

Society for the Advancement of Volunteer Youth Information and Application



Are you ready for a summer to remember?

The Society for the Advancement of Volunteer Youth, SAVY, provides students 14 to 17 years of age with the opportunity to volunteer within their community while gaining experience in a variety of career fields. Through the SAVY program, participants have an experience that only Moody Gardens can offer.

Goals and Objectives of the SAVY Program

- To expose participants to a variety of career fields, including biology and education.
- To help support Moody Gardens® mission statement: Moody Gardens® is a public, non-profit educational destination utilizing nature in the advancement of rehabilitation, conservation, recreation, and research.
- To be an enriching program that will challenge participants mentally, physically, and socially, regardless of sex, color, or creed.
- To provide an *edu-taining* environment for our visitors and guests.
- To assist staff with various duties and responsibilities.
- To help participants garner experience for future employment.

Program Summary

*** Due to the evolving nature of health and safety practices, the requirements below do not represent a guarantee of volunteer opportunities. While Moody Gardens Volunteer Services will make every effort to allow these requirements to be met, if changes are required due to health and safety practices or the availability of Moody Gardens staff the SAVY participant will NOT be penalized. ***

Year 1 - Education

Educate guests about a variety of topics using interpretive carts in different exhibits throughout the facility.

- 6 shifts in June
- 6 shifts in July
- 3 shifts in August

Attend Continuing Education Classes (CEC) to learn different aspects of life sciences and other career fields.

- 3 Continuing Education Classes throughout the summer



Years 2 - 4 - Education & Biology

Assist biologists Behind the Scenes (BTS) with various duties (Dependent on Health and Safety Restrictions).

- 3 shifts in June
- 3 shifts in July
- 2 shifts in August

Educate guests about a variety of topics using interpretive carts in different exhibits throughout the facility.

- 3 shifts in June
- 3 shifts in July
- 1 shift in August

Attend Continuing Education Classes to learn different aspects of life sciences and other career fields.

- 3 Continuing Education Classes (CEC) throughout the summer

Opportunity to volunteer during the Winter Session

- 2 shifts each month from October to April (14 shifts total) with half of these consisting of Exhibit shifts and half BTS shift.

Please Consider the Following when Applying for SAVY

- The SAVY Program requires at least 6 shifts in June, 6 shifts in July, and 3 shifts in August. Each shift is 4 hours. Applicants should determine if they have fortitude or time to successfully complete the program.
- Applicants must be at least 14 by August 31. Applicants who will be 18 by August 31 will not be accepted into the program, but should consider the adult volunteer program. (Email AVolunteer@moodygardens.org for additional information on the adult program.)
- Participants must attend open house, orientation, any necessary training sessions and continuing education programs as required in order carrying out the duties of their assigned tasks.
- Participants must be dependable and reliable and carry out their duties in a professional manner.
- Uniform shirts are provided, but participants must supply their own khaki/black shorts or pants, brown or black belt and closed toed shoes.

Application Instructions

- Fill out the form COMPLETELY. **Incomplete forms will not be considered.**
- Provide 2 letters of recommendation from adults who are not related to you.

- Provide a copy of most recent report card
- Application must be completed by the applicant

Date _____ Shirt Size _____
 Name _____
 Nickname (optional) _____
 Birthday (mm/dd/yyyy) _____
 Last 4 digits of SSN(Pin number for log in) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Parent Phone _____
 Secondary Phone _____
 Email (Please use an email that gets checked regularly) _____

Please list any academic or achievement awards you have received. _____

What is the best way to contact you?
 Phone Email
 When is the best time to contact you? AM or PM
 What school do you attend? _____

Why do you want to join the SAVY program? _____

Current Grade level _____
 Please list any previous volunteer experience.

What do you hope to gain from the SAVY program? _____

Please describe any experience you have had speaking in public. _____

Please list any medical/health issues we should be aware of (allergies, limitations, etc.) _____

Do you speak any foreign languages (including sign language)? _____

How did you hear about the SAVY program? _____

Do you have any special interests, skills, or hobbies you would like to share? _____

Please Read this Statement Carefully!
 I hereby affirm that the information given by me on this application is complete and accurate. I understand that any falsification or omission will be immediate grounds for dismissal from the SAVY program. I authorize a thorough investigation to be made concerning my character, general reputation, employment and educational background and criminal record, whichever may be applicable. I understand what this investigation may include and I hereby authorize the release of document, and personal interviews with third parties, such as prior employers, family members, business associates, financial sources, friends, neighbors or others with whom I am acquainted.
 Applicant Signature _____
 Guardian Signature _____

Remember!

- Fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms will not be considered.
- All SAVY Applications including 2 letters of recommendation and report cards must be received by **5:00p.m. on the Friday April 2nd**.
- All completed materials must be received by the deadline for you to be considered as an applicant.
- You may email, fax, or mail your application. (*Please note that Moody Gardens gets a large amount of mail each day and may cause your application to be delayed if sent through the postal service.*)
 - Email applications to (preferred): SAVY2@moodygardens.org
 - Fax applications to 409-683-4929



Questions???

Please feel free to contact Volunteer Services at 409-683-4121



Moody Gardens® is a public, non-profit educational destination utilizing nature in the advancement of rehabilitation, conservation, recreation, and research.