



9/13/22

**UNITY OF HOUSTON
YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY (YFM) APPLICATION**

This application is to be completed for any position which involves working directly with children either as a volunteer or an employee.

Please Print Legibly

A. BASIC INFORMATION:

Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Apartment #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell: _____ Home Phone: _____

**B. YFM AREAS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST: (Check all that apply – or let us find that perfect place for you!!)
CLASSROOM VOLUNTEER:**

- Service: _____ 11:00 am Sunday _____ Spanish Speaking Service (Sunday)
- _____ Nursery _____ Kindergarten/1st Grade _____ 4th/5th Grades _____ Y.O.U. (High School)
- _____ PreK 3 & 4 _____ 2nd/3rd Grades _____ Uniteens (6th – 8th Grades)

NON-TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES THAT REQUIRE AN APPLICATION: (Check all that apply)

- _____ Teen Activity Center/Chaperones _____ YFM Greeter _____ Rally/Retreat Chaperones

C. WHAT WE OFFER OUR TEACHERS:

Initially, you will be placed in a classroom where you will be mentored by experienced teachers. After you feel comfortable, you will be encouraged to take over various aspects of the class. Our classrooms use a Team-Teaching approach where several teachers are present in the classroom. To provide support for you in your role with the children, we offer teacher trainings which cover Unity Principles along with classroom management techniques. We have ongoing teacher gatherings where ideas are shared, and problems discussed with possible ways on how to resolve them. We also have a yearly teacher retreat with workshops in a fun and engaging environment. All curriculums are provided along with any craft items you may need in presenting your lessons. These classes, workshops and retreat are offered to help you provide the best possible spiritual program for the children/youth in a fun and interactive environment. Therefore, we encourage our teachers to attend these trainings whenever possible.

D. APPLICANTS EXPERIENCE:

What previous experience have you with children or youth? _____

D. PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Occupation: _____

Do you have any medical conditions that we need to be aware of? _____

Hobbies, talents, interests: _____

E. MINISTRY BACKGROUND:

How long have you been attending Unity of Houston? _____

Are you a member of Unity of Houston? _____ If so, date joined _____

Were you attending other Unity Churches before Unity of Houston? _____

If so, how long have you been with Unity overall? _____

Please list other religious denominations you have been involved with and approximate length of time:

Please list any **Unity** classes, courses, or workshops you have taken:

Class: _____ Class: _____

Class: _____ Class: _____

References: Please list 3 persons not related to you and not currently living with you who can comment on your suitability for working with youth. Please include at least one who attends Unity of Houston.

1. Personal _____ Work Related _____ Attends Unity of Houston _____ Length of Acquaintance _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

2. Personal _____ Work Related _____ Attends Unity of Houston _____ Length of Acquaintance _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

3. Personal _____ Work Related _____ Attends Unity of Houston _____ Length of Acquaintance _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

AUTHORIZATION and RELEASE

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any references or churches listed in this application to give you any information they may have regarding my character and fitness for work with children. I release all such references from liability for any damage that may result from furnishing such evaluations to you.

During the application process and at any time during any subsequent employment or volunteer time, I hereby authorize Unity of Houston or their designated background check provider, to procure a Consumer Report which I understand may include information regarding my character, general reputation, or personal characteristics. I understand that this report may be compiled with information from court record repositories, departments of motor vehicles, past or present employers, business or personal references, and any other source required verifying information I have voluntarily supplied. And I understand that I may request a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the background verification; to the extent such investigation includes information bearing on my character, general reputation, or personal characteristics.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to honor the bylaws and policies of Unity of Houston and to refrain from unbecoming conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of the church.

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Print Name Here: _____

PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby give my permission for Unity of Houston to use photographs or images in my likeness for church purposes, such as but not limited to the newsletter, presentations during services or special events, the Unity Houston Website, and promotional materials.

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Policies and Procedures for Adult/Child Interaction:

Child molestation is a serious problem. Child abuse strikes children from every social background, race, and age. Molesters often place themselves in pivotal positions where they have access to children and where the children or youth completely trust the adults. Our Youth and Family Ministry (YFM) program here at Unity of Houston is actively taking steps to prevent abuse from occurring, especially when the children are in our care.

1. Follow the **“two-adult” rule: two adults should always be present during any church activity involving our youth. Occasionally one adult will be teaching a classroom of students, but under no circumstances should one adult be alone at any time with one child – whether inside or outside the room. This policy also applies to special event activities.** This policy reduces the risk of sexual molestation and reduces the risk of false accusations of molestation.
2. Teens under the age of 18 years of age can work with our children after going through an interview with the Director of Summer Camp or YFM Director.
 - a. These teens are to be directly supervised by a “background approved” adult at all times
 - b. These teens are not to be left alone with the children/youth
3. Special events (any event that occurs outside the Sunday morning experience) require a minimum of two teachers or “background approved” adults to be present – whether the event takes place on or off grounds.
4. Special events require the completion of: Medical/Liability Release forms, Heart Agreements and Parental Permission Slips (which also includes a section on “transportation understanding” when off grounds transportation is involved). The sponsors agree to this “transportation” which usually is from the church to the event and then back again. It does not include to the child’s house unless special ‘written/signed’ agreement by the parent/guardians.

AGREEMENT

I have read and agree to adhere to the Policies and Procedures for Adult/Child Interaction for Unity of Houston. If at any time the Director of Youth & Family Ministry, the church leadership, or I feel that I am unable to fulfill this agreement, I will remove myself from Youth Ministry Service.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

YFM QR Code for Background Checks

Please fill out the form within this QR Code. All volunteers in YFM (Youth & Family Ministry) need a background check to volunteer with the kids.

