



CAREGIVING YOUTH STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A 5-day Leadership Training in Conjunction with the
University of Texas, San Antonio

The Caregiving Youth Student Leadership Program was established to help youth in caregiving roles identify resources as well as increase leadership knowledge and skills to help prepare for life after high school. Caregiving Youth in high school with leadership potential, representing all branches of the Armed Forces, to include National Guard and Reserves, are invited to apply. Students will engage in leadership activities and lessons focused on preparing students to be college-, work-, and life-ready following high school graduation.

October 2-6, 2026

**University of Texas, San
Antonio**

**Application Deadline:
August 27, 2026**

Student/Parent Application



[APPLY](#)

Adult Recommendation



[RECOMMEND](#)

Click the button or hover over the code
with your camera phone to apply.



Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants must:

- Be a youth in a caregiver role*
- Be willing and able to travel to San Antonio on dates listed for the event
- Be a high school student in good academic standing
- Complete and submit the student/parent application
- Submit the adult recommendation

**This is a scholarship-based program which covers
the following cost:**

MCEC covers the following costs:

- Flight to and from San Antonio Airport plus luggage fees
- Hotel/lodging for 4 nights
- Meals from the time student arrives to the time they depart
- Activities planned for the event • Travel while in Texas

MCEC does not cover:

- Ground transportation to and from local airport
- Food while traveling
- Souvenirs or extra snacks

*Caregiving youth, also known as Hidden Helpers, are the children, youth, and young adults (up to age 18) who are actively involved in or currently impacted by the care needs of a wounded, ill, or injured veteran.

CAREGIVING YOUTH STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FAQs

Q: When and how will students know if they are selected?

A: Each student will be notified by email and text message if they are selected for an interview. After interviews and selection process is complete, all students who were not selected for the program will also be notified.

Q: If I am selected, will my parent be able to travel and attend the event with me?

A: As a leadership program, having the student attend on their own is part of the experience and growth opportunity.

Q: Who attends the Caregiving Youth Student Leadership Program with the students?

A: MCEC team members attend with the students to ensure an appropriate student to staff ratio. MCEC staff members are required to complete background checks.

Q: If selected, what happens when I arrive in San Antonio?

A: Each student is met by an MCEC staff member at the airport as soon as they depart the secured terminal area. Students are then taken to get their luggage and remain with the group until all students arrive and the group departs for the training site.

Q: Do students have to share a room?

A: Yes. Each student will room with another student of the same gender. Students are not allowed to go into rooms that they are not assigned to. Students may gather in the common areas only.

Q: Are students allowed to have visitors or leave the premises after daily events?

A: Students will never be allowed to leave the group unaccompanied. Students must remain with the group and MCEC staff for the entirety of the event. Students are not allowed to have visitors during the program. This is for the safety and well-being of all students attending the event.

Q: What does a typical day look like?

A: Each day we will participate in leadership classes, team building activities, tours, and guest speaker sessions. Evening events will be led by MCEC staff and will provide opportunities to build and strengthen leadership skills.

Q: Are we required to attend all 5 days?

A: Students must commit to attend the entire event, arriving Friday, October 2, and departing Tuesday, October 6. Only students who can commit to the entire event should apply.