



## **High School Volunteer Leadership Program @ The Children's Museum of the Upstate**

### **FAQs**

#### **Q: What is the High School Volunteer Leadership Program?**

**A:** The High School Volunteer Leadership Program allows students in grades 9th-12th to grow in leadership and teamwork while serving the community.

#### **Q: How do I join the High School Volunteer Leadership Program?**

**A:** There is an application process for the summer and school year sessions. The application is located on our website and a reference link will be provided to the candidate to send to two teachers who have taught them in the last year. Guidance counselors may also fill out the form. Candidates who complete the first two steps by the given deadlines may proceed to the interview portion of the application process. Candidates will be notified concerning the final status of their applications via email and/or mail.

#### **Q: When are applications due for each session?**

**A:** Typically, applications become available according to the following:  
Summer Applications: February/March  
School Year Applications: August

#### **Q: When are applications due for each session?**

**A:** Summer Referrals and Applications: April -- Summer Interviews: April  
School Year Referrals and Applications: September -- School Year Interviews: September

**Q: If I volunteered during the summer session, do I need to reapply for the school year?**

**A:** No, you do not. Volunteers will receive a commitment form via email to transition into the school year session. When applications for the summer session open, the application cycle starts over, and current volunteers must reapply.

**Q: What kind of commitment is required?**

**A:** For the summer session, volunteers must be able to volunteer for a minimum of 4 volunteer shifts on the Saturdays of their choice and for 1 camp volunteer shift on a Monday morning to complete the 16-hour commitment. Volunteers must also be able to attend at least 1 of 2 Leadership Nights.

More details to come for the school year session!

**Summer Leadership Nights**

June 18: 5-6:30pm | July 30: 5-6:30

**School Year Leadership Nights**

TBD

**Q: What if transportation to the museum is a challenge?**

**A:** You will need reliable transportation to participate in the program.

**Q: How do you provide leadership development?**

**A:** Students lead a lesson during summer camp. Students also play a significant role in facilitating programs on Saturdays.

More details to come for the school year session!

**Q: Will time at the TCMU count towards my community service requirements?**

**A:** In our experience, most schools will accept volunteer service at The Children's Museum of the Upstate as part of the community service requirements. However, we strongly encourage students to check with their supervising teacher as some schools have different requirements. It is each student's responsibility to keep track of their volunteer times and to ask the staff member supervising them to sign off on hours at the completion of each shift. Asking the coordinator to complete the form or waiting until it is due to get signatures is strongly discouraged as the coordinator's schedule varies and a prompt response cannot be guaranteed.

**Q: What benefits will I receive from the High School Volunteer Leadership Program?**

**A:** The benefits will largely depend on how invested you are in the program. All students will receive the intrinsic rewards of volunteering their time and knowledge to help others. Students will have the opportunity to develop their leadership and teamwork skills, meet new friends and identify their talents.

More Questions? Contact Christine Pineros @ 864-553-7911 or CPineros@TCMUpstate.org