

The role of a Youth Advisor

September 2023

The role of a Youth Advisor is a paid position for 16–25-year-olds, with a 2-year contract (or when the individual turns 26, whichever comes first) with Ambitious about Autism.

Youth Advisors will be classed as ‘workers’ for Ambitious about Autism. This will involve signing a contract and means tax and National Insurance will be deducted automatically from their pay.

There will be a private group on the Ambitious Youth Network platform that will consist of about 50 Youth Advisors. Members of the group will be able to sign up to paid opportunities that are offered through Ambitious about Autism. These opportunities will usually involve Youth Advisors attending workshops or meetings (online and/or in person) to advise and feedback on various topics from the perspective and expertise of an autistic young person.

Some previous examples of paid opportunities include being a part of a specialist panel, being on an interview panel, or helping organisations improve their autism accessibility through workshops.

Youth Advisors will be paid £18.25 per hour for their time, get insight into different sectors/industries from education to banks and build upon skills, for example in presenting and teamwork.

The role of the Youth Advisors is to make sure that the autistic voice is heard and amplified to help shape practices.

We want to make sure that the group of Youth Advisors is inclusive and diverse with a mix of experiences and skills that represent the young people we support.

We welcome young people with a range of abilities and those who come from previously underrepresented groups. This means you do not need any previous experience to apply.

Responsibilities

Youth Advisors will be expected to:

- Stay up to date with the opportunities that are available
- Respond to communications where expected

- Put themselves forward for an opportunity at least once every two months
- Attend the opportunities they have been selected for*

Please note, you will be selected for a maximum of 2 opportunities per month (this does not include AET and Autistic and OK), unless there are not enough signups for an opportunity.

*It is important that Youth Advisors only express interest in opportunities that they are available to attend and if they are selected, they will stand by that commitment.

We understand circumstances can change so if a Youth Advisor is no longer able to attend, they should let a member of the participation team know by at least 8am on the day the opportunity is taking place. However, the more notice you give, the better.

If a Youth Advisor regularly misses their commitments their status will be reviewed.

We have created a frequently asked questions (FAQs) document if you would like to find out more information. An easy read version of this is also available.

Contact

If you have any other questions, please contact the participation team on participation@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk