



Join the ANC Youth League Membership form

Name _____

Address (home) _____

Telephone _____

Date of birth _____

Place of birth _____

Occupation _____

Work address _____

Tel _____

Signature _____

Date _____

● Basic policy platform

The basic policy document of the ANC Youth League is the Freedom Charter. Its elaboration provides for the following:

- a free, united, democratic non-racial and non-sexist South Africa
- commitment to a multi-party democratic dispensation
- freedom of speech, worship, movement, association and other universally recognised fundamental rights
- commitment to non-racialism in all aspects of life; political, social, economic and cultural
- a mixed economy wherein the private, state and co-operative sectors shall co-exist and reinforce one another for the good of all South African citizens
- an affordable and state-sponsored health system
- an accessible, non-racial education system the provision of which shall mainly be the responsibility of the state
- unity of all South African youth on the basis of a commitment to work towards a united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa
- equality of languages, cultural norms and values and their protection in a post-apartheid constitutional dispensation
- commitment to a strong and effective central, regional and local government with appropriate checks and balances.

● Structure

The smallest unit of the ANC is the branch. A branch is any group of young people of 100 or above in any locality who have the desire to be members of the Youth League. The branches normally come together (3 or more) in any part of the country to constitute a zone. The ANC Youth League is divided into 14 regions, namely Pretoria – Witwatersrand – Vaal, Northern Transvaal, Western Transvaal, Eastern Transvaal, Northern Natal, Natal Midlands, Southern Natal, Transkei, Border, Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Northern Cape, Southern Orange Free State and Northern Orange Free State.

Every two years all the branches send delegates, proportionate to their membership, to the National Congress, which is the highest decision-making body. The National Congress elects the National Executive Committee and lays down policy for the next two years. The Regional Congress, Zonal Congress and Branch Congress do the same at their levels. The National Executive Committee is the highest decision-making body between the congresses.

● Relations with other youth organisations

The ANC Youth League always strives to foster relationships with other youth organisations. A good example is the concerted effort by the ANC Youth League to play a leading role in the formation of a front of youth whose immediate goal should be to work for the establishment of a united, non-racial non-sexist and democratic South Africa.



ANC YOUTH LEAGUE

● What is the ANC Youth League?

Background

The ANC Youth League is the youth wing of the African National Congress. It was formed in 1944. Among its founder members were Walter Sisulu, Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and many others.

The ANC Youth League came about as a result of the impatience the young members of the ANC were having with the passive leadership of the time. Its establishment led to militant decisions and campaigns like the 1949 Programme of Action and the Defiance Campaign of 1952. Former leaders of ANCYL came to occupy very important positions in the ANC as is the case even today.

Membership of the Youth League is open to all South Africans between the ages 14 and 35. Members pay a R1 joining fee and a 50c monthly subscription.

● Relationship with the African National Congress

The ANCYL is a voluntary youth association and mass organ of the ANC.

The ANCYL functions as an autonomous body within the overall structure of the ANC. It is, however autonomous, part of the ANC, and is based on the broad political and ideological objectives of the ANC.

The ANCYL liaises closely with the ANC at all levels (national, regional, zonal and branch levels).

● Aims and objectives

- To strive to rally the youth of our country to support and unite behind the ANCYL and actively participate in the struggle for national liberation, the aim of which is the creation of a united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa.
- To support and reinforce the African National Congress in the struggle for national liberation.
- To ensure that the youth make a full and rich contribution to the work of the ANC and to the life of the nation.
- To champion the general interests and rights of the South African youth in the socio-economic and political life of the country.
- To promote unity and patriotism among the youth.
- To strive to build a national Pioneer movement.
- To strive and work for the educational, moral and cultural upliftment of the youth.
- To promote gender equality in all spheres of life especially among the youth.
- To promote among youth the spirit of international solidarity, peace and friendship with other nations.