

# **Y-Pals Volunteer Policy**

## **1. Stability Characteristics**

A prospective volunteer shall demonstrate the following characteristics of general stability:

- Has established residence
- Resides in a suitable environment for a child to visit
- Is able to make a long-term commitment on a weekly basis
- Has interest in and ability to relate well with children
- Respects the safety of children
- Has a healthy range of appropriate interests and activities

## **2. Age**

A prospective volunteer shall be at least 18 years of age.

## **3. Transportation**

Volunteer must have:

- Viable means of transportation
- A valid driver's license and liability insurance on his/her vehicles(s)
- A reasonably safe driving record, subject to evaluation by the Y-PALS Director.

## **4. Criminal Background**

An applicant who has been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony may be considered on a discretionary basis.

## **5. Marital Status**

Applicants applying as a couple must:

- Be eligible individually
- Be legally married
- Demonstrate a reasonably stable marital relationship

## **6. Physical Health & Employment**

An applicant shall be in good general health and demonstrate stable adjustment in his/her chosen vocation. A physician's statement may be requested.

## **7. Mental Health & Substance Abuse**

An applicant shall demonstrate stable mental health. An applicant who has been hospitalized, is currently in therapy, or is taking psychotropic medication shall submit a statement from the therapist as to the applicant's ability to perform in a Y-PALS volunteer capacity.

An applicant who has abused drugs or has been in treatment for drug addiction shall not be considered unless the applicant has remained drug free for at least two years.

An applicant who is a recovered alcoholic or who has abused alcohol in the past shall have maintained sobriety for a period of at least two years, demonstrated through character references and/or counselor/therapist reports.

A drug test may be required at the applicant's expense.

**I have read and understood the Y-PALS Volunteer Policy.**

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**Signature**

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**Date**