

ABOUT

Justice Centre Hong Kong is a local non-political, non-profit organisation that has been providing legal and psychosocial support to refugees, asylum seekers and other forced migrants in the Hong Kong SAR for 15 years.

Our vision is an inclusive Hong Kong where all displaced people live with legal rights and dignity.

Together with lawyers from prominent law firms we assist different groups of forced migrants including:

Refugees

Asylum
Seekers

Survivors
of Torture

For more details of our work, please see [our website](#)

YOUNG ADVOCATES SUMMER CAMP 2023

Justice Centre is dedicated to training and supporting future generations of refugee protection practitioners as we believe that young people, when given the right skills and opportunity, can play a significant role in building an inclusive society and providing support to those forcibly displaced from their homes.

The Young Advocates Summer Camp (“YASC”) is a unique opportunity for high school students to gain exposure to law and hands-on experience in the non-profit sector. The programme will equip Young Advocates with **invaluable skills** that they will take with them as they apply to universities and progress into professional careers.

Mentorship from internationally qualified lawyers

- One-to-one coaching and mentorship from our **internationally qualified lawyers**
- Gain insight into **starting a career in law and refugee protection**

Exposure to law and hands-on experience of real cases

- Receive training on conducting **legal assessments of cases**
- Undertake **legal and country of origin research**
- Assist directly with **real claims for protection** in Hong Kong
- **Shadow lawyers** interviewing and providing assistance to refugees

Develop essential skills and experience for university and beyond

- Build up **legal profile and experience**
- Develop strong **research and reasoning skills**
- Previous Young Advocates have been **accepted into internationally renowned universities**

PROGRAMME DETAILS

The YASC three-week programmes run within our in-house legal team with **internationally qualified lawyers** from the US, Canada, and Australia. Young Advocates gain insights into the **rule of law and legal frameworks** in Hong Kong through working closely with our **legal and psychosocial services teams** and supporting our **research, policy and advocacy team** in their work.

Three sessions are running in summer 2023:

YASC 1: 19 Jun – 7 Jul

(3 weeks)

YASC 2: 10 Jul – 28 Jul

(3 weeks)

YASC 3: 31 Jul – 18 Aug

(3 weeks)

Each session will run **five days a week** (excluding public holidays), approximately from **10am – 4pm** each day.

Young Advocates will among other:

- Learn to compile case studies through observing client interviews and assist with conducting assessments of protection claimants' cases
- Learn how to undertake legal and country of origin research and produce packages of information to support refugee and torture claims
- Attend field visits to courts, partner NGOS, and our corporate law firm partners
- Learn to conduct public policy research and analysis
- Develop an understanding of community-led approaches
- Research and present successful awareness-raising campaigns
- Get exposure to effective purpose-led communications



The Young Advocates Programme offers extremely unique opportunities for high school students to explore areas of the law and psychosocial work with refugees.

Through completing client testimonies independently, shadowing client interviews and receiving one-to-one guidance, I was able to gain valuable insights into the plight of refugees in Hong Kong and how we can help them in the legal system. It was also very exciting to meet many professionals working in the legal field. Being a Young Advocate was a really enjoyable experience.

– Lorraine, 2021 Summer YASC

One of the most unique programs I've been to. It provides a special balance of experiencing this line of work, which is not often found for high schoolers, as well as developing a nuanced view of the refugee situation not only in Hong Kong but around the world. It's definitely something I'll remember for a long time. I would highly recommend it.

– Nicholas,
2020 Summer YASC



LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the programme, Young Advocates will have:

- Developed their research, presentation, analytical and argument skills;
- An understanding of international and domestic refugee law;
- An understanding of the legal frameworks and refugee issues in the Hong Kong context;
- Enhanced their knowledge of achieving social change through robust policymaking and advocacy work;
- Gained hands-on practical experience of working within a specialised NGO;
- Built a network of contacts across NGOs and corporate law firms

SUPERVISION & FEEDBACK

- Receive one-on-one training on legal tasks such as conducting legal research and analysing legal decisions;
- Young Advocates will be given **continuous coaching** throughout the programme;
- A clear development plan will be set at the start of the programme to identify students' goals and agree on objectives;
- Each Young Advocate will attend weekly catch-ups with the programme coordinator;
- Verbal and written feedback and assessment will be provided;
- Those who perform exceptionally well will be given a letter of recommendation

ELIGIBILITY

The YASC is open to students who have Hong Kong residency and are **aged 15 – 18**. This is a highly competitive programme and a **maximum of 6 students** per session will be selected to participate.

Applicants should have a keen interest in issues facing refugees and other forced migrants. The YASC is aimed at students considering careers in **law, psychology, social sciences, politics or NGO management**.

COST

Three-week Summer YASC 2023:

\$80,000 HKD

(including non-refundable deposit of \$40,000 HKD)

Your contribution will allow us to dedicate staff time and resources to run the programme. Places are limited to six Young Advocates per programme in order to allow us to offer a tailored experience to each Young Advocate and for our staff to dedicate one-on-one time to mentoring and coaching them. Any further proceeds from the YASC will directly contribute towards our vital services for refugees seeking legal and psychosocial assistance.

APPLICATION

To apply, please complete and return the application form to us via email: vasc@justicecentre.org.hk.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis; we strongly recommend submitting applications early, due to the high level of interest and limited spaces available.

KEY DATES

29 May Deadline for applications to YASC 1	19 June Deadline for applications to YASC 2 & 3
5 June Release of YASC 1 acceptance results	26 June Release of YASC 2 & 3 acceptance
12 June Deadline for non-refundable deposit to confirm place for YASC 1	3 July Deadline for non-refundable deposit to confirm place for YASC 2 & 3
19 June YASC 1 starts	10 July YASC 2 starts 31 July YASC 3 starts

For further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email vasc@justicecentre.org.hk



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