



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Fayette County
P.O. Box 520
Connersville, IN 47331-0520

VOLUNTEER ELIGIBILITY SERVICE POLICY

The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility of volunteers to be admitted into the program. Several of these guidelines may be discretionary. However, they will be utilized to establish baseline criteria of acceptance.

Eligibility:

Age: For the Core Program, the minimum age is 18. There is no maximum age.

Race, Religion, National Origin: No restrictions

Physical Health: The volunteer should be in good general health. Any physical condition requiring medication shall be stabilized. Should there be serious questions regarding stabilization, the volunteer shall submit a physician's statement. Physically challenged persons shall be ambulatory to the point of being able to utilize private or public transportation.

Mental Health: A volunteer shall evidence mental health stability, as supported by character references and separate assessment interviews conducted by the Executive Director or Caseworker.

A volunteer who is currently under therapy or taking psychotropic medication shall submit a statement from the therapist as to the volunteer's ability to perform a volunteer responsibility.

Legal Involvement: A volunteer who has been convicted of murder, or a class A, B, C, or D felony (Indiana statutes) would not be acceptable. A volunteer who has been convicted of a misdemeanor might be considered on a discretionary basis by the Executive Director.

A volunteer who has been convicted of any offense against a person would not be considered.

A volunteer with traffic arrests other than speeding or moving violations within the past 5 years will not be considered.

A volunteer who has accumulated more than three speeding or moving violations within the past five years would not be considered.

Substance Abuse: Any individual who has been hospitalized for drug addiction would not be considered unless a non-addictive period of five years has intervened. Any person who indicates that they use a drug which is a controlled substance socially or recreationally, would not be considered.

Any person convicted of a trafficking drug offense would not be considered. A person who is a recovering alcoholic shall be stabilized for a period of three years before consideration of acceptance. Other alcohol usages will be discretionary.



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Fayette County
P.O. Box 520
Connersville, IN 47331-0520

VOLUNTEER ELIGIBILITY – CORE PROGRAM

1. 18 years old minimum – no upper age limit
2. Live in or adjacent to Fayette County
3. Have dependable automobile transportation, valid driver's license, and automobile insurance that meets agency limits
4. Must show willingness to abide by agency policy and procedures and cooperate with agency staff.
5. Time availability: regular, arranged commitment for at least one year. Preferably 1-2 hours per week.
6. Show willingness to be flexible and cooperate with parent's schedule.

Additional criteria looked for during interviews, references, application and agency contact.

1. Ability to devote sufficient time to being a volunteer without conflicts in schedule or family responsibilities.
2. Patterns of interest which could coincide reasonably well with a child.
3. Motivation, self-confidence, and a sense of responsibility that would enable a volunteer to cope with normal problems in the relationship.
4. An ability to trust others and to allow a degree of independence in the choice and judgment a child may make.
5. Ability to regard the child as a person, not a case, problem or challenge.
6. Ability to learn from and to overcome mistakes and avoid repeating them.
7. Ability to generate satisfaction in knowing that a child is being helped, even though it may not be obvious.
8. Physical and emotional energy sufficient to handle his/her ordinary responsibilities and conflicts plus his/her responsibilities as a Big Brother/Big Sister.
9. Realistic about his/her wishes, fears, and future plans.
10. Should know him/her self well.
11. The capacity for sincere, warm, close relationship.