

TEEN COURT



of Jefferson County,
Alabama

The Teen Court program is managed and directed by:

Alabama Center for Law & Civic Education



Cumberland School of Law
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Birmingham, AL 35229
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**TEEN VOLUNTEER APPLICATION
JEFFERSON COUNTY TEEN COURT**

Please PRINT Clearly Using Black or Blue Ink or Type:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____
(Number and Street) (City and Zip)

Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male or Female

Email address: _____
(Please provide an email address that is current and checked regularly, as this is a primary means of communication.)

Grade in Fall: _____ (must be 8th – 12th) School you will attend: _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

I am applying to serve at the following location:

_____ Birmingham Division (Tuesday Nights) _____ Bessemer Division (Thursday Nights)

Activities/Clubs/Interests: _____

How did you hear about Teen Court? _____

Why do you want to be a Teen Court volunteer? _____

TEEN VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants must be entering the 8th - 12th grade, in good academic standing, and live and/or attend school within Jefferson county. Applicants must complete an interview with a member of the Teen Court staff, and demonstrate an ability to treat each case individually, with objectivity and without prejudice. Applicants must have an ability to communicate with young people and work in a group process and be able to maintain confidentiality of all cases.

SELECTION:

Applicant interviews will be scheduled for May and June. Applicants will be contacted and assigned a 15-minute interview slot. Applicants are selected into the program based on the application, teacher recommendation, and interview.

TRAINING:

Volunteers selected into the program will be required to attend **mandatory** training on two Saturdays in August at Samford University. Completion of the training program will award applicants privileges of being a Teen Court volunteer.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Volunteers selected into the program will be rotated among the various positions. (Serving as an attorney requires additional training.) All volunteers must attend court sessions, follow the Teen Court guidelines, maintain confidentiality, treat all participants with respect, attend all trainings, and follow the court rules. In addition, jurors must listen objectively during the hearing and assign a constructive sentence designed to hold the youth responsible for his or her actions, accountable to the community and the victim. All volunteers must attend scheduled Teen Court hearings, arrive on time, dress professionally, ensure confidentiality, be dependable, and exhibit professionalism at all times.

TIME REQUIRED:

A volunteer must commit to serve at least four months during the school year. Teen Court hearings are held in the Birmingham Division on Tuesday evenings and for the Bessemer Division on Thursday evenings. Attorneys are required to arrive one hour prior to their hearing. Bailiffs, clerks and jurors are required to arrive 30 minutes before their hearing. Generally, Teen Court volunteers will spend approximately two hours at Family Court for each scheduled hearing.

I have read and understand the above information about the program for which I apply.

Applicant's signature: _____

Date: _____

I have read and understand the above information about the program for which my child has applied.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

Mail applications for the **Birmingham Division** to:

Teen Court Coordinator
120 2nd Court North
Birmingham, AL 35204

Mail applications for the **Bessemer Division** to:

Teen Court Coordinator
1801 3rd Ave North
Bessemer, AL 35020

DUE on or before May 1st

Teacher's Recommendation form

Applicant is permitted to have a teacher write a recommendation separate from the form attached to this application or mailed separately.

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

What class do you teach the applicant? _____

How long have you known applicant? _____

Using the following scale, please indicate the frequency with which the student demonstrates the following characteristics:

4 = always 3 = usually 2 = sometimes 1 = seldom 0 = never

- _____ Applicant shows maturity and emotional stability.
- _____ Applicant maintains a positive relationship with peers and adults.
- _____ Applicant is committed to excellence in tasks done for school.
- _____ Applicant would be able to uphold an oath of confidentiality.
- _____ Applicant is punctual for class.
- _____ Applicant is in good academic standing at school.

Please explain why this applicant will make a viable contribution to the Teen Court program if selected as a volunteer. (You may use additional paper if needed.)

Teacher's Signature: _____