

# Zooteen Program 2017

Department of Education

## Would you like to . . .

- Learn about animals and the natural world?
- Help people learn new ideas and how to relate to wildlife?
- Become active in your environment?
- Develop valuable leadership skills?

If so, then the Montgomery Zoo/Mann Museum Zooteen program may be just what you're looking for.

## Montgomery Zoo Zooteens must show. . .

- A long lasting interest in wildlife and the environment.
- The desire and ability to teach others.
- A commitment to the training process and volunteering at least eight hours per month throughout the year and two full weeks in the summer.

## Requirements to Become a Zooteen:

### An applicant must:

1. Be at least 13 years of age (*No exceptions*).
2. Have an exceptional interest in animals and the environment.
3. Make a one year commitment as an educational volunteer.  
**This is a commitment for both the applicant and the family.**
4. Make a commitment to participate for two full weeks as a counselor during our summer camps.

### If selected he/she must:

1. Attend one of the three training sessions offered this year.
2. Work a minimum of four hours each month throughout the year. (with the exception of summer camp.)
3. Attend and participate in monthly docent meetings.
4. Report results from a TB test within two months of acceptance.
5. Provide own transportation to and from the zoo.
6. Adhere to all rules and regulations imposed by the zoo, Mann Museum and the department of education.
7. Pay a registration fee of \$40. This fee will include your training handbook upon acceptance and a red uniform shirt after the first 25 hours of feeding and cleaning.
8. Be responsible for providing their own uniform pants, shorts, independent project materials and lunch while in service. (khaki or black pants must be worn, shorts cannot be any shorter than 3 inches above the knee)

## To Apply

1. Applicant must complete this application him/herself.
2. Indicate session preference on application.
3. Applications must be turned in by indicated deadlines
4. Two references must be submitted.
  - ~ A science teacher must complete the enclosed reference form.
  - ~ The other reference must be a letter from any adult who knows the applicant well. Form letters or letters from relatives are not accepted.
5. Every part of the application is important, as the materials will be reviewed as a whole.
6. Answers to essay questions must be typed with all applicant's information centered at the top of the page.
7. Deliver completed application to: Department of Education, Montgomery Zoo— PO Box 3313  
Montgomery, Alabama 36109 or fax it to (334) 240-4916

## To the Parents/Guardians

- The Zooteen program is a one-year commitment, not only for the Zooteen, but also for the entire family. Cooperation, support, transportation and encouragement are necessary for success. Please plan family activities to allow for maximum participation in the Zooteen program.
- Only a few who apply are accepted due to space and supervisory limitations. Participant's performance is evaluated during training and every month thereafter. Any Zooteen not meeting the set standards will be dismissed from the program.
- A parent or guardian is required to attend the training class. Please make plans to be here at least 6 hours for the class.

## Important Dates

### *Application Deadlines*

January 11 by 4:30pm

May 10 by 4:30pm

August 9 by 4:30pm

### *Interviews*

January 14

May 13

August 12

### *Training Class*

January 21

May 20

August 19

\*You must be available for a 20 minute interview and a 6 hour training class on the dates provided for you session.

**\*Please note: There will be a mandatory meeting for all Zooteens on June 1st at 6:00pm to prepare for summer camp. You must attend this meeting!**



# Zooteen Program Application

I am applying for the following session: (check 1)

\_\_\_\_ January 21st

\_\_\_\_ May 20th

\_\_\_\_ August 19th

- Must have application turned in by deadline and be available for an interview.
- If mailing application, please give at least one week for arrival

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

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Mother or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Home #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Applicant's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Father or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Home #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Work #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Guardian's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can your family provide transportation to and from the zoo? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Can your family provide lunch during training and long service days? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

With whom is the applicant living? \_\_\_\_\_

What languages are spoken in the home? \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Public: \_\_\_\_\_ Private: \_\_\_\_\_ Parochial: \_\_\_\_\_

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

How did you hear about the Zooteen program? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been an employee at the Montgomery Zoo? \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Medical History (This information is voluntary and used for emergency purposes only. It is not used for acceptance criteria.)**

Name of physician/Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Allergies: (to food, drugs, insects, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other known medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications and reasons for taking: \_\_\_\_\_

**In Case of Emergency please list two people we can contact in case we cannot reach your parents or guardians.**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Don't forget to include two reference letters with your application!!**

# Zooteen Program Application

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## Zooteen Applicant: Please Answer These Questions Yourself

You must answer these questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper. Questions must be typed with your personal information centered at the top of the page. Applicant must complete these questions on their own.

1. Why do you want to volunteer at the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum?
2. What activities do you like to participate in during any free time you have?
3. Do you have any pets? If so, what types of pets do you have and in detail, tell us how you take care of them. If not, what types of pets would you like to have and how would you prepare for their arrival to your home?
4. As a young person, what do you think you can do to help protect wildlife and the environment?
5. Pretend you are an endangered species (a disappearing animal). What species are you? Why are you endangered? What can humans do to help protect you from extinction?
6. What subject in school do you excel in and why?
7. What benefits do you feel you can add to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum Department of Education?
8. What are your goals for the future, where do you see yourself in 10 years?

*Please consider me for the City of Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum Zooteen program. If I am accepted my family and I will not plan special events or vacations during at least two weeks of the summer so that I may participate as a counselor during summer camp. Upon acceptance, the Zooteen program will be my #1 extracurricular activity for the year and a high priority for the years of service that may follow. I do affirm that I completed this application on my own, without the help of any other person.*

Printed name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

# Zooteen Program 2017

Department of Education

## Applicants!

## Science Teacher Reference Form

- Give this form to your science teacher (present or recent past) and ask him or her to complete it as soon as possible and mail it to the Montgomery Zoo Department of Education.

- Deadlines:

Session 1  
January 11, 2017

Session 2  
May 10, 2017

Session 3  
August 9, 2017

⇒ By 4:30 pm for all

- *No applications will be reviewed without this form and another letter of reference.*
- Be sure to thank your teacher!!

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

The applicant you are referring is applying to the Montgomery Zoo / Mann Museum Zooteen Program: a year long program for teenagers who show a genuine interest in animals and the environment. The students we select must show the desire and ability to teach others and commit to an intense training course, eight hours a month of dedicated service to the department of education and two full weeks in the summer as a counselor for summer campers. The focus of the work is public education. Although Zooteens are trained to handle selected animals, they will not spend a majority of their time in direct animal contact. The majority of their time will be spent interacting with the zoo visitors. The Zooteen Program must be the student's number one extracurricular priority for the entire year.

We would appreciate your candid responses concerning this applicant and would like to assure you that all of the information you provide will be kept confidential. If you have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact Jennifer Hutcheson, Curator of Education at (334) 240-4909. Thank You for your valuable time and assistance. This program is very important to us and your comments aid us in selecting a diverse and committed group of students.

When did you last teach this student? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity and for how long have you known this student? \_\_\_\_\_

Which best describes the applicant's relationship with his or her peers?

Shows leadership \_\_\_\_\_ Reserved \_\_\_\_\_ Is easily accepted by peers \_\_\_\_\_ Prefers to be alone \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain your choice \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know of any special interests, qualities, abilities, or experiences of this applicant which would be helpful for us to know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Please Evaluate the Student

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
COMMON SENSE	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
CREATIVITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
DEPENDABILITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
REGARD TO AUTHORITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
COOPERATION	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
ABILITY TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
BEHAVIOR IN A GROUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	U

I recommend this student to the Montgomery Zoo / Mann Museum Zooteen Program:

With great enthusiasm \_\_\_\_\_ With confidence \_\_\_\_\_ With some confidence \_\_\_\_\_

With reservation \_\_\_\_\_ I do not recommend \_\_\_\_\_ (please list reservations below)

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

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_