



This is a snapshot of the LULAC Youth Educational Enrichment Series (YE²S) program developed by LULAC Institute Inc funded by Verizon. The program aims to empower and mentor low-income Latinx students interested in STEAM, develop leadership skills, and supportive and positive relationship building by providing one-on-one mentoring opportunities.

About LULAC

As the premiere grassroots Latino organization in the United States, LULAC has a rich history of providing Latinx communities with the technological skills needed to reduce the economic and educational disparities that are all too prevalent in our communities. Over the last 15 years, LULAC has empowered communities to immerse themselves in the digital age by providing state-of-the-art computer technologies and safe spaces in the United States and Puerto Rico to bridge the digital divide in our communities through robust programming.

With 68 Empowering Hispanic America with Technology (EHAT) centers distributed throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC has been able to serve low-income Latino communities by providing access to and utilization of key telecommunication technologies which have been historically out of reach for this demographic. Through this, LULAC has built technological education programs centered around literacy, technology immersion, robotics and coding, entrepreneurship and leadership.

LULAC in partnership with Verizon are working to empower the next generation of leaders through LULAC's Youth Educational Enrichment Series (YE²S) program and elevate the representation of the Latino community in STEAM careers.

LULAC Youth Educational Enrichment Series Program Overview

LULAC's Youth Educational Enrichment Series (YE²S) is a 10 month online series enrichment program for students who are aspiring to become involved in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) exposure and careers. The YE²S curriculum features STEAM-focused workshops, one-on-one youth mentorship, academic and career guidance, social innovation, team building and leadership development. The program will help participants fortify their attitudes towards learning about STEAM careers, raise confidence towards learning, provide social innovation and foster leadership skills which will continue to support them in their future academic and professional endeavors.

This 10-month series program will have 10 webinars/workshops (one a month) designed to stimulate and create "out of the box" thinking for youth on the path to STEAM careers. The series will contain different ways to think about STEAM careers while connecting to day-to-day challenges. With the help of Verizon volunteers, each webinar will be created uniquely by 3 different Verizon Communications participants through guidelines and requirements that must be fulfilled before the execution of presentations. Each webinar will require students to engage in critical thinking, introduce social responsibility, and provide insight on how to navigate or become socially aware of each topic in our current day-to-day reality. It is essential that students reflect on what was successful throughout the program and what needs to be considered when

building a self sustaining and inclusive community series that creates a positive direct impact on our students and their respective communities.

Students will also be paired with carefully vetted mentors whom they will meet weekly, by video chat, for a minimum of 60 minutes per week throughout the program. Mentors will primarily be Verizon employees volunteering through their workforce volunteer programming. During this time, mentors will focus on training, connecting, coaching, and the learning exchange of their mentee. Mentors will be required to commit to providing mentorship for a minimum of 8-weeks and maintain contact through participation and guidance during the webinar series or at-home student learning. Mentor-mentee pairing will be completed by LULAC Institute through the interest sheet that will aid in creating partnerships with those who have similar interests and goals.

Program Objectives

The LULAC Youth Educational Enrichment Series (YE²S) program aims to:

- ❖ Improve participants' attitudes towards studying and increase their knowledge of effective and efficient studying techniques;
- ❖ Promote participants' confidence and self-esteem towards learning in general;
- ❖ Increase participants' on-time graduation rates, leading to graduation from high school and enrollment in an institution for higher learning;
- ❖ Immerse participants' in a social innovative thinking, including leadership and entrepreneurship;
- ❖ Provide participants opportunities and resources for leadership development, networking, and the development of workforce and business skills; and
- ❖ Expose participants to STEAM-related careers, with a mentorship with professionals that can serve as guides.

The LULAC Youth Educational Enrichment Series (YE²S) program will:

- ❖ Introduce the digital world in a safe, legal, and ethical way. Participants will learn about their rights and responsibilities, as well as opportunities available to them in an interconnected digital world;
- ❖ Empower participants' learning and ensure that they take an active role in learning;
- ❖ Help participants become creative communicators participants will learn how to think critically and find creative solutions;
- ❖ Administer career awareness and/or leadership workshops through a speaker series.

Program Performance Measures

The program's progress and success will be measured by site liaisons using qualitative, quantitative, and anecdotal measurements to assess whether:

- ❖ 75% of participants will develop more positive attitudes towards the STEAM fields;
- ❖ 60% of participants will become more self-sufficient in their use of digital;

- ❖ 60% of participants will become more self-confident learners;
- ❖ 75% of participants will intend to continue learning about STEAM fields beyond program participation;
- ❖ 60% of participants will demonstrate problem-solving techniques;
- ❖ 80% of participants' knowledge of various tech careers and professions will increase;
- ❖ 60% of participants' parents will better understand the importance of participants graduating on time and pursuing a college education; and
- ❖ 65% of volunteers will have a positive volunteering experience and feel they are having a positive effect on students.
- ❖ 70% of student participants will build inter-relations with educators, families, and communities that will lead in connecting those who have been affected by the technology disparity within the Latino community.
- ❖ 65% of student participants will move on to the next level promotion.

Program Points of Contact

LULAC has designated the following staff to this program. If volunteers need any assistance throughout the implementation of the programs or have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact any one of the people listed below.

Position	Name & Contact Info
LULAC STEAM Programs Team	STEAM@LULAC.org
Programs Coordinator	Melissa Cossio MCossio@LULAC.org (915) 577-0726
Programs Coordinator	Tanya Mendez TMendez@LULAC.org (202) 833-6130

To learn more about the YE²S program, visit www.lulac.org/yees.

Volunteering Opportunities

Facilitate a Webinar

As part of the YE²S curriculum, LULAC Institute has developed a list of webinar topics that will require students to engage in critical thinking, explore STEAM-fields, develop life skills through engagement in professional development. LULAC Institute will work with volunteers to pre-record 45-minute to one-hour webinars focused on STEAM exploration, academic and career guidance, with leadership development. Additionally, volunteers will have the opportunity to create a follow-up activity directly related to the webinar topic for additional volunteering hours. LULAC Institute staff will provide the recording to on-site Program Coordinators for them to present to their students via a virtual meeting using the platform of their choice. Program Coordinators will engage students by asking follow-up questions and inviting them to share their thoughts on the topics discussed.

Pre-Volunteering Requirements

Pre-Volunteering Requirements for Verizon Volunteers

1. RSVP on the Verizon Volunteering Platform for “Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!” and attend the introductory webinar.
2. RSVP on the Verizon Volunteering Platform for the specific webinar you are interested in facilitating.
 - This will be based on a first come, first serve basis.
3. Complete and submit a [Commitment Form](#) to confirm your participation as a webinar facilitator.
4. Complete and submit a [Media Release Form](#).
 - Completed forms must be submitted to STEAM@LULAC.org.

Pre-Volunteering Requirements for General Volunteers

1. Complete and submit a [Volunteer with LULAC](#) form.
2. Complete and submit an [Interest Form](#) to share your contact information with LULAC staff and RSVP with LULAC for a “Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!” introductory webinar.
3. Attend a “Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!” introductory webinar.
4. Complete and submit a [Commitment Form](#) to confirm your participation as a webinar facilitator.
5. Submit an updated resume.
6. Complete and submit a [Media Release Form](#).
 - a. Completed forms must be submitted to STEAM@LULAC.org

Volunteering Requirements

Volunteering Requirements for Verizon Volunteers & General Volunteers

- ❖ Develop a one-page description of your selected webinar using the template provided by LULAC Institute.

- ❖ Develop a PowerPoint presentation to accompany your webinar (if applicable).
- ❖ Work with LULAC Institute staff to develop and pre-record a webinar.
 - This includes planning and recording sessions.
- ❖ Complete all reporting requirements as outlined by LULAC Institute.
- ❖ Additional Opportunity: Develop a follow-up activity for on-site Program Coordinators to complete with their students.

Mentor a Student

As part of the YE²S program, students will have the opportunity to receive one-on-one mentoring and guidance from volunteers. Mentors will empower students with essential life, educational, and professional skills while supporting them as they plan for their future goals.

Each student will be paired with a mentor based on common interests such as career pathways, hobbies, and extracurricular activities collected through a survey provided by LULAC Institute. Mentor and mentee pairings will be created by LULAC Institute. Mentors will receive a Student Match-up information sheet with information that was submitted pertaining to the student's interests and goals. Students will also receive a Mentor Match-up information sheet with their mentor's bio and information about their interests.

Mentors are required to meet with their mentee for a minimum of 60-minutes per week to discuss academic, personal and career exploration. Mentors and mentees will be required to review, complete and submit *Our Mentoring Agreement* that will establish specific requirements such as meeting times, specific roles, and confidentiality clauses.

Pre-Mentoring Requirements

Pre-Mentoring Requirements for Verizon Volunteers

1. RSVP on the Verizon Volunteering Platform for "Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!" and attend the introductory webinar.
2. Complete and submit a [Commitment Form](#) to confirm your participation as a mentor.
3. Complete and submit a [Media Release Form](#).
 - a. Completed forms must be submitted to STEAM@LULAC.ORG
4. Complete a [Mentor Match-Up](#) form. This form will be used to pair you with your student mentee based on similar interests and career involvements.

Pre-Mentoring Requirements for General Volunteers

1. Complete and submit a [Volunteer with LULAC](#) form.
2. Complete and submit an [Interest Form](#) to share your contact information with LULAC staff and RSVP with LULAC for a "Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!" introductory webinar.
3. Attend a "Say Y.E.E.S. to Volunteering!" introductory webinar.
4. Complete and submit a [Commitment Form](#) to confirm your participation as a mentor.
5. Submit a background check (less than 12-months old), a copy of an ID, and updated resume at your own expense.
 - a. All items must be submitted to STEAM@LULAC.org

6. Complete and submit a [Media Release Form](#).
 - a. Completed form must be submitted to STEAM@LULAC.ORG
7. Complete a [Mentor Match-Up](#) form. This form will be used to pair you with your student mentee based on similar interests.

****All items must be completed and submitted before any participation in the Youth Educational Enrichment program.****

Mentoring Requirements

Mentoring Requirements for Verizon Volunteers & General Volunteers

- ❖ Minimum 8-week commitment.
- ❖ Minimum 60-minute weekly mentoring video session per student.
 - Maximum 2 students per mentor
- ❖ Video sessions must be recorded for the safety of all participants. On-site Program Coordinators will be responsible for recording these sessions.
- ❖ Complete all reporting requirements as outlined by LULAC Institute.
- ❖ Conduct a mock interview with your mentee to help them prepare for college and job interviews.
 - A list of potential questions will be provided.
 - Mock interviews will be conducted with mentors who are volunteering in December, March, and June as one of the sessions conducted during the designated month.

To learn more about volunteering with the YE²S program, visit www.lulac.org/yees/volunteer.