

**ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
BOUNDARY GUIDELINES AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MIDDLE
AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WORKING OR VOLUNTEERING
WITH CHILDREN OR YOUTH**

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON USE OF THIS FORM

To ensure the safety of the children and youth in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, all youth volunteers – middle and high school students, including students who are already 18 – who work or volunteer with children/youth in co-curricular school programs or parish ministries must receive training on Boundary Guidelines before undertaking their ministry. The youth worker/volunteers must sign this Code of Conduct form to verify they understand their obligations.

The forms should be kept in the youth worker/volunteer file. It should be co-signed by a parent/guardian.

The person in charge is encouraged to provide the Boundary Guidelines training to all students and youth.

Code of Conduct for Youth Workers/Volunteers

I have agreed to work with or volunteer to help fellow students or other kids. I promise to behave as Jesus would want me to do – to treat others with respect and kindness. I understand that to help me guide my behavior, I must follow the rules in this Code of Conduct.

I understand that if I break the rules of this Code of Conduct, I may be removed from my volunteer or work assignment. My parent/guardian will be notified if I don't follow the guideline and I may be dismissed from my work or volunteer assignment. If I am dismissed, I will be sent home at the expense of my parent/guardian.

As Youth Worker/Volunteer, I will:

- Be a charitable, tolerant Christian.
- Behave according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Treat everyone with whom I interact with respect, patience, integrity, courtesy and dignity.
- Make sure that children or youth in my care are safe.
- Use positive reinforcement whenever possible.
- Report to an adult in charge of the program or ministry if I see, hear or suspect anything that makes me uncomfortable or that makes me think that another person is in danger or has been harmed.
- Inform the adult in charge if I sense that a younger kid is getting a crush on me.
- Dress appropriately and not wear any clothing with offensive messages or pictures.



As a Youth Worker/Volunteer, I will not:

- Do anything I know to be illegal or immoral.
- Smoke tobacco or pot.
- Use, have or share alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Verbally threaten, bully, tease or physically abuse anyone.
- Use profanity.
- Use discipline that frightens or humiliates a child/youth.
- Touch a child/youth in a sexual, overly-affectionate or other inappropriate manner.
- Sexually harass, request sexual favors from, or make sexually explicit statements to anyone.
- Participate in private visits, parties or other activities with the children/youth I am working with unless approved by the adult in charge of my program or ministry.
- Accept gifts from or give gifts to children/youth I am working with without approval from the adult in charge of my program or ministry
- Become inappropriately friendly with the children/youth I am working with through, social media (for example, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) other forms of communication.

I have read and understand the Archdiocese of Los Angeles **Boundary Guidelines and Code of Conduct for Middle and High School Youth Working or Volunteering with Children or Youth.**

Print Name: _____

Position: _____

Signature of Youth Volunteer: _____

Date: _____

I have read and understand the above Guidelines, and agree to support my child in following them. I agree that I am ultimately responsible for my child's behavior, and agree to accept the consequences, which may include dismissal from the program or ministry, if my child does not follow the Guidelines.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

