



## COLUMBUS AREA CHAPTER REGION V



FUTURE  
LEADERS IN  
AMERICA'S  
GOVERNMENT

- Mentoring
- Community Service
- Networking
- Job Preparedness
- Financial Literacy
- Leadership Development
- Internships
- Scholarships

# COLUMBUS AREA CHAPTER OF BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT (CACBIG)

August 1, 2023

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Dear Families of 9X Students,

This is to inform you of our request to invite your students to participate in the Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks in Government (CACBIG) 2023-2024 Future Leaders in American Government Program (FLAG). This opportunity is for students in high school, specifically 9<sup>th</sup> grade. FLAG is a youth program initiated through Blacks in Government (BIG) to provide guidance and mentorship to junior high, high school, and college students throughout the nation to build future leaders in America's government. The FLAG program is composed of five tiers: Mentorship, Training Academy, Career Training and Education, Pre-Professional Career Opportunities (Internships), and College Scholarships.

The CACBIG and Reynoldsburg 9X Academy will offer this program to the high school students. There is a minimum requirement of 5 students to participate with a max amount of 10-FLAG sessions would be held once a month from September 2023-May 2024 with the dates to be determined. Sessions will last around 90 minutes during the final period of the day.

We look forward to working with our student participants who will represent their school, and parents. The CACBIG point of contact is Mrs. Shatonna Missick, 614-674-9366, [flag@cacbig.org](mailto:flag@cacbig.org).

Thank you again and thank you for thinking BIG.

Sincerely,

*Foronda Hall*

Foronda Hall

President, Columbus Area Chapter of  
Blacks In Government

**"POWER OF THINKING BIG!"**

Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks In Government  
P.O. Box 13645, Columbus, Ohio 43213  
Email: [info@cacbig.org](mailto:info@cacbig.org)

Please visit our website at [www.cacbig.org](http://www.cacbig.org),  
FACEBOOK page at Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks In Government,  
Twitter @CbusBIG

## MESSAGE FROM THE FLAG FOUNDER—J. DAVID REEVES

Greetings BIG Members,

Blacks In Government's FLAG program will provide opportunities for youth to grow socially, intellectually, and emotionally. The program is designed to successfully meet developmental needs of youth and help them become productive citizens. The FLAG program utilizes the talents and skills of BIG members as mentors to help youth transition from adolescence to adulthood. In line with BIG's preamble, this program will help ensure that our youth will have the opportunity for full, complete, and equitable access to jobs, education, advancement, housing, and health services.

We have designed the program around five critical areas that will help prepare our youth to reach their full potential—mentorship; financial literary and leadership training; career training and education; pre-professional career opportunities; and scholarship opportunities. BIG partnered with community organizations, government agencies, corporations, businesses, and other stakeholders to provide youth with opportunities that foster academics, leadership development, personal growth, and life skills.

As BIG members, we have a responsibility to ensure that we introduce youth to the many career opportunities that exist in the government workforce—at the federal, state, and local levels. Ensuring that our youth are prepared to take our place and progress to high levels in government is in our country's best interest. Also, we must continue to prepare our youth to become future leaders in Blacks in Government. The need for an organization such as BIG, is as important today as it was when our founders established BIG. It is still necessary to develop a mechanism for inclusion, growth, and power for all present and future Black employees in Federal, State, and local governments.

I challenge each of you to become involved in the FLAG program. There are numerous opportunities for involvement—start a Junior or Senior Flag; recruit undergraduate students in our associate membership category; volunteer to be a mentor; present workshops on leadership, financial literary, and other life skills areas; include local youth as part of outreach programs for internships and student summer hires in your agency; and make a commitment to volunteer your time on a monthly basis to work with FLAG students.

As Immediate Past National President of this great organization, one of my visions was to increase youth involvement in Blacks in Government—to motivate and encourage youth to become part of the BIG experience centered on equity, excellence, and opportunity. The FLAG program will accomplish this with BIG members' commitment to this program. I challenge each of you to become involved in ensuring BIG's legacy for our future generations.

## Program Guidelines and Requirements

### Expectations of Mentee

- ❖ *Be committed, available and willing to learn*
- ❖ *Attend monthly sessions unless excused*
- ❖ *Participate*
- ❖ *NO Cell phones during sessions*
- ❖ *Complete all required activities assignments*
- ❖ *Communicate with mentor*
- ❖ *Share your challenges and ask for advice*
- ❖ *HAVE FUN!*

### Expectations of Mentors

- ❖ *Provide support to mentees*
- ❖ *Build a relationship with mentee*
- ❖ *Be a “sounding board” for mentee*
- ❖ *Be trustworthy and encouraging*
- ❖ *Provide constructive feedback*
- ❖ *Provide guidance and assistance in developing activities for mentee*
- ❖ *Identify your mentees strengths and weakness*
- ❖ *Help your mentee reach their goals*
- ❖ *Have Fun*

### **Attendance:**

Mentees are expected to attend at least 90% of the scheduled sessions. If the Mentee is not able to attend a session he or she is responsible for informing his or her mentor or the teacher as soon as possible via remind me, text, or a phone call. If the student misses more than 1 unexcused session, he/she will be removed from the program and cannot reenter for a year. Students must inform their mentors if they plan to participate in after school activities so that the mentor and teacher can account for them.

If a student must leave a session prior to the end time, he/she must inform the teacher the week prior for proper accountability.

### **Program Duration:**

This program is designed to run from September 2023-May 2024.



**JUNIOR Future Leaders In America's Government  
(FLAG)**



**APPLICATION FORM**

**PRINT ONLY PLEASE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Career Objective

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any school activities in which you have been involved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to attend college? \_\_\_\_\_ Vocational school? \_\_\_\_\_

List your work experience below (if any), placing your current job first.

**Type of Work (Job Title)**

**Employer**

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List in order of preference, three kinds of work that you would like (The work should relate to your career objective.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of Agreement**

The Junior FLAG program’s purpose is to provide guidance and mentorship to junior high and high school students throughout the nation. It will provide opportunities for youth to grow socially, intellectually and emotionally. The program is designed around five critical areas—mentorship; financial literacy and leadership training; career training and education; pre-professional career opportunities; and scholarship opportunities.

I fully understand the purpose of the FLAG program as listed above and agree to actively participate in the program. I agree to fully cooperate with the BIG advisor and abide by the program guidelines as presented by the advisor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
FLAG Advisor's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**JUNIOR Future Leaders in America's Government (FLAG)**

**PARENT PERMISSION FORM FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION  
(Required for all JUNIOR FLAG participants)**

I hereby grant permission for \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT student name) to participate in Blacks In Government's Junior FLAG program sponsored by the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG). The purpose of the Junior FLAG program is to provide guidance and mentorship to junior high and high school students throughout the nation. It will provide opportunities for youth to grow socially, intellectually and emotionally. The program is designed around five critical areas—mentorship; financial literacy and leadership training; career training and education; pre-professional career opportunities and scholarship opportunities.

**PHOTO RELEASE**

I authorize permission to Blacks In Government to obtain a recent photograph of the student for legal identification purposes only. I also authorize the use of photographs or videos of student participant activities for the purpose of publication, promotion, illustration or advertising in public media documents or productions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT Parent/Legal Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT FLAG Advisor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
FLAG Advisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**TO BE COMPLETED BY BIG CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE/COORDINATOR**

FLAG Advisor Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_