



Adult Volunteer Application

Please note:

Completing a Discovery Land volunteer application does not guarantee the opportunity to work in the ministry. Please fill out the application in its entirety with attention to all signature fields.

Appleton Alliance Church has a “no tolerance” stance regarding anyone with legal charges brought against them as it pertains to children. The safety of our children is of utmost importance.



2693 W GRAND CHUTE BLVD, APPLETON, WI 54913 • 920-968-0700
www.appletonalliance.org

Discovery Land Volunteer Application
A ministry of Appleton Alliance Church (AAC)
2693 W Grand Chute Blvd, Appleton, WI 54913

NON-CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

Information in this section (printed on white paper) may be shared with ministry leaders outside of Appleton Alliance Church staff.

Name _____
Last First (Full) Middle Initial

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Email Address _____ **Marital Status** _____

Home Phone () _____ **Work Phone** () _____

Okay to call at work? Yes No

Current profession/Previous work experience: _____

How long have you attended AAC? _____

What church did you last attend before attending AAC? _____

Previous church and community volunteer experience: _____

Ministry you are applying for (if known): _____

What led you to apply to volunteer in Discovery Land? _____

YOUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

How would you describe your current relationship with Jesus Christ?

_____ I have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ and have assurance of my salvation (i.e., I am certain I will go to heaven). ***Please write out your testimony below.***

_____ I think I have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, but I am not certain of my salvation. ***Please write out your testimony below.***

_____ I am still seeking to know who Jesus Christ is and how He relates to my life.

_____ Other: _____

Please write out your spiritual journey with the Lord so far.

When did you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?

My life before I received Christ:

How I came to know Christ as my Lord and Savior:

My life after I received Christ:

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

The remainder of this application (yellow pages) is considered strictly confidential. It will be viewed and used only by those Appleton Alliance Church staff members who are involved in making volunteer placement decisions. All completed ministry applications are kept confidential and stay locked in the church office. If you prefer, you may choose not to answer the questions in this section, or you may discuss your answers in confidence with a Discovery Land staff member. Leaving any questions unanswered will indicate that a staff member will need to contact you for follow up.

Have you ever been charged, arrested, or convicted of any crime other than minor traffic violations? Yes No

If you answered "yes," please explain: _____

Have you ever been accused, investigated, charged, arrested, or convicted of child abuse, sexual abuse, or sexual assault? Yes No

If you answered "yes," please attach a separate sheet with details.

Were you a victim of abuse or molestation while a minor? Yes No

If you answered "yes," have you gone through counseling? Yes No

Have you ever been exposed to an incident of child abuse or neglect? Yes No

If you answered "yes," what are your feelings concerning this child abuse/neglect?

How do you (or did you) discipline your own children? _____

Have you ever participated in any form of pornography (magazines, internet, 900 numbers, etc.)?

Yes No If you answered "yes," please explain: _____

Do you have any other history that may be of concern? _____

I am free from any diseases that could be detrimental to children, such as typhoid, paratyphoid, hepatitis or other diseases. Yes No

STANDARDS AND AGREEMENTS SIGNATURE PAGE

I agree with the **Statement of Faith** as written on **page 7**. Yes No

Signature _____ **Date** _____

I wish to be held accountable as I serve in Appleton Alliance Church's Children's Ministries as written in the **Standards of Excellence** on **page 8**. Yes No

Signature _____ **Date** _____

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the "**Proper Behavior for Children's Ministry Workers**" policy, on **page 9**, which refers to children and youth under eighteen years of age and developmentally disabled persons of any age.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be actively involved in the ministries of this church, abide by the Constitution and By-laws and policies of Appleton Alliance Church, and to refrain from unscriptural behavior in my ministry on behalf of the church.

I understand that the information I have provided may be verified, if necessary, by contacting persons or organizations named in this application, or by contacting any person or organization that may have information concerning me. I hereby release and agree to hold harmless, from liability, any person or organization that provides information. I also agree to hold harmless the organization, the officer, employees, and volunteers thereof.

I further acknowledge that I have carefully read the foregoing release and know the contents thereof. I sign this release of my own free will. This is a legally binding agreement which I have read and understand. I promise I have answered all of the questions honestly to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

For Office Use Only

Ministry Staff Approval _____ *Date* _____

STANDARDS AND AGREEMENTS

Please remove and read the following three pages of information and sign the agreements on page 5. These pages are for you to keep.

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE STATEMENT OF FAITH

There is one God,¹ who is infinitely perfect,² existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.³

Jesus Christ is the true God and the true man.⁴ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.⁵ He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust,⁶ as a substitutionary sacrifice,⁷ and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.⁸ He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures.⁹ He is now at the right hand of Majesty on high as our great High Priest.¹⁰ He will come again to establish His kingdom, righteousness and peace.¹¹

The Holy Spirit is a divine person,¹² sent to indwell, guide, teach, empower the believer,¹³ and convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.¹⁴

The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.¹⁵

Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God:¹⁶ he fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature,¹⁷ are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.¹⁸ The portion of the unrepentant and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment;¹⁹ and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.²⁰

Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men; and those who repent and believe in Him are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.²¹

It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly,²² being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service.²³ This is both a crisis and a progressive experience wrought in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.²⁴

Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body.²⁵ Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the Church in this present age.²⁶

The Church consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church,²⁷ which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations.²⁸ The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel, and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.²⁹

There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life;³⁰ for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.³¹

The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent³² and will be personal, visible, and premillennial.³³ This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which is an incentive to holy living and faithful service.³⁴

[1] Deuteronomy 6:4, [2] Matthew 5:48, [3] Matthew 28:19, [4] Philippians 2:6–11, [5] Luke 1:34–38, [6] 1 Peter 3:18, [7] Hebrews 2:9, [8] Romans 5:9, [9] Acts 2:23–24, [10] Hebrews 8:1, [11] Matthew 26:64, [12] John 14:15–18, [13] John 16:13; Acts 1:8, [14] John 16:7–11, [15] 2 Peter 1:20–21; 2 Timothy 3:15–16, [16] Genesis 1:27, [17] Romans 3:23, [18] 1 Corinthians 15:20–23, [19] Revelation 21:8, [20] Revelation 21:1–4, [21] Titus 3:4–7, [22] 1 Thessalonians 5:23, [23] Acts 1:8, [24] Romans 6:1–14, [25] Matthew 8:16–17, [26] James 5:13–16, [27] Ephesians 1:22–23, [28] Matthew 28:19–20, [29] Acts 2:41–47, [30] 1 Corinthians 15:20–23, [31] John 5:28–29, [32] Hebrews 10:37, [33] Luke 21:27, [34] Titus 2:11–14

DISCOVERY LAND'S STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

We love to have fun in Discovery Land, but we recognize that Kingdom Work is serious business! We hold our volunteers to the highest standards, and all volunteers are expected to maintain the following standards of excellence. We understand that no one has a perfect life, but we would like to be able to talk and walk with you if it becomes obvious that you are struggling in one of the areas listed below.

- 1. Faith in Jesus Christ** – Since our ultimate goal in Discovery Land is to lead kids to Christ and then help them grow in their Christian life, volunteers need to have a personal relationship with Christ themselves! If you are unsure of where you stand in your relationship with God, please speak with one of the pastors or staff members at AAC. We would love to look in God's Word with you and show you how to know for sure that you are saved and a child of God. ***John 3:16***
- 2. Spiritual Growth** – A healthy spiritual diet is necessary for all leaders. Check your diet with the following questions: How much time have I spent in personal devotions? How much time do I watch TV? How much time do I spend with my family? How much time do I spend alone with my spouse in meaningful conversation? How much time do I spend in prayer? Am I memorizing God's Word? ***1 Peter 2:2, Ephesians 6:13-18***
- 3. Love** – Ministry and serving in the church should be motivated by love for children and Jesus Christ, not out of guilt, a feeling of obligation, or a desire to build ourselves up. A commitment to serving in Discovery Land should be made with prayerful consideration. ***1 Corinthians 13:1-3***
- 4. An Example in Christian Character** – As a volunteer, you are in a “fish bowl.” You are being watched—by children and their families—even outside of Sunday morning. Discovery Land volunteers should be proper examples and a positive influence on the children they minister to. By refraining from activities that do not glorify or honor God, volunteers express that they are sensitive to the convictions of others in both their actions and conversation (i.e., living together before marriage.) ***Titus 2:6-8, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Ephesians 5:3-21***
- 5. Regular Church Attendance** – This includes attending regular worship services and other church events. ***Hebrews 10:25***
- 6. Encouraging in Speech** – Our words should be encouraging, uplifting, and positive. There should be no insults, cut-downs, gossip, slander, or any talk where someone may be hurt, especially in the presence of children. Humor should reflect a walk with God. ***Colossians 4:6, 1 Peter 4:11***
- 7. Preparation and Ongoing Training and Development** – Our service to the Lord should be done to the highest standards. Volunteers should come prepared each week with a full understanding of the lesson and truths that are going to be presented. To determine your preparation time, ask yourself this question: “If I knew Jesus was physically going to show up in my class, would I be excited to show Him my class in action?” This also involves faithfully attending meetings and training that is required or offered. ***2 Timothy 2:15, 1 Peter 4:10***
- 8. Faithful in Commitments Made** – When you give your word, keep it. If you say you will do something, or be somewhere, follow through on it. If something happens where you cannot, then communicate so that those affected can take necessary action. If necessary, find a substitute to take your place. ***1 Corinthians 4:2, Proverbs 28:20***
- 9. Respectful of Authority** – In word, action, and attitude. If you have a disagreement with another team member or one placed in a position of authority, approach them humbly and in private. Give respect to church procedures by following them. ***1 Peter 2:17***
- 10. Teachable Spirit** – This is an important trait for any volunteer who is seeking to serve the Lord! We all have weaknesses, but if we remain teachable, there is always hope! We must be willing to listen to constructive criticism and prayerfully consider the input of others. We do not need to always agree, but if we fail to listen, we hurt ourselves and rob ourselves of another chance to grow. ***Proverbs 12:15, Proverbs 13:10, Proverbs 19:20***

PROPER BEHAVIOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WORKERS

When working with children, use the following guidelines to eliminate all chances of harm to the children and to avoid all possible appearance of improper conduct:

Ratios and Accountability

1. Two volunteers should be in the room when children are present. Classes and rooms will be structured to include a minimum of two adults.
2. Volunteers should work with children in rooms that have uncovered windows, or the door must be left open if the room has no window. Lights in all rooms should be left on during D.L. activities, even when no one is using the room. Doors should always be left unlocked.
3. Speaking with children one-on-one should be done in public settings where a volunteer is in sight of other people.
4. If children are taken out of an Early Childhood classroom in a stroller, the stroller must remain in the Early Childhood hallway.
5. If a volunteer needs to temporarily leave the room, or a volunteer unexpectedly finds himself or herself without a second approved adult volunteer for a class or program, the volunteer must promptly notify the Team Leader and/or staff person. This person will monitor the class and the volunteer with frequent, unannounced visits. The door to the room must remain fully open at all times. The staff person will, whenever possible, combine classes to ensure that each class is directed by two volunteers.
6. Any inappropriate conduct or relationship between a volunteer and a child must be confronted immediately and reported to a Discovery Land staff member.

Guidelines for Physical Contact

1. Any physical contact between a volunteer and a child that would provide, or is intended to provide, any form of sexual gratification is strictly prohibited.
2. Limited physical contact such as a pat on the back, or on the head, or a handshake is permissible. Hugs are permissible within sight of others. The volunteer must avoid any prolonged hugs and must stop a hug immediately upon request by the child.
3. Elementary children should not be allowed to sit on the lap of a volunteer. Older toddlers and preschool children should be discouraged from sitting on laps, but if it would provide comfort or reassurance to the child, the child should sit on the volunteer's knees. Infants and young toddlers can sit on a volunteer's lap for provision of care and comfort.
4. Volunteers are to treat children with respect at all times. We will not tolerate any form of abuse including, but not limited to, physical abuse (e.g., strike, spank, shake, slap, set down hard), verbal and/or mental abuse (e.g., humiliate, degrade, threaten, yell), or sexual abuse of any kind, including inappropriate touching and exposure.

Reporting Abuse

Children's Ministry staff and volunteers have a moral obligation to report any suspected instances of child abuse. All allegations must be taken seriously and handled with respect for people's privacy. If abuse is observed or reported to a Children's Ministry staff member or volunteer, the Children's Ministry Director must be informed immediately, and adequate care must be shown for the well-being of victims.