



ZOOTeen Volunteer Application

The Toledo Zoo
P.O. Box 140130
Toledo, OH 43614-0801



Postmark Deadline: Thursday, March 1, 2012

Important notes for ZOOTeen Applicants:

- Please give the included Recommendation Form to an adult (not a relative) who can speak to your abilities, such as a teacher, coach, youth group leaders, etc. (review recommendation form for additional details)
- Please complete the application, short answers and essay **in your own handwriting**. Notice: the Zoo will provide accommodations in the application and interview process for applicants who indicate the necessity. If you need accommodations, please contact the Volunteer Department.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Birth date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the ZOOTeen Program?

- Toledo Zoo Website School: _____
- Family/Friend Other: _____
- Toledo Zoo Volunteer or Staff: Name(s) _____

Do you have previous volunteer experience? If so, where did you volunteer and what were your responsibilities?

What opportunities interest you? Please circle all that apply.

- Animal Science Public Education Conservation
- Community Service Leadership Development Other: _____

What skills do you want to develop as a member of the ZOOTeen program?

The Zoo values the following characteristics. Please indicate how other people (friends, family, teachers, etc.) would rate you in the following areas, using the scale provided:

Scale: 1=Below Average; 2=Fair; 3=Average; 4=Good; 5=Excellent; 6=Outstanding

Oral Communication Skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dependability	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maturity	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to Work on my Own	1	2	3	4	5	6
Self-Motivation	1	2	3	4	5	6
Teamwork Skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
Follow Directions	1	2	3	4	5	6
Willing to Learn/Try New Things	1	2	3	4	5	6
Flexibility	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positive Attitude	1	2	3	4	5	6

Short Answer: Select two of the traits highlighted above that best describe you. Please give a specific example of how you have demonstrated this trait.

Trait #1: _____ . Specific Example: _____

Trait #2: _____ . Specific Example: _____

Short Answer: Select one of the traits highlighted above that is a weakness that you would like to work upon in the ZOOTEen program. Please cite a specific example.

Trait: _____ Specific Example: _____

Date

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Custodial Parent/Guardian

ZOOTeen Essay

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Essay: Use the following prompts to write a short essay (between 150 – 250 words). Please write your essay on this paper and (in your own handwriting) and submit with your application.

Public education is the primary function of the ZOOTeen program. ZOOTeens are expected to interact positively with children and adults, sharing their love of animals and nature. Are you comfortable talking with other people or do you get nervous when you have to talk to people? Do you prefer talking to children or adults? Do you prefer large or small groups? Do these factors make a difference? What steps have you taken to improve your speaking and communication skills? In what areas do you still need to improve? Will you enjoy being part of a program such as ours that emphasizes public education?



ZOOTeen Recommendation Form

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Toledo, OH 43614-0801



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Name of ZOOTeen Applicant _____

ZOOTeen Applicant Phone Number _____

ZOOTeen Applicant

Please give this recommendation form to a teacher, coach, youth group leader, or any other adult who knows you in a structured setting. Parents and family members should not be used as references. This recommendation form needs to be mailed in a sealed envelope, so as a courtesy, please give the person writing your recommendation a stamped, addressed envelope.

Evaluator

The teenager who gave you this form is applying to be a member of the Toledo ZOOTeen Program, a service and leadership program for teenagers, ages 13 – 17 based out of the Toledo Zoo. Please complete the following recommendation form and return to the address listed above (the teenager should have provided a stamped, addressed envelope for your convenience); this form must be postmarked by March 1, 2012. Your comments are greatly appreciated and will help us determine if this applicant will enjoy success as a member of the ZOOTeen Program.

Name of Evaluator _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

How long have you known the Applicant _____

Evaluator Contact Phone (if follow up is needed) _____

I recommend this applicant for the ZOOTeen Program (*circle one*)

With great
enthusiasm

With
Confidence

With slight
Hesitation

With serious
reservation

(Please continue on reverse side)

Please use this scale to rate the applicant by the following criteria

Scale: N=Not Known; 1=Below Average; 2=Fair; 3=Average; 4=Good; 5=Excellent; 6=Outstanding

Oral Communication Skills	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dependability	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Level of Maturity	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to Work Independently	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Degree of Self-Motivation	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to Work Well with Others	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to Follow Directions	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Willingness to Learn	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to Solve Problems	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
Overall Personality	N	1	2	3	4	5	6

Please highlight one of the applicant's strengths that s/he will bring to the ZOOTEen Program; cite an example, if possible. _____

Please highlight one of the applicant's weaknesses that s/he needs to build upon as a member of the ZOOTEen Program; cite an example, if possible. _____

Evaluator's Signature

Date

Thank you for taking the time to complete this recommendation form; we appreciate your comments.