

If you have experienced or witnessed school violence, bullying, or anything else that made you feel unsafe at school, here's your chance to be part of the solution! The Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) Statewide Youth Leadership Group serves as the youth voice for school safety in Texas by providing guidance to the TxSSC, and serves to represent the TxSSC in the area of school safety. Students selected for this group must have a true passion for school safety issues, and employ a belief that they CAN make a difference in their schools and communities to CHANGE their world.

Selection Process

Round One: Complete the application and return by November 6, 2009.

Round Two: After submitting an application, applicants may be contacted for a phone interview.

Qualifications/Criteria:

Students applying to become a part of the Statewide Youth Leadership Group must meet the following criteria and continue to comply with the criteria throughout the length of their service term. In order to apply for, or remain active, each member must be: (unless exempted by TxSSC)

- at least 15 years old or entering Freshman year
- classified as Junior or BELOW during first year of service
- able to communicate effectively and efficiently
- tobacco, alcohol and other drug-free
- passionate about promoting school safety messages
- able to prioritize commitments while meeting academic responsibilities
- willing to take risks and learn new things
- open-minded and respectful of others
- able to attend required functions
- a team player who likes to have fun and meet new people

Service Expectations:

In order to maintain active status, each member must meet the following expectations annually:

- Complete a minimum of 1 year of service
- Attend a leadership training from February 24-26, 2010 in San Antonio, TX
- Attend at least 50% of required trainings/in-service meetings
- Make every reasonable effort to attend all events/activities and/or respond to requests for input by TxSSC staff
- Plan, and conduct at least two (2) local events/activities around school safety topics in conjunction with school and/or other community groups
- Report to TxSSC on 100% of activities conducted as a leader on official reporting forms

Status of Service:

TxSSC will actively seek to maintain a minimum of 20 active high school-aged leaders. The maximum number is contingent on financial resources.

Members are volunteers, and do not receive payment for services provided to the state or any local community. However, TxSSC will reimburse for expenses related to travel to required trainings, events and meetings.

Applicant Information:

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Preferred Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Birth date _____ Gender _____ Ethnicity _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail Address _____

Facebook URL _____ MySpace URL _____

Preferred Method of Communication [] Text [] E-mail [] Other _____

Place of Employment (if applicable) _____ Position / Title _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Attending _____ Grade _____ Expected Year of Graduation _____

T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL (circle one)

Availability for Phone Interview:

Please mark your top 3 preferences for a phone interview schedule by placing 1, 2, 3 in the spaces below

November 7 th	___ Morning	___ Afternoon	November 11 th	___ Evening
November 9 th	___ Evening		November 12 th	___ Evening
November 10 th	___ Evening		November 13 th	___ Evening

Skills Assessment:

Please rate yourself on the following scale:

A=excellent, could teach others **B=fair**, can do it, but couldn't teach others **C=would like to learn**

___ Public Speaking	___ Leadership	___ Photography
___ Writing	___ Ability to work in groups/teams	
___ Computer	___ Music (specify _____)	
___ Art (specify _____)	___ Audio Visual (laptops, LCD projectors, sound, mixers, etc.)	
___ Other, please describe: _____		

Applicant Questions:

1. Why do you want to serve on the leadership group?

2. Have you previously served in a leadership capacity? _____ If yes, please provide details including your duties, major accomplishments, and skills utilized.

3. What strengths do you possess that would enable you to relate with others and that would benefit the leadership group?

4. What weaknesses might hinder your performance as a member of the leadership group?

5. What do you hope to accomplish as a member, and how would you accomplish this task? Be creative!

I Understand That:

A) The information that 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 TxSSC, its employees and volunteers, thereof.

B) TxSSC may use photographs or film that may be taken of me.

C) I affirm that the information that I have given on this application is true and correct.

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Selection Criteria:

Applicants are selected based on a variety of criteria and factors to include the following:

- 1) Timeliness, completeness and quality of written application
- 2) Score of in-person or phone interview
- 3) Geographic representation
- 4) Budget/Financial considerations.

Application Check List:

- [] Application with appropriate signatures
- [] Two (2) completed reference forms (attached)
- [] Completed Parent/Guardian support form (attached)
- [] Completed School Official support form (attached)
- [] Optional: Photograph, and other supporting documentation such as news articles
- [] Mail or fax before November 6, 2009 to:

Texas School Safety Center

ATTN: Statewide Youth Leadership Group
350 N. Guadalupe Suite 140 PMB 164
San Marcos, TX 78666

Fax: 512-245-1465

Applicants Name: _____

References

Reference: Please include the following information about yourself so we may contact you if necessary.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How long have you known the applicant?

What is your relationship to the applicant?

Characterize the applicant's dependability.

Please comment below on why you think this person would be a valuable member to the TxSSC Statewide Youth Leadership Group. Consider what unique qualities and talents this person can bring to the TxSSC Statewide Youth Leadership Group.

Signature of Reference

Date

Applicant: Two references must be completed, one adult and one peer. The adult should be someone you've known for at least six months, and who knows your talents, skills, and qualities. The peer should also be someone who knows you well. Neither the adult nor peer reference should be a member of your family.

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