



Young Planners Group

North Carolina APA

Mission & Structure



Young Planners Group

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The Young Planners Group Committee (YPG) is a committee that includes students and young professionals under the age of 35 within the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association. YPG aims to attract students and young professionals to become and remain involved with NCAPA, while reducing barriers to entry and creating a platform for leadership. The YPG membership will further the mission of NCAPA locally, by section, and chapter-wide.

The creation of the NCAPA YPG was inspired by the National APA's Young Planners Group Taskforce. Existing from 2007-2009, the taskforce identified the needs of young professionals and offered recommendations in the 2009 APA Board Report "Blueprint for Change". The NCAPA YPG will utilize and expand on the ideas in the report to serve the needs of young professionals within North Carolina.

Mission

- To provide support, training, and education that meets the needs of young professionals
- To cultivate the future leadership of APA and the planning profession by creating opportunities for involvement at all levels
- To provide young planners opportunities to engage planning professionals, while fostering social and professional relationships

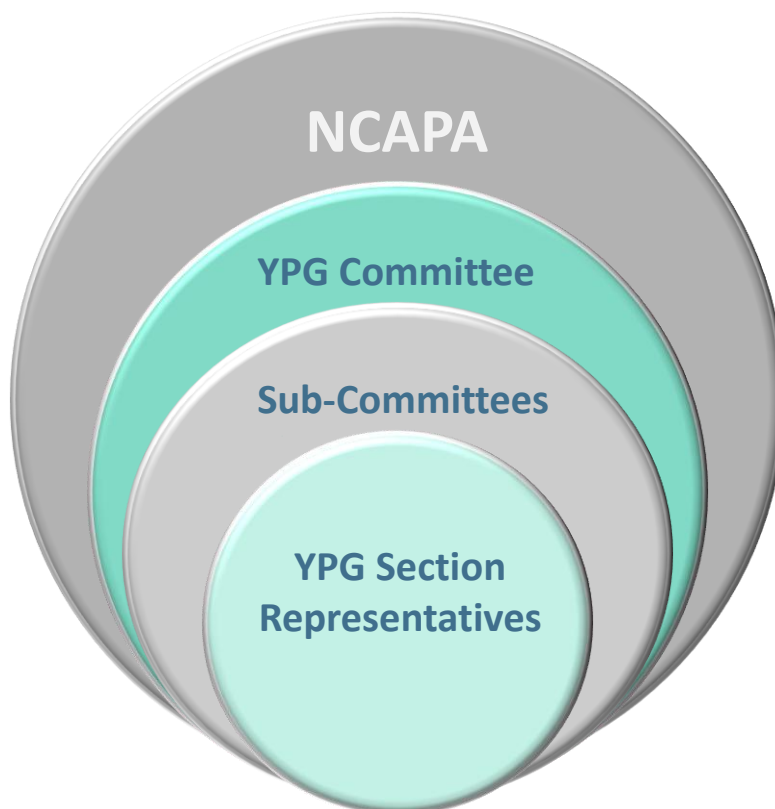
Goals

- Provide opportunities for young planners to become active participants in NCAPA and APA
- Foster dialogue between young professionals and experienced planners
- Encourage membership in NCAPA and YPG amongst students, planners, and allied professions
- Work with and support other NCAPA committees to further similar goals

Structure

The committee will be led by an YPG Chair and Co-Chair. They will be responsible for representing young planners on the NCAPA Executive Committee, maintaining contact with sub-committees, and assisting YPG section representatives.

The YPG is organized with several sub-committees that members join to help develop and carry out YPG programs and events. These sub-committees will also work with YPG Section Representatives to plan events around the state. The roles and duties of sub-committees will be further defined as membership in the YPG grows.



YPG Sub-Committees

Community Service/Volunteering

The Community Service and Volunteering group coordinates YPG members in volunteering events through local community service organizations. These events give YPG members opportunities to give back to their community.

Networking

The Networking group plans and carries out events that help YPG members meet their peers and more experienced planning professionals in a relaxed social environment. These events foster networking and relationships between YPG members who may otherwise not meet.

Professional Development

The Professional Development group focuses on building the careers of YPG members. Based on interests of YPG members, this group organizes programs that link experienced professionals with YPG members through mentoring and other activities.

Sponsorship & Communications

The Sponsorship and Marketing group focuses on attracting YPG members, creating and distributing materials, creating a unified YPG brand, and securing sponsorships for events and programs.

University/College Outreach

The University Outreach group acts as the NCAPA YPG representatives to local area campuses, staff, and students. This group promotes the benefits of being active in APA and encourages participation in APA and YPG programs.

Leadership Responsibilities

YPG Chair & Co-Chair

- Advise the NCAPA Executive Committee of affairs concerning the YPG
- Facilitate sub-committee meetings and, with the consent of the Executive Committee, establish and define responsibilities for sub-committees to carry out YPG programs and events, and appoint YPG members to lead YPG Sections
- Develop, recommend, and maintain a calendar of YPG events, programs, and awards; to make necessary arrangements to carry out these programs and events
- Improve interaction between young planners and other section members and to develop and promote a communication network between YPG members and NCAPA

YPG Section Representatives

The goal of YPG is to have representation and programs available to YPG members around the state. To help facilitate that goal, YPG involvement at the section level is necessary. The YPG Section Representatives are encouraged to work with Section Leaders to plan events and programs of interest to young planners and/or all members of NCAPA. Each section should have at least two representatives that coordinate programs with the assistance of other YPG members in that section and the subcommittees (if applicable). Section Representatives are responsible for:

- Coordinating events in their section
- Hosting section kickoff events
- Recruiting YPG members
- Participating in YPG Committee meetings/conference calls

YPG Events

YPG sponsored events should cover the array of interests and experiences of young planners. While the YPG is focusing on the needs of young professionals and students, we recognize the wealth of resources and experiences within the NCAPA membership. YPG members and experienced planners can collaborate and interact to address needs and further professional growth. The events below are a sample of educational, social, and mentoring activities that could be offered to young and experienced planners.

- Networking mixer/socials
- Forums on planning or professional development topic
- Lunch n' Learns
- Community Service events
- Local Development Tours
- Mentoring (young planner/student or experienced planner/young planner)
- Planning Nites (Films, games, etc)
- Planners Book Club
- AICP Preparation