



*Thank you for your interest in Reid Park Zoo's Zoo Crew program. The following information will answer some of your questions about this exciting and challenging volunteer position, and will help you decide if the program is right for you.*

#### **Who can volunteer?**

This program is for youth entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade; applicants must be at least 14 years of age or entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall of 2019. Those who have graduated high school or are 18 years or over may qualify for the Zoo's Adult Docent program.

#### **What does a teen volunteer do?**

Zoo Crew members interact with the Zoo's daily visitors. They use artifacts (such as photos, enrichment items, and bone replicas) to educate the public about animals both in the Zoo and how they relate to their wild counterparts. Zoo Crew members can also provide activities for families to enjoy throughout the Zoo such as craft projects and educational activities. Additionally, Zoo Crew members help with special and added value events such as Summer Safari, Teddy Bear Clinic, and Zoo Lights; some of these events are fundraising opportunities for the Zoo Crew conservation fund.

#### **What DOESN'T a teen volunteer do?**

At Reid Park Zoo, Zoo Crew members do not work with habitat animals, Zoo Keepers, or behind the scenes. Zoo Crew has levels to the program and upon completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> level; Zoo Crew members have the opportunity to handle small ambassador animals.

#### **How much time is required?**

Being in Zoo Crew is a big commitment. Teens are required to volunteer at least 6 hours per month, for at least a year, after training is completed. **THIS IS NOT A SUMMER-ONLY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.**

#### **What training is provided?**

A mandatory training course is provided once each year. There is a \$45 training fee. The course is taught by Volunteer and Education Department staff and includes tours, classroom instruction, and discussions with other Zoo staff. Due to the intensity and importance of the training, teens must attend every day of training in order to participate this year. There are no makeup days. The 2019 training course will take place on Tuesday, May 28, Wednesday, May 29, Thursday, May 30, Friday, May 31, Saturday, June 1, and Sunday June 2. Training is 8:30am-3:30pm each day; Sunday's training is 11:00am – 3:30pm and must be attended by a parent or legal guardian.

#### **How are teens selected?**

All applications must be received by March 31, 2019. The Zoo Crew volunteer program is competitive and, based on applications, select teens will be scheduled for an interview. Please note that due to the volume of applications all applicants may not be interviewed. The teens chosen for this year's program will be selected based on their demonstration of maturity and responsibility, as well as their commitment to wildlife conservation and education.

#### **What if I'm not selected this year?**

Due to limited space, some qualified teens will not be accepted this year. If not selected, we encourage you to apply again next year.

#### **How do I apply?**

Send your completed application form and one letter of recommendation from a current teacher or a non-related community member to Sierra Horsey in the Volunteer Department. We will contact you after receiving your application. We hope to hear from you! Questions? Email: [Sierra.Horsey@reidparkzoo.org](mailto:Sierra.Horsey@reidparkzoo.org).



Office Use Only!! Date received :  Interview date:
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## Zoo Crew Application

**Instructions:** Your application **must** be typed. Please save this document to your computer, type your answers into the form then resave this document before printing it out to mail. A letter of recommendation must be mailed along with your application.

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Main Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date of Birth of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Main Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

School you're attending Fall 2019 (next school year): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade for Fall 2019: \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult** T Shirt Size (Please check one): S  M  L  XL  XXL  3XL

Have you applied to Reid Park Zoo's Zoo Crew program before? Yes  No

Volunteering at the Reid Park Zoo is a **year round** commitment. Teens are required to volunteer at least 6 hours per month for one year. Can you meet this requirement?

Yes  No  Maybe

With regards to your school schedule, extracurricular activities, and available transportation, please briefly describe your plan for volunteering 6 hours every month from June 2019-June 2020. Please list days and times you are able to volunteer for summer, fall semester, and spring semester.

Zoo Crew members play an important role for the Zoo's special and added value events including Zoo Lights, Summer Safari, and Teddy Bear Clinic. These events can happen during regular hours and at night. Can you volunteer for a minimum of one after-hours special event and/or one added value event?

Yes  No  Maybe

Please indicate prior Zoo experiences you have had: summer camp  school field trips   
sleepovers  Zoolights  Zoo animals in your classroom  Boo at the Zoo   
Family membership  other \_\_\_\_\_

Please **type** your answers to the following questions on a separate piece of paper and return it with your application.

1. Why are you interested in becoming a Zoo Crew member at the Reid Park Zoo? What are you hoping to learn or gain from this experience?
2. What qualities do you have that make you a good fit for this program?
3. Reid Park Zoo caters to guests ranging from toddlers to grandparents. What experience do you have working or interacting with people of various ages?
4. What experiences have you had working with others in a group?
5. Please describe any previous volunteer experiences.
6. Please list your hobbies and/or extra curricular activities.
7. In a short paragraph, please write about your thoughts regarding a zoo's role in wildlife conservation.

By applying for this volunteer position, I understand that I:

1. May receive an interview by zoo staff, after which, I may or may not be accepted into the program. I can also decide at that time that I do not want to participate in the program.
2. Will be required to pay a non-refundable \$45 fee if I am accepted into the program.
3. Will complete all required teen training dates: Tuesday, May 28, Wednesday, May 29, Thursday, May 30, Friday, May 31, Saturday, June 1, and Sunday June 2. Training will take place 8:30am-3:30pm each day; Sunday's training is 11am-3:30pm. I understand these training dates are mandatory and there are no makeup days.
4. Will attend the guardian training session with my guardian(s) on Sunday, June 2 from 11-3:30.
5. Will volunteer a minimum of 6 hours per month for one year, June 2019-June 2020.

Teen Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

To complete your application, you must have one letter of reference from a teacher or community member you have worked closely with and are not related to. The letter of reference **MUST** be sent with your application.

**Please mail application packet to:**

**Reid Park Zoo Volunteer Department  
Attention: Sierra Horsey  
1030 S. Randolph Way  
Tucson, AZ 85716**

Your application packet must include:

- Your completed application
- Your typed answers to the questions on the application
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher or community member

*\*\* Note: Applicants with incomplete application packets will not receive an interview*

**Application deadline is March 31, 2019 at 3:00 pm**

- **Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be accepted.** After submission, your application will be reviewed. Not every application is accepted and not every applicant will be interviewed.
- If your application is accepted, you will be notified via email confirmation within two weeks from the date that the application was submitted. The confirmation email will explain how to continue forward with the application process, including scheduling an interview and when to pay the \$45 training fee.