

# Youth Crew Application Tips

Thank you for your volunteer interest in Youth Crew at The Marine Mammal Center! This application lets us know you're interested in joining the program. To support you through this first step, we've provided some tips to consider when applying.

## Prepare

- Be sure to research The Marine Mammal Center and Youth Crew program ahead of time so you are aware of what's expected and can visualize how you can connect your experiences to the application and the organization. You can find numerous resources on our [website](#).
- Reach out to your reference early and make sure you get those recommendations in before the deadline!

## Application Advice



- Review and start early on the application. Though the application is long, it will be available online for two months, so please take your time.
- Make sure to read the instructions thoroughly, and remember that your progress can't be saved on the site. If you choose to write essays, we encourage you to write on a different platform and paste your response when you are ready to complete the application. If you are pasting essays into this application, please double check each essay is fully pasted. If you are recording audio, please ensure the links are accessible to the Youth Crew team.

## Considerations

- While childhood stories are wonderful and a great way to give us context to your past, we encourage you to fully read and answer each question and connect any stories to your specific skillsets versus childhood experiences. This allows us to learn more about you and how you will be able to succeed in this program. Connecting your goals, experiences, and qualities back to specific information learned through the video or the program role descriptions also allows us to see that you clearly understand the expectations.
- This is an 8 month long service learning program with an emphasis on both animal care AND public engagement. Animal care and public engagement are equally important for Youth Crew and progressing in the conservation field - our goal is for applicants to be excited for both portions.
- All dates listed on our website are mandatory and we are unable to make any exceptions.
- During Youth Crew, our hope is that participants progress through [10 leadership skills](#). If you feel you have strengths and areas of growth for any of these skills, we encourage you to mention them for relevant responses to questions.

## Reminders



- If you identify as BIPOC, low income and/or first generation college bound, you have the opportunity to receive a stipend for Youth Crew.
- We highly recommend you ask someone else to review your application before submitting (a family member, a teacher, an advisor, etc.).
  - This includes having others check if your recording links work (if you choose to make videos vs writing essays). There are many free recording applications online that allow you to share videos via links (such as Loom).
- Youth Crew is a competitive program and not all applications will be accepted. Please don't be too hard on yourself if you aren't accepted. We are happy to provide feedback on your application if you aren't accepted, and recommend reapplying next year if you are still interested.
- If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to [youthcrew@tmmc.org](mailto:youthcrew@tmmc.org).