



**|FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 27, 2026**

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## **Applications Open for Teen Court Volunteers**

***Program offers hands on courtroom experience and leadership development for local youth***

The City of McAllen Teen Court program is now accepting applications for student volunteers, ages 14 and up who live in McAllen, attend a McAllen high school, or reside in surrounding areas. Teenagers are invited to join this dynamic and empowering program that brings real courtroom experiences to youth.

Teen Court is a peer driven alternative justice program that allows first time juvenile offenders to be judged by a jury of their peers. Volunteers serve in roles such as teen attorneys, jurors, bailiffs, and clerks, gaining valuable experience in law, leadership, and public speaking while contributing to a meaningful community initiative.

“This is a great opportunity for teens to build confidence, learn about the legal system, and make a real difference in their community,” said Honorable Judge Lauren Sepulveda, Presiding Judge.

This program gives students hands-on courtroom experience, building confidence, public speaking, and legal knowledge while developing leadership skills, enhancing college applications, and earning community service hours.

Volunteers must commit to attending training sessions and participating in court hearings held regularly at the McAllen Municipal Court. Applications are open now through May 15th, 2026. For inquiries, to learn more or to apply, visit: [https://form.jotform.com/MMC\\_Teen/summerfall-2026-TC-reg](https://form.jotform.com/MMC_Teen/summerfall-2026-TC-reg)

### **About the City of McAllen**

Founded in 1904 and incorporated in 1911, the City of McAllen has grown from a small agricultural community into one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing cities along the U.S.–Mexico border. Known as the “City of Palms,” McAllen serves as a hub for international trade, retail, tourism, and culture in the Rio Grande Valley.

Today, the City employs more than 2,600 dedicated public servants across 41 departments, delivering essential services to a community of more than 150,000 residents. City leaders remain committed to transparent governance, fiscal responsibility, and enhancing quality of life through innovation, infrastructure, and community engagement.

For more information, visit [www.mcallen.net](http://www.mcallen.net).

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