



Hello Interested General Support Volunteer Candidate:

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Zoo's Volunteer Program! You are on your way to learning about the amazing opportunities available to you as a volunteer at the Minnesota Zoo. The application process is an easy four step process.

1. Essay Questions

Please answer the essay questions below on a separate sheet of paper. Your responses may be typed or handwritten. Each response must be at least 75 words.

1. Describe two of your strengths and talents that you would bring to the Minnesota Zoo Volunteer Program.
2. Why does volunteering at the Minnesota Zoo appeal to you? Why do you want to be part of this program?
3. How do you feel about animals in captivity in a zoo setting?

2. Application Form

Please complete the application form which is page 2 of this attachment. You will bring the completed application form and your answers to the essay questions with you on your Shadow or Meeting Day at the Zoo.

3. Recommendation

Please print a copy of the Recommendation Form on page 3 of this attachment and follow the specific instructions on the Recommendation Form.

4. Call to Schedule a Shadow or Meeting Day

Please call 952-431-9588 to schedule a shadow day at your earliest convenience. Shadow days involve following a trained volunteer around the Zoo from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to see exactly what volunteers do during a typical day. This is a great way to find out if this volunteer program is what you are looking for. This day also includes a short interview in the afternoon and you will have a chance to ask questions and get more information about the program and training. If you are scheduling a meeting day, we will schedule a convenient time for you to meet with the Director of Volunteer Services for only an information and interview session

If you have questions, please call or email.
Heidi Rickert
Volunteer Program Assistant, Minnesota Zoo
952-431-9588
heidi.rickert@state.mn.us



MINNESOTA ZOO

Changing how you see the world

Adult Recommendation Form
Return to Zoo Volunteer Office within two weeks of receipt

ATTENTION APPLICANT: Put your name on this form (below) and give it to someone who will write a personal reference for you. This person cannot be related to you. When you give this form to them, include a stamped envelope addressed to the Zoo. Ask them to fill out and mail this form to the Zoo at the address below within two weeks. Applications without a reference will not be considered. Please print your name, address and phone number here

Applicant's Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Address _____ **City/Zip** _____

ATTENTION REFERENCE GIVER: The applicant above is applying for a volunteer position at the Minnesota Zoo. The applicants we select should show a desire and an ability to teach others and a willingness to be dedicated to one year of volunteer service. We appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. Thank you for your time and assistance. If you have any questions regarding this form or our programs, please call the Volunteer Office at 952-431-9588.

Please complete and return to: Minnesota Zoo Volunteer Program, ATTN: Heidi Rickert, 13000 Zoo Boulevard, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Please Print

Recommended by _____

Relationship to the applicant _____

How long have you known the applicant _____

Is this person reliable? _____ Is this person able to work independently? _____

Please rate his/her oral communications skills? ___Below Average ___Average ___Good

Please rate his/her willingness and ability to learn new information

___Below Average ___Average ___Good

How would the Minnesota Zoo Volunteer Program benefit from having the applicant represent the Minnesota Zoo as a Volunteer? Feel free to use the back side of this reference form.

Would you recommend this applicant with ___confidence ___some confidence ___reservation

Thank you for taking the time to complete this reference
Please return to Zoo Volunteer Office within two weeks of receipt