



Dear Applicant and Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Thank you for your interest in our ZooTEENS program. Please read the following information before you fill out your application.

ZooTEENS is a volunteer program for youth in or entering high school. The age cut-off date is June 1, so you must be 14 by June 1 and cannot be older than 17 by June 1st. We will have **mandatory** training on June 3-5, Monday through Wednesday. The times for training will be 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you cannot attend the entire training session listed above, please do not apply at this time.

Applications will be accompanied by two sealed recommendations: one from a past or present science teacher, and another from any other unrelated adult. If you are home-schooled, two recommendations from unrelated adults are accepted. The recommendations **MUST** be sealed and signed by the author over the envelope flap.

We will accept applications and recommendations postmarked by **April 1**. All applicants will be reviewed, and those selected for an interview will be contacted by April 16. Interviews will be scheduled throughout the end of April. Applicants accepted following the interview will be invited to complete volunteer orientation and training. **Please note that space is VERY limited. On average, we receive about 50 applications, and due to limitations on space, time, and staff, we will only be accepting 6-10 new ZooTEENS in 2024.** Please mail complete application packets to

Friends of the Zoo  
Attn: Emily Lansche Katski  
3043 N. Fort Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65803

If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed at the orientation, please call or e-mail me.

Sincerely,

Emily Lansche Katski  
Education Specialist  
417-833-1570  
elansche@dickersonparkzoo.org



# 2024 Application

Due by/postmarked by April 1, 2024

## Personal Information

(please print neatly)

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

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

(city, state, zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

(please indicate whose phone, i.e. home, parent's cell)

Alternate Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address of parent: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contacts

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

**Experience**

Please list your past work, volunteer experience, or clubs/groups to which you belong (i.e. teacher aide, babysitting, pet care, church groups etc).

Location	Job/Volunteer/Group Description and Your Role	Dates (list most recent first)

## About You

Please rate yourself on the following statements by circling the number that corresponds to your answer—1=Completely Agree, 2=Mostly Agree, 3= Agree a little, 4=Disagree a little, 5= Mostly Disagree 6=Completely Disagree:

I enjoy learning about animals:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I love the outdoors:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am a conservationist:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am comfortable being a leader:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I don't mind talking to kids I don't know:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I don't mind talking to adults I don't know:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I can be a role model for fellow volunteers:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am responsible:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am organized:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am willing to try new things:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I am trustworthy:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I always complete tasks given to me:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Other people describe me as outgoing:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I easily get along with other people my age:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I take responsibility for my actions:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I like to work alone:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I like to talk in front of groups of people:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I follow rules:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I respect my teachers:	1	2	3	4	5	6
I don't mind working with adults:	1	2	3	4	5	6

## Essay Questions

Please answer the following questions in your own words. Answers should be neatly printed or typed, with a **maximum** length of one page per question.

1. Why do you want to volunteer at the Dickerson Park Zoo? What do you think volunteering would help you accomplish now and for your future?
2. Please describe two instances that show your ability to show leadership or demonstrate your level and sense of responsibility.

**More About You!**

Is there anything else you'd like us to know? Use the space below to tell us!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Signatures**

I verify that the above information is correct, and that I am able to attend all three days of training:  
June 3, 4, 5

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant    Date

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