

Youth Leadership Initiative Guidelines

The CAHEC Foundation envisions sustainable communities that offer housing and life-changing opportunities to their residents. Our education grants focus on empowering residents. Designed to promote self-sufficiency, these grants provide residents with the means to take control of their lives and improve their prospects for success. The CAHEC Foundation works closely with our partners to provide residents access to opportunities that can help ensure they have the tools needed to pursue their educational goals.

The Youth Leadership Initiative is designed to provide personal development and educational opportunities to our younger residents. Encouraging our youth to set goals at an early age will help shape them into responsible leaders within their communities. By recognizing academic achievement and positive behavior, the CAHEC Foundation believes that youth residents will be better equipped to make decisions that will positively impact their future.

To promote youth empowerment, the CAHEC Foundation has partnered with The North Carolina Bankers Association (NCBA) Foundation, Camp Challenge. The NCBA Foundation is committed to promoting financial literacy throughout North Carolina. Improved financial education leads to improved citizens, improved communities, and, ultimately, improved economies. Each year, hundreds of high-achieving, low-resource youth are chosen to attend Camp Challenge's one week long summer camp.

The Youth Leadership Initiative provides funding for youth residents living in CAHEC-sponsored properties to attend Camp Challenge, where they will learn more about their roles in local and global economies. While at camp, youth engage in a variety of traditional camp activities, such as archery, rope courses, swimming, etc., while also participating in an interactive personal finance course. This course includes lessons on responsible spending, saving, investing, and entrepreneurship. Students also learn basic etiquette skills and practice reading, writing, and speaking skills.

In 2021, [Camp Challenge](#) will host camp at the YMCA [Camp Weaver](#) in Greensboro, N.C. The CAHEC Foundation will sponsor up to 14 youth residents living in CAHEC-sponsored properties. Sponsorship includes the cost for one week at camp; including meals, overnight stays in the cabin, and all activities.

Applications can be found on the CAHEC website.

The application process is competitive and in order to be considered eligible, all of the following criteria must be met:

- The youth resident lives at a CAHEC-sponsored LIHTC property.
- The youth resident is entering the sixth, seventh, or eighth grade.
- The guardian/parent of the applicant agrees to provide transportation for the camper to and from YMCA Camp Weaver. Transportation is not provided by the CAHEC Foundation.
- Complete the Camp Challenge application (available to download early 2017). Submit application and a nonrefundable \$10.00 application fee to YMCA Camp Weaver, 4924 Tapawingo Trail, Greensboro, NC 27406 on or before April 30, 2021.
 - If accepted, the nonrefundable \$10.00 application fee will provide a drink and snack for your camper each day at camp.

Residents seeking more information regarding the application process and/or eligibility should contact the property manager. Property managers with questions may contact Stefanie Lee at (919) 645-9825 or slee@cahec.com.