



## 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 5th, 2025, or the final deadline of May 26th, 2025.**

When you open the application, select the option to apply to 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 the names and email addresses of your nominated recommenders and parents or guardians. When you submit your application, Minds Matter will email counselors, teachers, and parents or guardians.

✓ **One Academic Recommendation**

A counselor, academic teacher, or school administrator is someone who knows you well and can discuss 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 about 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 provide us with one of your parents' or guardians' email address in the application for them to complete the parent/guardian form. Your parent/guardian must also upload their most recent Federal Tax Return or other proof of income or assistance as part of this form. If your parent/guardian does not have these documents, please contact [student@mindsmattersocal.org](mailto:student@mindsmattersocal.org) for assistance.

**There are two deadlines: a priority deadline of May 5th, 2025, and a final deadline of May 26th, 2025.**

All application materials, including recommendations and supporting documents, must be submitted online by the final deadline. Applicants who apply by May 5th will be prioritized, 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@minds mattersocal.org](mailto:student@minds mattersocal.org).