

FLIP youth program

FUTURE LEADERS IN PLANNING

**A LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**
for high school freshmen and sophomores



FLIP | A youth leadership development program

Are you concerned about having better parks? How about the streets in your community? Have you ever wondered why the mall is where it is? Have you ever thought about why your school is located where it is? Do you wish someone would do something to make life better for you, your family, or your community?

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is looking for high school students to learn about our region while interacting with their peers from other counties in northeastern Illinois. CMAP is interested in the ideas about how to make the region a better place to live, go to school, work and play. Please apply to be part of **Future Leaders in Planning!**

Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) is a leadership development opportunity where students can contribute to a better future for our region. Participants in this new program will learn more about the northeastern region and share their thoughts with other teens from Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will counties. Participants will also meet and interact with selected regional leaders who make key planning decisions in our communities.

Youth Engagement: A National Movement

Over the past several years, a national movement to involve youth in civic affairs has grown tremendously. At the local level, many community organizations are helping young people find answers to questions about their neighborhoods through educational programming. Others are even involving youth directly in their neighborhood planning and development campaigns. In some regions, governments have gone so far as to create youth councils or commissions to get youth input in public decision making. This is your chance to make a difference in our region!

To stay updated on **FLIP**, meet other youth in the region, and blog about issues affecting your community, visit www.myspace.com/cmappyouth.

The Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) Curriculum

FLIP students will learn about past, present and future regional issues from elected officials, community leaders and CMAP staff. Through multimedia tools, interactive activities and field trips, students will go “behind the scenes” to explore our region’s communities. You’ll not only learn how the region works, but also contribute your own ideas about how residents’ lives can be improved through better planning.

Have you ever thought about what happens at the airport beyond the check-in counter? Have you considered how 911 call centers work? Do you know what a “green roof” is? These are the types of activities and questions **FLIP** participants will explore. Participants will investigate regional issues by:

- forming committees with other participants
- taking their ideas to elected officials who work to make change
- debating and voting on the resolutions they have crafted to create a more prosperous northeastern Illinois region

An introductory component of this program will include an opportunity for students to meet and work with planners and architects to understand and apply fundamental principles of coordinated planning and governance. Through exercises and excursions, participants will explore the benefits and challenges of planning issues including transportation, air quality, human services, land use, water supply and quality. In addition to learning how local governments interact to address these important regional needs, students will have opportunities to engage with other students to think about the ways planning could be improved and/or changed.

Students will present their resolutions at the end of the sessions to the CMAP Board. This board is comprised of fifteen voting members, with five appointed by the Mayor of the City of Chicago, five by suburban Cook County, and five by chairmen of the collar counties (full list available on back cover).

FLIP is an ideal opportunity for students who are willing to learn and participate in a project that will empower them with planning information and knowledge about their community and the northeastern Illinois region. Not only will this program enhance student’s professional development, but may also count towards community service credit hours. As a leadership development program, all successful participants will receive a certificate of participation and appreciation from CMAP officials, as well as an optional letter of recommendation for colleges, universities and future internship opportunities.



Student Application Form

Please note: CMAP is seeking to attract a diverse group of **FLIP** candidates and participants. We are committed to making reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities as defined by the ADA. If you need an accommodation, please contact Andrew Williams-Clark at (312) 450-4119 so that we can make arrangements.

Students: please complete and return the application form with your essay to CMAP. Please print clearly using blue or black ink. **Applications must be postmarked or emailed by June 2, 2008.** See instructions for mailing information.

Name _____
First Middle Last

Current Grade

- Freshman
 Sophomore

Sex

- Male
 Female

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

Will you need financial assistance to commute to/from the program?
(Financial assistance may be available)

- Yes No

Race/Ethnicity (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> White (not Hispanic or Latino) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to self-identify |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino | |

Home address _____
Street Apt.#

_____ City County Zip

E-mail _____ Home phone _____ Cell _____

School name _____ School phone _____

School address _____
Address City County Zip

Please list your community involvement and/or extracurricular activities.

Essay

Creating a great place to live is a constant work in progress. In an effort to involve the youth of the region in planning for the city's future, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) — the official planning agency for the 7-county region — has created a dynamic youth leadership development program called the Future Leaders in Planning. **FLIP** has been designed to bring high school students from the 7 counties to address key issues affecting the northeastern Illinois region.

Write an essay explaining:

- What regional or community issue (or issues) interest you the most and why.
- What strengths and experiences you can contribute to helping solve regional challenges.
- How you picture or envision our region in the year 2040.

Essay should be typed, double-spaced and no more than three pages long. (Be sure to write your name on all pages of the essay).

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Leadership Development Program Reference Form

Students: please tear and give this form to your reference person, who should mail the completed form directly to CMAP. To be filled out by a teacher, counselor, mentor or community leader. **FLIP** is sponsored by CMAP.

Dear teacher, counselor, mentor or community leader,

You are being asked to complete the following reference form for _____.
He or she is applying to participate in *Future Leaders in Planning*. As a leadership development program, we are looking for energetic and enthusiastic teens interested in voicing their concerns for the future of our community. Participants in the **Future Leaders in Planning** will get opportunities to learn more about our region and share their thoughts and ideas with other teens in the northeastern Illinois region (includes Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties). Students will also get to meet and impact regional leaders who make key decisions on the planning done in our communities. For more information or to use an electronic version, please visit <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/flip.aspx>.

Mail completed application and essay to:
Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP)
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Reference forms can also be sent electronically to Diana Torres at dtorres@cmap.illinois.gov.

Reference forms for *Future Leaders in Planning* must be postmarked by Monday, June 2nd 2008.

Please rate this student's academic performance compared to his/her peers: superior good average poor

Please rate this student's overall character in comparison to his/her peers: superior good average poor

On a scale of **1** (lowest) to **4** (highest), please rate the student on the following:

___ self discipline	___ initiative	___ originality
___ leadership	___ reliability	___ integrity
___ ability to follow directions	___ cooperation with others	___ analytical skills
___ independence	___ academic ability	___ commitment to obligations

Please describe your relationship to the above candidate and briefly explain an exemplary action he or she has taken to make a positive impact in their community (school community, local community, church community, etc.). Why do you believe the applicant should be chosen to participate in this program? (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

Signature of Recommender _____ Date _____

Name of Recommender (print) _____ Phone _____

Relationship to Candidate _____ E-mail _____



Schedule

The **FLIP** program begins in early September 2008 and continues through early March 2009. All participants should commit to **one** orientation session, **one** overnight retreat (Saturday through Sunday), **five** Saturday all-day sessions, and **one** Saturday for Final Presentations. The five Saturday sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m.

The dates of commitment are as follows:

- 1. September 13, 2008** **Orientation for participants and their families**
- 2. October 4-5, 2008** **Retreat** (for students only; mandatory)
- 3. October 25, 2008** **Session 1**
- 4. November 15, 2008** **Session 2**
- 5. December 6, 2008** **Session 3**
- 6. January 10, 2009** **Session 4**
- 7. February 7, 2009** **Session 5**
- 8. March 2009 (Saturday)** **Final Presentation** (date, time and location to be determined by spring breaks schedules)

The retreat will be chaperoned by CMAP staff. During the retreat, students will participate in various activities to strengthen group dynamics; more retreat information will be provided at the Orientation. During the Saturday sessions, lunch will be provided to participants at no cost to parents/guardians. All sessions will begin and end at CMAP office, located in the Sears Tower at 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL. Should any student require financial assistance to ensure travel to and from our office, CMAP will provide support (please see application). To experience the full benefits of the **FLIP**, attendance at all meetings is strongly encouraged. Participation in the overnight retreat is mandatory.

*Please note: there is no charge or fee to participate in the **Future Leaders in Planning** program.*

The FLIP Application and Selection Process

Applications for Future Leaders in Planning must be postmarked by Monday, June 2, 2008.

To be eligible, students must:

- Be a freshman or sophomore during the 2007-2008 school year (public or private high schools welcome); and
- Reside in one of the 7 counties in the Northeastern Illinois region (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, or Will); and
- Possess a desire and interest to learn more about the region and our communities.

To apply to the **FLIP** program, follow the steps listed below:

1. Complete the Student Application Form,
2. Complete the Essay (be sure to include your name on the essay!),
3. Have **one** teacher, counselor, mentor or community leader complete a Reference Form (be sure to write your name in the space indicated on the form before giving them to your reference!)

Mail completed application and essay to:

Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP)
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Applications can also be sent electronically to Diana Torres at dtorres@cmap.illinois.gov.

A selection committee composed of CMAP staff will review the applications. Consideration is given to students who demonstrate a combination of factors including level of interest, critical thinking skills and community involvement. In addition, each student's application essay and reference letter will contribute to final decisions. Because of the program's mission, we strive to have a diverse group of students.

All applicants will be notified of final decisions on Monday, June 9, 2008.

Contact Information

For more information about **FLIP**, visit <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/flip.aspx>.

Should you or your parents/guardians need additional information, please feel free to contact us:

Andrew Williams-Clark
312-386-8770
awilliamsclark@cmap.illinois.gov

Diana Torres (Spanish speaker)
312-386-8774
dtorres@cmap.illinois.gov

Erin Aleman
312-386-8816
ealeman@cmap.illinois.gov

Jieun Kim (Korean speaker)
312-386-8839
jkim@cmap.illinois.gov

To stay updated on **FLIP**, meet other youth in the region, or blog about issues affecting your community, visit www.myspace.com/cmamyouth.

About CMAP

CMAP was created to integrate planning for land use and transportation in the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. CMAP and its partners are removing barriers to cooperation across geographical boundaries and subject areas such as land use, transportation, natural resources, housing, and economic development. By understanding how these issues, and our communities' futures, are inter-related, CMAP seeks to change the way planning is conducted in northeastern Illinois.

Formed in 2005, CMAP integrates planning for land use and transportation in the seven counties of northeastern Illinois region. The new organization combined the region's two previously separate transportation and land-use planning organizations — Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) — into a single agency. CMAP's goal is to coordinate the efforts of the multitude of local governmental agencies and supply them with the best technical assistance and analysis to improve land use and transportation decision-making for the region.

The CMAP Board's membership reflects the regional consensus that led to creation of CMAP, featuring balanced representation from across the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. CMAP is now developing the region's first truly comprehensive plan for land use and transportation and has recently unveiled its **GO TO 2040** plan and campaign. CMAP wants people across northeastern Illinois — including decision makers in the public and private sectors — to think like residents of the future. Our desire is for you to virtually "**GO TO 2040**" by becoming part of our planning process. For more information on **GO TO 2040**, the region's comprehensive plan for land use and transportation, visit www.goto2040.org.

CMAP has various committees at the policy, advisory and coordinating levels that play integral roles in these planning processes. In addition, working committees contribute to regional planning initiatives — such as Economic & Community Development, Environment & Natural Resources, Housing, Human Services, Land Use, and Transportation. Lastly, CMAP also works with task groups, such as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Task Force, and the Regional Water Supply Planning Group, to solicit guidance from members.

CMAP Board

Executive Committee
Gerald Bennett, *chair*
Rita Athas, *vice chair*
Elliott Hartstein, *vice chair*
Al Larson, *at-large member*
Rae Rupp Srch, *at-large member*
Nigel Telman, *at-large member*

City of Chicago Appointments
Rita Athas, *executive director, World Business Chicago*
Frank Beal, *executive director, Chicago Metropolis 2020*
Raul Raymundo, *executive director, Resurrection Project*
André Rice, *president, Muller and Monroe Asset Management*
Nigel Telman, *partner, Sidley Austin LLP*

Collar County Appointments
Elliott Hartstein, *mayor, Buffalo Grove (Lake)*
Marilyn Michelini, *mayor, Montgomery (Kane/Kendall)*
Dan Shea, *McHenry County board member (McHenry)*
Roger Claar, *mayor, Bolingbrook (Will)*
Rae Rupp Srch, *former mayor, Villa Park (DuPage)*

Cook County Appointments
Gerald Bennett, *mayor, Palos Hills (Southwest Cook)*
Anthony Calderone, *mayor, Forest Park (West Central Cook)*
Zenovia Evans, *mayor, Riverdale (South Cook)*
Alan Bennett, *village trustee, Elmwood Park (Cook)*
Al Larson, *mayor, Schaumburg (Northwest Cook)*

**Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Committee Representative (non-voting)**
Stephen Schlickman,
executive director, Regional Transportation Authority

Governor of Illinois Representative (non-voting)
Ian Doughty, *Governor's appointee*