



2011-2012 Youth Board Application

The Mission of Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Inc. (VIPS) is to offer appropriate services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are visually impaired or blind and to their families; to maximize each child's development potential through direct services, advocacy, and community education.

The Youth Board's main goal is awareness, making the community aware of the needs of those with visual impairments. The Youth Board will meet 4 times a year to plan events, learn about visual impairments, and brainstorm ways to raise awareness throughout the community. To be eligible for the Youth Board, you must be between the ages of 13 and 18 and attend a school in Louisville or the surrounding counties.

Basic Information

First name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

Nickname _____ Age _____

Home Address _____

Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Parent/Guardian Work Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Birth Date _____

Grade (11-12 School year) (circle one) 8 9 10 11 12 School _____

In case of emergency, please contact:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Relationship _____

How did you hear about our VIPS Youth Board?

Place a 1, 2, and 3 by your top three choices of times when you are available to meet at VIPS for a 15-20 minute interview:

- Tuesday, May 24th (3-5 p.m.)
- Wednesday, May 25th (3-5 p.m.)
- Thursday, May 26th (3-5 p.m.)

Place a 1, 2, and 3 by three board positions in which you are interested:

- President (juniors only)
- Vice President (sophomores only)
- Secretary
- Historian
- Community Outreach Chairperson
- Fundraising Chairperson
- Membership Chairperson
- Committee Member

Submission Requirements

All applications must include a stapled set of the following information:

1. A cover letter
2. Completed application form
3. Two one-page recommendation letters (*1 family member and 1 non-family member such as a teacher, employer, coach, guidance counselor, etc*)
4. A one-page, typed essay (*see details below*)
5. A typed resume including awards, achievements, activities, and leadership experience

Essay

Describe one experience with an individual with a disability that impacted your life and explain how this experience will enable you to contribute to the board.

Deadline and Submission Information

Application must be postmarked by May 20th, 2011.

Submit your completed application to the attention of "VIPS Youth Board".

- **Fax:** (502) 636- 0024
- **Mail or delivery:**
Visually Impaired Preschool Services
1906 Goldsmith Lane
Louisville, KY 40218
- **E-mail:** youthboard@vips.org

Questions? Contact Kim Shippey at 498-2922 or youthboard@vips.org

Selection Criteria/ Process

All eligible applications will be reviewed and interviews will be conducted between May 24th – May 26th. All applicants will be notified by the middle of May.

Selection criteria includes:

- Interest in improving awareness of visual impairments
- Achievements
- Attitude
- Commitment to success
- Motivation
- Reliability
- Responsibility
- Teamwork

Student and Parent/Guardian Acceptance

I understand that:

- a) The information that I have provided may be verified, if necessary, by contacting persons or organizations in this application, or by contacting any person or organization that may have information concerning me with the exception of sealed records or information retained by juvenile court. I hereby release and agree to hold harmless from liability any person or organization that provides information.

I also agree to hold harmless Visually Impaired Preschool Services, its employees, and its volunteers.

- b) In signing this application, I have read the attached information. I agree to be guided by the rules and regulations of Visually Impaired Preschool Services. I affirm that the information given on this form is true and correct.

VIPS Board Candidate

Parent or Guardian

Date

Youth Board Candidates and Parents,

Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS) is currently in the process of seating its first Youth Board. This is an excellent opportunity for students, ages 13-18 to gain leadership experience and work with peers, while gaining school service hours. The Youth Board will provide a voice to make recommendations to the Visually Impaired Preschool Services Board of Directors and to raise awareness about preschool children with visual impairments.

VIPS Youth Board benefits include:

- Leadership development
- Mentoring/ career opportunities
- Community involvement
- Public speaking skills

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Responsibilities for board members include:

- Transportation to the 4 board meetings a year plus events
- Recruitment, fundraising, and awareness
- \$10 dues for snacks and drinks at meetings
- Attendance at the Youth Board Orientation held in October

All applications must be returned to VIPS by May 20th, 2011.

Feel free to contact Kim Shippey at 498-2922 or youthboard@vips.org with questions.