



Dear Prospective Volunteer:

Thank you for your interest in our Site-Based Mentoring Program at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay. We are glad that you have expressed interest in being a part of our program. Studies have shown that children paired with a mentor do better in school, feel better about their selves, and have improved relationships with their peers and parents. We are excited that you have a desire to help a child in these areas, especially while you are in high school. You will be a role model to an elementary school student, as well as to your peers. By developing a commitment and responsibility to someone younger than yourself, you will encourage them to be a young leader for their own generation.

The program requirements are easy: you will spend one hour a week with a child at a local elementary school, YMCA afterschool program, or a Boys & Girls Club, who is enrolled in the Big Brothers Big Sisters site-based program. Typical activities include but are not limited to homework help, playing board or video games, playing basketball or other sports, or simply talking and spending time with the younger student. Unfortunately, not every volunteer will be accepted and matched in the program and acceptance is based on availability as well as a screening process. All student mentors are screened prior to acceptance in the program.

Screening includes:

- A confidential check of student's criminal record, if available
- Reference checks with at least three personal references, including one parent reference
- Personal interview, to determine your strengths, preferences, and areas of interests; the interview will not be scheduled until the complete application including all required references is submitted

We also ask that you:

- Commit to volunteer for a **minimum** of one calendar year; volunteers that do not fulfill their commitment jeopardize their community service hours
- Successfully complete mentor training session
- Have reliable, consistent transportation to and from the site
- Comply with agency supervision standards, which includes contacting your mentor manager monthly to discuss progress in the program
- Comply with agency policies such as NO off-site visits

Again, we are pleased that you have expressed interest in our program. Please return the entire application including, the enclosed permission slip and parent reference form as soon as possible to your school's representative or by mail to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, 711 S. Dale Mabry Hwy. Suite 300, Tampa FL 33609, Attn: Jill Ramos.

If you have questions, feel free to call our site-based program director, Jill Ramos, at (813) 769-3628 or email at jill.ramos@bbbs.org. We hope you will enjoy serving as a role model, mentor, and friend to a younger student as part of this program.

Sincerely,

Shaundra McCants
Customer Service Representative
(813) 769-3631

Nancy Francisco
Customer Service Representative
(813) 769-3611



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY
High School Big Brother/Big Sister Application

Last Name: _____ First: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____ City/ZIP: _____

County: _____ How long have you lived in this county? _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Other phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____ Gender: _____

High School: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher for reference: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Teacher phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Do you anticipate any changes in your residence in the next year? _____ Explain: _____

Have you given the parent reference and permission form to your parent(s)/guardian: _____

If so, what did they have to say about it? _____

Name and address of another personal reference: _____

Do you work? _____ If yes, employer: _____

Normal Work Hours: _____ Address: _____

Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____ May we call you at work? _____

Why do you want to be a Big Brother/Big Sister? _____

Do you have any preference about the age, ethnicity, etc. of a Little? _____

List any prior volunteer experience: _____

List any prior experience with children: Please list where and when. _____

List GPA: _____

List any physical limitations that might affect your participation as a volunteer: _____

List any medications you take regularly: _____

List any organizations to which you belong (school, civic, religious): _____

How will you get to and from your weekly visit with your Little Brother/Little Sister? _____

Do you have a driver's license? _____ Has it ever been revoked or suspended? _____ If yes, provide date and reason: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY High School Parent Reference Form & Permission Slip

Student's Name: _____

This form is to be completed by the student applicant's parent or guardian. You should have received our brochure with this packet; please review this information if you need further details on our program. Volunteers act as a role model to the little brother or sister he/she is matched with, must possess good character, and must have the ability to follow through on their commitments. Please be completely thorough and honest in filling out this form.

1. Is the student doing well in school? If not doing well, please explain. _____

2. Is your child punctual; does he/she have excessive tardiness or absences? _____

3. Does your child follow through with commitments? _____

4. Do you foresee any problems with his/her involvement with the Site-Based Mentoring Program, one hour a week for at least one school year? _____

5. How does your child get along with his/her siblings, peers and adults? Please explain any serious or recurring problems. _____

6. Does he/she have any experience working with younger children? _____

7. Do you consider your child a leader among his/her peers? Please explain your answer. _____

8. Do you feel your child manages time well? _____

9. Please list any other activities or organizations your child has been involved in. _____

10. Has your child ever been involved in any criminal activity? If yes, explain. _____

Additional Comments: _____

I, _____, give permission for my son/daughter, _____ to volunteer in Big Brothers Big Sisters' Site-based Mentoring Program. I understand that the minimum length of involvement is one school year. I give permission for my child to be background screened. I further understand that the supervision and training of high school volunteers will be provided by the professional staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay. I will encourage my son/daughter to respond to phone calls from Big Brothers Big Sisters staff in a timely fashion. I will also make sure that my child has consistent transportation to and from the site. In order to assist in promoting the program, I give my consent for pictures of my child to be identified in print by first name only in any Big Brothers Big Sisters publication or production. I hereby grant Big Brothers Big Sisters the right to use this image as they may desire, in all media and in all its forms including, but not limited to, publications, any televised photography, agency website or newsletter, social media, and recordings.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY High School Teacher/School Reference Form

Student's Name: _____

This form is to be completed by a school sponsor (e.g., guidance counselor, teacher, coach, etc.) who is familiar with the student applicant. Volunteers will represent their high school and will act as a role model to the little brother or sister he/she is matched with must possess good character, and must have the ability to follow through on their commitments. Please be completely thorough and honest in filling out this form.

1. How long have you known the student? _____

2. Do you feel that the student is happy with his/her academic potential? If not, explain. _____

3. Is this student doing well in school? If not doing well, please explain. _____

4. Is the applicant punctual; does he or she have excessive tardiness or absences? _____

5. Does the applicant follow through with commitments? _____

6. Do you foresee any problems with his/her involvement with the School-Based Mentoring Program for at least one school year? _____

7. How does the applicant get along with other students and faculty? Please explain any serious or recurring problems. _____

8. Do you consider this student a leader among his/her peers? Please explain your answer. _____

9. Please list any other student activities or organizations the student has been involved in. _____

Additional Comments: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Phone number: _____

Position _____



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY High School Personal Reference Form

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Person giving recommendation: _____

Answers given for this reference are confidential. Your response will assist us in our evaluation of this volunteer. Please answer the questions as fully as possible.

1. How long have you known this volunteer and in what capacity? _____

2. What is the nature of your relationship? _____

3. Please describe volunteer's personality: _____

4. Please check as many of the following as may apply to the volunteer:

- Responsible
- Domineering
- Shy
- Stable
- Timely
- Even tempered

- Flexible
- Patient
- Aggressive
- Dependable
- Good judgment
- Outgoing

- Defensive
- Cooperative
- Intolerant
- Reliable
- Assertive
- Well-adjusted

Others: _____

5. Does he/she follow through with commitments? _____

6. If you have any personal knowledge of volunteer's ability to relate to children, please describe these relationship(s): _____

7. Would you feel comfortable having the applicant as Big Brother/Big Sister to your own child or a child close to you? _____ If no, why not? _____

8. Do you know of any reasons why this person should not volunteer? _____

9. How well does this applicant assume responsibility? _____

10. How well does this applicant honor his/her commitments? _____

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Fax: _____

Thank you for your time. Please fax back to Big Brothers Big Sisters at the number below.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Inc.
711 S Dale Mabry Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33609
Phone: (813) 769-3631, Fax: (813) 367-8819