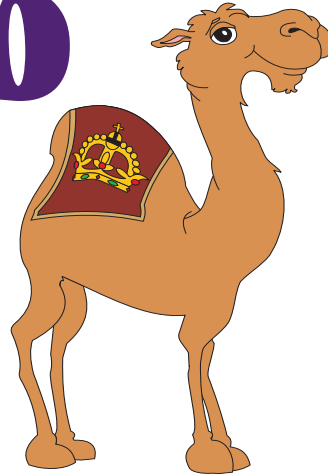


DISCOVERY LAND



Youth 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 _____

Home Phone () _____ **Birthdate** ____ / ____ / ____
Month Day Year

Parent Names _____

Ministry you are applying for (if known): _____

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

How long have you attended AAC? _____

What church did you last attend before attending AAC? _____

Previous church and community volunteer experience: _____

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? Yes No

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

How do your parents discipline you? _____

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? Yes No

If you answered "yes," please explain: _____

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

REFERENCES AND BACKGROUND CHECK

Please list three references **WITH COMPLETE ADDRESSES** and phone numbers who are familiar with your character, especially as it relates to working with children. References will be checked. ***Please do not list AAC staff or your relatives.***

1. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address _____

2. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address _____

3. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address _____

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

Youth Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

I agree to hold my child accountable and to help my child as they serve in Appleton Alliance Church's Children's Ministries as written in the **Standards of Excellence** on **page 8**. Yes No

Parent's 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** _____

*Youth Pastor Review** _____ *Date* _____

Ministry Staff Approval _____ *Date* _____

* *The signature of the Youth Pastor does not indicate approval by the Youth Pastor. It only indicates that the application has been reviewed and any known concerns have been brought forward.*

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 PARENT AND YOUTH AGREEMENT

We love to have fun in Discovery Land, but we recognize that Kingdom Work is serious business! We hold our volunteers, including youth, to the highest standards. We know our youth volunteers are most successful in their volunteer positions when their parent(s) also hold them accountable. The following are key expectations:

Commitment – Your volunteer position is a commitment! Be faithful in commitments made. If you say you will do something, or be somewhere, follow through with it. If unforeseen circumstances arise and you will not be able to fulfill your summer or school year volunteer commitment, please communicate that to your staff leader as soon as possible.

Now in this way, those who are trusted with something valuable must show they are worthy of that trust. I Corinthians 4:2

Attendance – We are counting on you! If you will not be able to volunteer in Discovery Land at your regularly scheduled time, you are responsible for following the procedures laid out in your ministry area's procedure.

Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. II Corinthians 8:11

A Servant's Heart – You are an example! The children whom you are ministering to are watching your every action and attitude. Please pray that the Lord will give you a heart and hands that are focused on serving others each time you come to Discovery Land.

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:25

Preparation Time – Your ministry is important! The stakes for the kids in Discovery Land are eternal. We all need to serve with excellence, as if we are serving the Lord himself. Be thoroughly prepared for your volunteer position each time you come, which may include being thoroughly familiar with the lesson, praying for the kids you will serve and your fellow volunteers, memorizing puppet scripts, etc. Your ministry leader will lay out clear expectations for you.

Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace. I Peter 4:10

Attitude – Come with a smile! Again, the kids are watching you. Be fully engaged. If the kids are supposed to sing — you sing! If the kids are supposed to be paying attention — you pay attention! They will follow your leadership.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

Training – Training counts! Be at all assigned meetings and trainings. They are opportunities for you to grow in your leadership and children's ministry skills. If you have an unavoidable conflict, contact your ministry leader to make alternate arrangements.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15

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.