

EMPOWERING YOUTH

# TO FIND THEIR PASSION

YMCA BLACK ACHIEVERS



# WE CULTIVATE SUCCESS

The YMCA of Central Kentucky Black Achievers program serves all youth, grades 6–12, and is designed to develop future leadership potential and encourage youth to pursue higher educational and career goals.



## PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

Black Achievers meets within various schools during “Achievers Clubs” and on Saturdays during monthly “Teen Summits”. The program provides a robust curriculum that includes:

- Workshops on SAT/ACT preparation
- Study skills/time management strategies
- Interviewing techniques
- Financial literacy
- Team-building field trips
- Community service-learning projects
- Arts and Culture exploration
- College tours



Founded in 1985, Black Achievers continues to support youth in academics, mentoring, and post-secondary success through dedicated business and community volunteers who support the program giving of their time, talents and treasures.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- Helps youth develop a positive sense of self.
- Raises academic standards and improves college & career readiness.
- Builds character, increases positive assets of youth, and provides social-emotional support.
- Encourages students to set and pursue goals related to their college and career aspirations.
- Provides mentors and role models whose success and knowledge inspire youth.
- Creates opportunities for youth to engage with mentors from local businesses and industries.
- Recognizes and promotes excellence among youth participants and adult volunteers.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are provided to senior participants who opt-in and complete our scholarship process and serve a number of years in the program. These cash awards provide students with the support they need to meet post-secondary goals, and are provided through the generous support of individual donations and corporate sponsors who believe in our mission.

## CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to generous donations, corporate sponsorships allow for businesses and organizations to nominate successful role models who volunteer their time and talents as Adult Achievers for the school year. Adult Achievers provide program support by sharing professional expertise, career-related advice and mentoring.

# PROGRAM CLUSTERS

## SATURDAY SUMMIT SESSIONS

Each month, we will host one Saturday Summit for middle school participants and their parents, and one Saturday Summit for high school participants and their parents. During these summits, volunteers in various career disciplines lead youth in the discovery of unlimited professional fields, which can be fulfilling personally and professionally, and teach participants to become contributors to their community. Participants have opportunities to receive guidance and information about various aspects of the career field within each discipline, and tour local businesses to get hands-on experience related to careers of choice. Career Cluster options include:

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Learn the impact art continues to have on our culture by working with professionals in performance, literary, and visual arts. Utilize individual talents to create projects that meet industry standards and broach relevant topics.

### AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES

Learn the various ways our food is grown, harvested, processed, and distributed, and explore topics such as sustainability, industrial practices, and environmental impact.

### BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

Develop a mock business, learn about the stock market, and visit local businesses while learning about industry.

### EDUCATION

Discover the unique challenge and rewards of the teaching profession while exploring career opportunities within the field of education outside of the classroom.

### ENGINEERING

Perform amazing experiments while learning how the different types of engineers impact our world. Use problem solving skills to solve real-world problems while working on a collaborative team.

### HEALTH SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Work with doctors, dentists, nurses and other medical professionals as you learn about the healthcare profession. Explore laboratories, clinics, and technology in settings around our community.

### HUMAN SERVICES

Explore areas such as substance abuse counseling, social work, and mental health treatment, and learn how to make a positive impact in the lives of their future clients.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Experience hands-on learning about the diverse career opportunities within the computer field. Explore topics such as coding, web development and cybersecurity and get hands-on experience with equipment.

### LAW & GOVERNMENT

Examine what local, state, and government officials do and why. Explore processes and policymaking, services, elections, and relevant policy issues such as civil rights and environmental protection.

### MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Discover the various careers in the field of communications. Learn innovative approaches to communicating with audiences, and get hands-on experience using media equipment.

## PARENT CLUSTER

Parents receive support related to preparing their young people for the future in sessions led by local leaders in various concepts of youth development.

Saturday Summits will be held at various locations in and around our area, such as colleges/universities, and other organizations with the capacity to provide opportunities for career exploration and skill development. Please check the program calendar found on our website for the latest updates and information.

Weather makeup sessions are scheduled at the discretion of the program director.  
College visits and other activities are scheduled as space is available.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



**[ymcackey.org/achievers](https://ymcackey.org/achievers)**

If you would like additional information on our Achievers Program, please email [blackachievers@ymcackey.org](mailto:blackachievers@ymcackey.org) or scan above with your phone.

We offer financial assistance to families who qualify.