communication** skills in the process.

You'll learn about the **people, culture & issues** of various countries through meetings with exchange students & professionals participating in U.S. Department of State & U.S. Congressional exchanges.

You'll also discover **scholarships, college & career options** & network with **global experts**. Up to 24 students will be invited to join us.

**APPLY TODAY & EXPLORE TOMORROW**

*The journey begins June 2025.*

We are a local, nonpartisan nonprofit promoting citizen diplomacy in NW Florida by hosting U.S. Dept of State exchange programs for experts & youth from around the world.



### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

8th-11th graders who are:

- Graduating in 2026 or later
- Curious about the world & open to diverse perspectives



### COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

You'll receive service hours when engaging with international visitors and participating in service activities with nonprofits.



### MORE INFO

[www.gulfcoastdiplomacy.org](http://www.gulfcoastdiplomacy.org)  
**APPLY BY May 12!**

*There is no fee to apply.*

Questions?  
Contact Jena Mélançon:  
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850.377.3176

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## Anticipated Schedule for June 2025 - April 2026

*Camp Global: June 17 - 20, 10 - 11:30 AM (via Zoom)*

*Leadership Days: July 14 -18, 9 AM - 1 PM (in-person)*

### **Regular Meetings**

**Saturdays, 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
in downtown Pensacola**

*August 9*

*September 20*

*October 25*

*November 15*

*December 13*

*January 24*

*February 21*

*March 28*

*April 18*

*Topics for June—October will be determined by the eighth cohort of Youth Diplomats at the April 2025 session.*

*Topics for November—April will be determined by the October 2025 session.*

*All meetings are in person unless noted otherwise.*



**@gulfcoastdiplomacy**

## **Are you curious about global affairs? Do you like learning about different cultures? Apply to be a Gulf Coast Diplomacy Youth Diplomat!**

### ***What's the commitment?***

- Attend 7 of 9 regular sessions one Saturday per month, Aug 2025-April 2026 and either Camp Global in June or the IYLEP exchange in July. Attending either of the two summer sessions counts as a make-up for a missed regular meeting and Youth Diplomats are encouraged to attend both;
- Produce one blog post or social media post; and
- Read the materials provided at the end of each session to be ready to engage at the next month's session.

### ***What are the benefits?***

Youth Diplomats:

- Develop 21st century skills including critical thinking, collaboration & leadership development;
- Strengthen their knowledge of global affairs;
- Earn community service hours alongside international exchange participants;
- Earn digital credentials aligned with the Open Badges standard; and
- Have access to an array of scholarships promoting international exchange and language proficiency.

### ***How much does it cost?***

- Tuition for the year is \$120.
- Need-based tuition waivers are available.

### ***Sample Activities***

Past Youth Diplomats:

- Explored the Peace Corps & the U.S. Foreign Service;
- Participated in diplomatic simulations;
- Explored intercultural communication, the situation in Ukraine, and historic preservation in Albania;
- Engaged in activities with teens from Central America and Kosovo;
- Met with professionals from Armenia, Morocco, & Pakistan; and
- Built friendships across our region and the world.

**INFORMATION & APPLICATION:** [WWW.GULFCOASTDIPLOMACY.ORG](http://WWW.GULFCOASTDIPLOMACY.ORG)