MINDS MATTER
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Application Instructions and Checklist

The student application and all supporting recommendations, forms, and documents must be submitted online by either the priority deadline of May 6th, 2024 or the final deadline of May 27th, 2024.

When you open the application, we are the Southern California chapter of Minds Matter. We currently serve students in Los Angeles, CA.

During the online application process, you will be asked to provide names and email addresses for nominated recommenders and your parents or guardians. An email is sent from Minds Matter to counselors, teachers, and parents or guardians when you submit your application.

✔ **One Academic Recommendation**
Counselor, academic teacher, or school administrator. Someone who knows you well and can talk about your academics, passion for learning, etc. This person will also be asked to upload your high school transcript.

✔ **One Additional Adult Recommendation (Optional)**
An adult recommendation may include a teacher, principal, YMCA coordinator, coach, pastor, etc., as long as they are unrelated to you. This could be someone who knows you and can talk to your strengths and assets.

✔ **Parent/Guardian Form**
Parents/guardians will also upload taxes/proof of income.

As part of the overall application, the following are needed:

✔ **High School Transcript**
The required letter of recommendation must be from a current academic reference (teacher, counselor, school administrator, etc). This person will need access to an official or unofficial transcript. You will be asked to provide the academic recommender's email address in the online application. Once you complete and submit your application form, an email will be sent from Minds Matter to the recommender you have chosen. They will complete their recommendation and upload your transcript.

✔ **Most Recent Federal Tax Return**
(IRS Form 1040 including W2 form and all Schedules), and/or proof of government assistance. You will give one of your parents'/guardians' email in the application for them to complete the parent/guardian form. As part of this form, your parent/guardian will also need to upload their

most recent Federal Tax Return or other proof of income or assistance. If your parent/guardian does not have these documents, please contact student@mindsmattersocal.org for assistance.

There are two deadlines: a priority deadline of May 6th, 2023, and a final deadline of May 27th, 2023. All application materials, including recommendations and supporting documents, must be submitted online by the final deadline. **Applicants who apply by May 6th will be given priority consideration**, but ALL applications will be evaluated and considered.

Important Program Information for Admitted Students

Minds Matter Sessions

Minds Matter SoCal sessions are on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm during the school year between September and May. The Los Angeles site meets at USC Hybrid High School (3939 S Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90037)

Weekday Time Commitments

Minds Matter is a rigorous program, and **students are required to do homework**. The typical student spends approximately 4 to 5 hours a week on Minds Matter (essay writing, test preparation revision, assignments, etc.).

More Information

If you have any questions or need more information, please email us at student@mindsmattersocal.org.