

Zooteen Program

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 4 training sessions offered this year without absence.
2. work a minimum of eight hours each month throughout the year.
3. attend and participate in six of the monthly docent meetings.
4. complete an independent project within two months after the completion of training.
5. report results from a TB test within two months of acceptance.
6. provide own transportation to and from the zoo.
7. adhere to all rules and regulations imposed by the zoo, Mann Museum and the department of education.
8. be responsible for purchasing the training manual and at least one short sleeve uniform shirt (\$40.00) and be responsible for having their name embroidered on all uniform shirts.
9. be responsible for providing their own uniform pants, shorts, independent project materials and lunch while in service.

To Apply

1. Applicant must complete this application him/herself.
2. Indicate session preference on application.
3. 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.
4. Every part of the application is important, as the materials will be reviewed as a whole. The application and references will be screened by an advisory board made up of the curator of education, the assistant curator of education and the senior docent advisory board.
5. Answers to essay questions must be typed with all applicant's information centered at the top of the page.
6. Interviews will be scheduled for those applicants who best meet the criteria listed previously in the "Requirements" section.
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.
- Zooteens may continue in the youth volunteer program upon successful completion of the first year. Options for advancement opportunities will be discussed with participants at the end of the annual rotation.

Important Dates

Application Deadlines

January 10th
May 2nd
August 1st
October 31st

for January 20th session
for May 12th session
for August 11th session
for November 10th session



Zooteen Program Application

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

____ January 20

____ May 12

____ August 11

____ November 10

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? _____

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 your references with your application!!

Zooteen Program Application

Zooteen Applicant: Please Answer These Questions Yourself

You must answer these questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper clearly marked with your personal information centered at the top of the page.

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 are some of the hobbies you enjoy?
7. What subject in school do you excel in and why?
8. What benefits do you feel you can add to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum Department of Education?
9. What are your goals for the future?
10. What do you see yourself doing 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: _____