



# **2024 SUMMER VolunTEEN Application**

Ages 13-17 (Teen Must Be 13 by April 1, 2024)

Directions: Please follow the checklist below to complete the application.

- ☐ Complete all areas with handwritten responses.
- ☐ Use only blue or black ink to complete responses.
- ☐ Applications must be received with all required pieces submitted together by 5 p.m. April 7, 2024.
- ☒ Summer VolunTeen Contact Information Form
- ☒ Involvement Contract signed by teen and parent/guardian
- ☒ Zoo Teen Questionnaire
- ☒ One Academic Teacher Evaluation from a non-related adult in a sealed envelope the recommender signs on the seal (If home-schooled, please have a non-related adult complete)
- ☒ One Letter of Recommendation from a non-related adult in a sealed envelope the recommender signs on the seal
- ☒ Teacher Evaluation and Letter of Recommendation to be completed by two separate recommenders to fulfill application requirements – if homeschooled, choose an unrelated adult who can speak to the applicant's work ethic (coach, advisor, etc.)
- ☐ Failure to follow these directions will remove the applicant from consideration for a position in the 2024 Summer VolunTeen Program.
- ☐ All applicants will be notified of their status by April 25 – if you have not heard from us by that time feel free to reach out at the email below.
- ☐ Due to the high volume of applications, please allow a minimum of 2 weeks past the application due date for processing and evaluation before checking applicant status.

**Late applications and incomplete applications (missing required pieces or directions not properly followed) will not be reviewed.**

## **Applications accepted via mail or drop-off:**

Jen Katona  
Brevard Zoo  
Zoo Teen Manager  
8225 North Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32940

Questions? 321.254.9453 x375 or [zooteens@brevardzoo.org](mailto:zooteens@brevardzoo.org)



## SUMMER VolunTEEN Application

Ages 13-17 (Teen Must Be 13 by April 1, 2024)

**Due Date: Sunday April 7, 2024**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  
(office use only)

### Getting to Know You

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size (unisex t-shirt) \_\_\_\_\_

Address belongs to: ☐ Me ☐ My Parent (Where you will receive emailed communication from us)

Alternate Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

Contact for: ☐ Me ☐ My Parent School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### Optional Information:

Have you attended any of the following programs at the Zoo?	Yes	No
Zoo Camp: # years? _____		
Zoo School (5 <sup>th</sup> grade)		
Jr. Zookeeper		
Youth Environmental Summit		
Homeschool Class		
Night Hikes/Overnights		
Other:		

Have you applied for the Zoo Teen Program in the past?  
Yes or No

Did a current or former Zoo Teen recommend the program to you? Yes or No

If yes, who? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Summer Program?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer these questions on an attached sheet of paper in your own handwriting, using blue or black ink. Follow directions and answer all questions completely to the best of your ability:

1. What interests you about volunteering at the Zoo this summer? How would this experience fit into your educational and/or career goals?
2. What is it that you believe you can contribute to our youth volunteer team? Special skills, talents, or strengths? Show your creativity! Feel free to include a drawing.
3. What activities and hobbies are you involved in this summer? How much time do you have available for volunteering? How will you organize your schedule to include volunteering at the Zoo while still participating in both your family and extracurricular activities?

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## SUMMER VolunTEEN PROGRAM INVOLVMENT CONTRACT

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

The Summer VolunTeen Program at Brevard Zoo is a 10-week seasonal position that runs from the end of May through early August. Once selected into the program, the VolunTeen undergoes two (2) days of training on May 18 & 19, 2024. Presence at training is required. Inability to meet this requirement will exclude the applicant from consideration. Upon the completion of training, the VolunTeen will be given their official assignment **(10 days, either 2 weeks of full day camp OR a single day Sun–Sat each week)**. This is the absolute minimum requirement, applicants willing to commit more time will be given greater consideration – please indicate your availability below. Schedules may vary, but guest engagement volunteer days usually run from 9am-3:15pm and camp from 8:15am-3:45pm.

Once accepted VolunTeens must pay dues of \$35.00. This covers the costs of a handbook, teen shirt, nametag, and background check. VolunTeens are required to participate in a conservation event. VolunTeen positions are temporary. However, interested teens are encouraged to apply for the full Zoo Teen Program in the fall.

VolunTeen participants are allowed to miss two (2) of their assigned volunteer days. On the third unexcused miss, without prior communication, the VolunTeen may be dismissed from the program. The program does not provide make-up days. The program does not allow switching volunteer days with another VolunTeen.

Having read and understood this, please complete the following:

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that the Zoo VolunTeen Program is a 10-week commitment. I understand that I am allowed two (2) absences from my Volunteer Days. I understand that on the third (3) miss, I may be dismissed from the program. I acknowledge that family emergencies, illness, and court appointments or ordered visitation are considered excused absences with a doctor/parent note.

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that once selected, I will undergo 2 days of training. I understand that I must be present for all training days at the times specified. **5/18 AM – Orientation with parent/guardian, 5/18 PM & 5/19 – For teen volunteer only**

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that I must participate in a conservation opportunity (CO).

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that if selected I will be assigned to assist with summer camps OR guest engagement one day each week, Sun-Sat. On these days, I am expected to volunteer the hours required.

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that I must adhere to all Zoo policies and regulations, including behavioral expectations, and pass a background check before volunteering.

**Assignment Preference** (if no preference, mark both): ☐ **Summer Camps** ☐ **Guest Engagement Activities**

**Write in predicted unavailability (specific days or dates – ex: vacation/camp/etc.):**

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

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## SUMMER VolunTEEN PROGRAM TEACHER EVALUATION

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE \_\_\_\_\_

This form is used to evaluate potential youth volunteers. **For consideration, this evaluation must be returned to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.** Completed applications are due at the Zoo no later than 5 p.m. Sunday April 7, 2024.

Please rate the student's performance based on the following numerical scale:

1	<b>Outstanding</b>	<i>Performance is exceptional.</i>
2	<b>Very Good</b>	<i>Consistently exceeds requirements.</i>
3	<b>Good</b>	<i>Competent &amp; dependable.</i>
4	<b>Improvement Needed</b>	<i>Does not meet requirements.</i>
5	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<i>Unacceptable behavior.</i>

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of maturity.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Willingness to take initiative.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of dependability and responsibility.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of participation and enthusiasm.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of organizational skills.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you recommend this student to be a Brevard Zoo Summer VolunTeen?

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

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



YEARS KNOWN	PHONE or EMAIL
-------------	----------------

This form is used to evaluate potential youth volunteers. **For consideration, this evaluation must be returned to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.** Completed applications are due at the Zoo no later than 5 p.m. Sunday April 7, 2024.

[illegible]

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_