

Junior ZooTeen Frequently Asked Questions

Please read through the following *Frequently Asked Questions* below. If you have any further inquiries, please contact Skye Hoffman, Youth Programs Manager, at (617) 989-3746 or youthprograms@zoonewengland.com.

What is the Junior ZooTeen Program?

The Junior ZooTeen program is a creative and meaningful volunteer opportunity for highly-motivated youth to gain hands-on experience as well as develop several mentoring relationships with senior staff members. Throughout the program, participants will have the opportunity to participate in a working environment, gain respect for wildlife, plants, each other, and society, learn how to work well with others through conflict resolution and teamwork, discover and develop talents and creativity, build communication skills including oral, written and listening, and gain leadership skills.

Are there any requirements in order to be considered for the program?

All participants must complete the online or PDF application. **In addition, Jr. ZooTeens will need to present current (within the last 6 months) TB test results.** Please be advised that TB tests take 48 hours to fully process, so please plan your time accordingly. A copy of these results should be provided on or before the first Jr. ZooTeen session.

How old do I have to be to be a part of the program?

You must be between 11-14 years of age. If you should turn 15 during the program, we ask that you consider our summer ZooTeen experience instead. ZooTeen information can be found on our website at www.franklinparkzoo.org. Click on Youth Programs under the Discover link followed by the Families, Youth and Teens link.

What will we do? / Will we have the opportunity to hold any of the animals?

Every Junior ZooTeen session may be different than the next! However, you can expect lots of fun, learning and engaging hands-on activities. From helping to create enrichment for the Bird's World keas to interpreting with biofacts in the Tropical Forest, the Junior ZooTeens learn about Zoo operations while developing leadership skills and building confidence.

It is also important that you decide whether or not this program is right for you. You may be thinking, "Great! I love animals. I want to volunteer at the Zoo!" While Franklin Park Zoo does have a wonderful and diverse animal family, Jr. ZooTeens will spend the majority of their volunteer time interacting with our human guests or Zoo staff. Holding animals is not part of the Jr. ZooTeen program.

When is the program?

The program runs twice throughout a school year. The spring session is from January-April, approximately every other Saturday from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The fall session is from October-December, approximately every Saturday from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Each session has 8 program days including orientation. We ask that you miss no more than two sessions.

Will I have to wear a uniform?

Yes! Being a Junior ZooTeen means you are a part of Franklin Park Zoo and as such your actions and appearance represent the Zoo. By wearing a standard uniform, visitors and staff can identify you as a Junior ZooTeen participant. The uniform consists of a Junior ZooTeen t-shirt handed out at orientation, khaki pants or shorts, closed toed shoes, and a nametag.

Is there a cost to participate in the program?

We understand that every family’s financial situation and ability to pay is unique.

Below you will find three different prices which describe where the funds for running the Junior ZooTeen program will be allocated. Please select the tier you can afford in order for us to continue to improve the quality of our programming.

Tier	Cost	Description
Tier 1	\$50.00	This is the lowest price which will pay for basic program supplies. Donors allow Franklin Park Zoo Youth Programs to offer this rate.
Tier 2	\$100.00	This is the middle price which will pay for basic program supplies and uniforms.
Tier 3	\$150.00	This price is closest to the actual cost per participant in the program. In addition to uniforms and program supplies, it also covers Program staff and Zookeeper time.

When considering your family’s financial situation, please consider the cost of running a program for 8 sessions. Please remember that no one will be turned away for lack of funds. There is no need to provide proof of income and your child’s experience will not be influenced by a reduced ability to pay.