

1<sup>st</sup> Year Zoo Teen

# Rolling Hills Zoo Teen Application Information Sheet

Complete all areas including essay questions and obtain a letter of reference from a teacher, coach, advisor, Pastor or Community Leader.

**Return your fully completed application to the Rolling Hills Zoo Volunteer Department by Friday, January 7, 2022**

**Incomplete and or late applications *will not* be considered for the Rolling Hills Zoo Teen Program.**

Return applications to:

Rolling Hills Zoo

Attn: Volunteer Department

625 N. Hedville Rd

Salina, KS 67401

or

email to [school.groups@rollinghillszoo.org](mailto:school.groups@rollinghillszoo.org)

Questions?

Call Theresa at 785-827-9488 ext. 132 or e-mail

[school.groups@rollinghillszoo.org](mailto:school.groups@rollinghillszoo.org)

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## Need-to-Know Dates for 2022 Zoo Teens

Friday, January 7, 2022

Applications Due

**Saturday, January 22, 2022**  
**Time to be announced**

**Mandatory Interview (New Zoo Teens-you will be contacted)**

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

Notification of 2022 Zoo Teen Group  
(all will be contacted)

**Saturday, February 5, 2022**  
**9-4pm (lunch will be provided)**

**Mandatory Day Training (All Zoo Teens must be present for the training day)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code  
( )

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address *(please put a current email address that you check often)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

Adult shirt size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Have you ever been convicted for violation of any federal, state, county, or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance?  
\_\_Yes \_\_No If yes, give date and explain:

In case of an emergency, who should we contact (please list TWO emergency contacts)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Relationship

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone Cell phone Work phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Relationship

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone Cell phone Work phone

Do you have reliable transportation?

Yes No

Are you 13 years of age or older?

Yes No

Birth day: \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/DD/YYYY)

Do you have a driver's license?

Yes No

Current grade in school:

8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>

Last day of school: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CONSIDERATIONS (Please read thoroughly before completing)

*Students MUST be 13 years old as of May 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.* This program is not a summer recreation program or a babysitting service. We are looking for responsible, enthusiastic students with an interest in working in a zoological environment and who can interact positively with guests. All applicants are expected to adhere to the Zoo's policies and mission statement. There are guidelines regarding personal appearance, dress code and conduct which must be followed. Natural hair colors and Zoo-approved dress are required.

Before submitting this application, students with a heavy schedule of summer activities such as sports, camps, long vacations, jobs, etc. should consider whether or not they have the time to commit to the program. **We require a minimum commitment of 71 hours** to be completed between May 28, 2022-September 5, 2022. Zoo Teens reaching this minimum hour requirement will be eligible to return the next year.

## STUDENT COMMITMENT

Selected Zoo Teens are required to report to work on scheduled days. It will be the responsibility of the student to take the initiative for scheduling their volunteer time. In the event that you are unable to fulfill your shift, please find a replacement by contacting a fellow zoo teen and also informing the volunteer coordinator.

I understand I will go through a formal interview process and that I am not guaranteed a position in the Zoo Teen Program. I understand that if I am selected and choose to animal handle, I must have a TB skin test prior to any animals contact. I also understand that I must attend the required Zoo Teen training date. I have considered my summer activities and will not miss more than two scheduled volunteer days. I understand that on the third missed volunteer shift, I will be dismissed from the program and unable to return. I certify that the information of this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the Rolling Hills Zoo Volunteer Services Department to use this information in determining my participation in the Zoo Teen program

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

*Must be filled out by parent/guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

I understand that if selected as a participant in the Zoo Teen program, my son/daughter will be committed to volunteering at Rolling Hills Zoo on scheduled dates and will need to pay a \$30 program fee which will cover two uniform shirts, name badge and thumb drive. I understand that in the event of her/his not being able to work, it is his/her responsibility to find a replacement by contacting a fellow Zoo Teen and then informing the Volunteer Coordinator.

As a parent/guardian, I will support my daughter/son's participation by providing transportation as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent/Guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

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First-Year Applicants Please Answer the Following Questions.

## General Essay Questions

**Please retype and answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. There are several questions within the questions, so be thorough.**

1. What interests you in the Rolling Hills Zoo Teen program?
2. What is one conservation issue that is important to you? What could you do to help this problem?
3. What activities and hobbies are you involved in both at school and away from school? What time commitment is involved in these activities? Accepting a position into the Zoo Teen Program is a big commitment. How will you organize your schedule to include volunteering at the zoo while still participating in both your family and extracurricular activities?
4. One of our primary tasks of Zoo Teens is speaking with our guests. Please describe your comfort level speaking to individuals of all ages and backgrounds.
5. What do you hope to gain from volunteering at the zoo?

\*Ask your adult if you need assistance answering the above questions.

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**ADULT REFERRAL (both sheets go to your reference)**

**Due Friday, January 7, 2022 with your other application information.**

Complete & return to applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.



**Attention Applicant**

Put your name on this form and give it to an adult that you choose to be your reference (other than a relative), along with an envelope. This must be done at least two weeks prior to the application deadline. Ask them to complete the form & return it to you in the envelope, sealed. Include the envelope in your application packet.

Please remember to thank them for their help.




**For the Adult Giving the Reference**

The applicant below is applying to the Zoo Teen program at Rolling Hills Zoo. Zoo Teens is a summer program for teenagers 13 years and older, who have an interest in education, animals and the environment. The applicants we select should show a desire and ability to teach others and have a willingness to commit to a summer long program. The focus of the work is public education. Although Zoo Teens may be trained to handle small animals, the majority of their time will be spent interacting with Zoo visitors.

We would appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. Your comments will aid us in selecting a committed group of teens. Thank you for your valuable time and assistance. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Theresa in the Volunteer Department at (785) 827-9488 ext. 132.

Please place your referral in the envelope provided by the applicant. Please sign your name over the seal of the envelope.



**Please Print**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adult's Name \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

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I recommend this applicant to the Zoo Teen program

- with great enthusiasm
- with confidence
- with some confidence
- with reservation

**Please fill out both sides of this form**

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## Please Evaluate the Applicant



**SCALE:** N/A = Not Applicable    1 = below average    2 = fair    3 = average    4 = good    5 = excellent    6 = outstanding

Oral communication skills	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to analyze a problem	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Common sense	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Curiosity	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Creativity	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dependability	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sense of responsibility	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Self-motivation	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Perseverance	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to work independently	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reaction to criticism	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Regard for authority	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Regard for the rules	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cooperation	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Adaptability	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Public Speaking	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Behavior in a group	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to follow directions	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6



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

\_\_\_\_\_



Adult's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_