



BERGEN COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

One Bergen County Plaza, Room 580, Hackensack, NJ 07601-7076

(201) 336-7300

Fax: (201) 336-7304

www.co.nj.bergen.us

James J. Tedesco, III

Bergen County Executive

January 2024

Dear Student and/or Faculty:

The Bergen County Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) was founded in 1975 as a bridge between government and community to study the needs of women and to promote the expansion of women's rights and empowerment. Following in the same regard, the Bergen County Junior Commission on the Status of Women was established to offer young women similar opportunities to become involved with issues and causes that impact women of all ages.

In June 2024 we will once again welcome a new group of students to the Bergen County Junior Commission on the Status of Women.

The opportunity to serve on the Junior Commission has become a desirable and highly competitive appointment for young women. To be considered for this opportunity, all female Junior class students can either directly apply for consideration or be recommended by her School District. As part of this application process, the student will need a letter of recommendation from her current High School counselor or equivalent staffer, a completed application and high school transcripts.

Once received, applications will be reviewed and students will be notified by May 10, 2024 if they have been selected for appointment to the Commission.

Those selected as Junior Commissioners will be responsible for performing a community service project of their choice that will culminate with a written report that they will present at the end of their term. Commissioners will also have the opportunity to participate and collaborate throughout the year with the COSW, who are proud to serve as mentors to the students.

Please read and follow all instructions carefully. Incomplete applications, unfortunately, will not be accepted. **Applications must be postmarked/e-mailed by April 1, 2024.** If you have any additional questions, please call Terry Cannon at (201) 336-7425.

We look forward to another successful year and welcoming dynamic young women from throughout Bergen County.

Very truly yours,

James J. Tedesco, III

Bergen County Executive

COUNTY OF BERGEN
Department of Human Services

Junior Commission on the Status of Women
Application – Part One

Please read carefully and follow directions.
Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
Due Date: April 1, 2024
Revised 2023

Student's Name _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **ZIP:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **Cell:** _____

School Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **ZIP:** _____ **Phone:** _____

(If applicable) **Faculty member submitting application** _____

Title: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Please attach a letter of recommendation no more than **200 words** explaining why the student deserves to be selected as a Junior Commissioner. Please place student's name in the upper right hand corner of this letter. Additionally, the letter of recommendation must be on official school letterhead and include the name and address of the faculty member submitting the letter. [10 points]

Please attach a copy of the students high school transcript. [5 points]

Please visit <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/advisory-boards- and-commissions> to download this application. Or E-mail jrcosw@co.bergen.nj.us with any questions.

Junior Commission on the Status of Women Application – Part Two

Completed by the Student
Revised 2023

*Provide the information requested in the spaces below or attach on a separate piece of paper. Please limit your responses to the last four years. ***NOTE: Points will be deducted for items that are not legible.***

1. List your community service experience (e.g., scouts, community sports, volunteer, and religious activities). Please note any service with vulnerable and/or under-served populations. [10 points]

Grade Level	Time Frame	Total Hours
-------------	------------	-------------

2. List your extra-curricular activities. (e.g., student government, sports, clubs, employment, internships, and other activities outside of school). [10 points]

3. List school leadership role and any academic achievements and/or awards during high school.[10 points]

Grade Level	Time Frame or Marking Period	Leadership role/ Achievement/ Awards
-------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------------

4. ESSAY: Write a 150 – 250 word original essay. Please attach on a separate piece of paper, one inch margin, double space, Times New Roman, with 12 point font.

As a young woman, you have many choices regarding your future. Women’s empowerment is critical to continuing the advancement of our role in society. You might choose a career in science, the arts, business, law, government or something entirely different, but the choices you make will affect not only you, but the world in which you live. With that in mind, please answer the following 6 questions. [55 points: 30 points for fully answering all questions presented, 15 points for proper grammar and word count, 10 points for quality and content of the essay].

Please address three out of six questions:

1. How do you see yourself contributing positively to your world in the next ten years?
2. What challenges might you encounter?
3. What skills do you possess?
4. What skills would you like to develop?
5. What will be your plan of action to achieve these goals?
6. What life experiences have you had that will enable you to contribute to the Junior Commission in a unique way?

Signature of Student: _____

Please visit <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/advisory-boards-and-commissions> to download this application. Or E-mail jrcosw@co.bergen.nj.us with any questions.