



Calling Metro Atlanta's Teen Leaders

Are you concerned about traffic congestion, air pollution, protection of greenspace and the needs of older adults?

Do you want to work with other outstanding teens who are working to bring about change in our community?

IF you have ideas about ways to make metro Atlanta a better place to live, the **Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC)** wants you. Each year, some 55 high school students share their ideas with the region's leaders through MARC.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) - the official planning agency for the 10-county Atlanta region - created this dynamic youth leadership program 20 years ago to bring together talented and energetic teen leaders from high schools throughout the metro area who want to make a difference in their community.



"MARC provides motivated youth an opportunity to show our community that we want to make a difference and are able to enact change."

— 2015-16 MARC Chairman Majesty Uwagerikpe, North Gwinnett High School

MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

A Program of the Atlanta Regional Commission

What MARC Members Do

As a MARC member, you will take part in hands-on exercises and experience field trips to some of the region's most interesting places. You will learn about transportation, water supply, land use, sustainability and human services issues. As a class, you will explore what makes a community more livable and how local governments work together to address regional needs.

MARC committees develop and debate proposals to solve regional challenges and then present these ideas to the ARC board.

Here are just a few resolutions proposed by previous classes:

- ✘ An app that identifies where sidewalks need to be built
- ✘ A forum to bring together all groups working to combat sex trafficking
- ✘ A website to provide information about volunteer opportunities
- ✘ A water conservation outreach campaign
- ✘ An option on Georgia state tax returns to allocate \$1 for senior services



Selection Process

Applications are distributed in February to every public and private high school in the 10-county Atlanta region. The MARC class begins the following August. Students currently in the 9th and 10th grades are eligible.

Students must submit a completed application and a written essay about the regional issue that interests them most. The selection committee considers these along with extracurricular activities and expressed level of interest.

Notifications of acceptance are sent to applicants in mid-May.



"MARC has introduced me to so many different aspects and areas of the Atlanta region that I never knew existed."

— Veena Jaipradeep, Milton High School, Fulton County



"I've never met another group of such dedicated, amazing peers that share my passion for the Atlanta region the way this group does."

— Marissa McDonald, Union Grove High School, Henry County

Commitment

Five Saturday sessions and one overnight retreat in October:

- ✘ **Saturday, August 12** - Kick-off
- ✘ **Saturday/Sunday, September 9-10** - Retreat (mandatory)
- ✘ **Saturday, October 14**
- ✘ **Saturday, November 18**
- ✘ **Saturday, December 9** (ACT Test this day)
- ✘ **Saturday, January 20, 2018**
- ✘ **Wednesday, February 28, 2018** (optional)

In addition, students can expect to spend one to four hours on research and collaboration between meetings.

How to Apply

Log on to the Atlanta Regional Commission website:

www.atlantaregional.com/marc and follow the link to the online application form.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, April 7, 2017**.

For More Information

Visit **www.atlantaregional.com/marc** or call 404.463.3296 (ARC)



The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the official regional planning agency for the 10-county Atlanta region, which includes Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties, and their respective cities, including the City of Atlanta. ARC is the forum where the region's leaders come together to discuss mutual concerns and opportunities and to act on issues of region-wide impact. ARC is supported by local, state and federal funds.