



## 2026 Short Answer Questions

*Note about AI: The selection committee for the Estuary Youth Council is interested in getting to know you, not a bot. We are not focused on perfect spelling or grammar, but your genuine, authentic answers. **All short answer fields are limited to 800 characters maximum.***

1. What is your relationship to the San Francisco Estuary? Or, what would you like your relationship to be? (For example: recreation, mental health, cultural heritage, personal interest, etc.)\*  
*The [San Francisco Estuary](#) encompasses the San Francisco Bay and the Delta of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. An estuary is defined as where freshwater meets saltwater.*
2. Have you participated in any community, environmental, or advocacy-related programs before?  
*Examples may include: community organizing, volunteer work, or participating in school clubs. If yes, briefly describe your experience. If no, enter "N/A".*
3. How will joining the Estuary Youth Council contribute to your personal, school, and/or professional goals?
4. As part of the Estuary Youth Council, you will work on a team that creates an original capstone project that addresses an issue in the San Francisco Estuary as defined in the Estuary Blueprint. What issue(s) are you interested in addressing and why?  
*Examples of some issues identified in the [Estuary Blueprint](#): invasive species, wetland restoration, water conservation, stormwater management, trash reduction, public access to green spaces, etc.*  
*Examples of past capstone projects include: bilingual informational brochures, informational videos, folded educational zines, etc.*
5. Joining the Estuary Youth Council means working on a team, sometimes with youth from other communities. What qualities do you appreciate from a teammate? What qualities do you think you contribute to a team?
6. Do you have any other major commitments that would limit your availability to participate in this program between June 2026 to December 2026?  
*We recognize that many youth are in school, take care of family members, and work other jobs -- however, as a program that seeks to build intentional community and pays its participants, we are looking for applicants who can make our scheduled activities and are committed to communicating scheduling conflicts with us. For a list of event dates and to see our participation policy, visit: [sfestuary.org/estuary-youth-council](https://sfestuary.org/estuary-youth-council).*
7. Is there anything else about you that you would like to share about yourself that would be helpful or important to know? (Example: Accessibility needs)