

Ashland County Teen Court
Application Materials
2020



[Cooperative Extension * University of Wisconsin-Extension](#)
Courthouse, Room 107, 201 West Main Street, Ashland, WI 54806-1652
Phone (715) 682-7017, FAX (715) 682-7922 TDD Phone: 7-1-1 for WI
Relay

Dear Ashland County Teen Court Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Ashland County Teen Court. I am confident that you will find this experience both challenging and rewarding. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at my office or by e-mail. I would encourage you to speak to the panelists from your school as well.

The UW-Extension Office phone number is 715-682-7017.

My e-mail address is doug.liphart@wisc.edu

Application Check List:

_____ Contact and distribute two reference forms.

_____ Complete personal application form.

_____ **Application must be received by May 11, 2020.**

Make sure to let your references know of the application deadline. If you would like an update to the status of your application please call the Extension Office.

Good luck,

Doug Liphart
4-H & Youth Development Educator
UW-Extension
Ashland County

UW-Extension provides equal
opportunities in employment and
programming including Title IX and ADA.



What is the Ashland County Teen Court?

The Ashland County Teen Court was established in 2006 as a collaborative effort between the UW Extension office in Ashland County, Ashland County Circuit Court and Ashland County Human Services. This was in response to a statistical trend that 1st time juvenile offenders were shown to respond more effectively their peers than a traditional court setting. Ashland's Teen Court will be comprised of 8-10 young adults who represent each of the high schools in Ashland County.

Teen Court meets once a month at the courthouse to hear cases for 1st time juvenile offenders who have already admitted to their crime. After explaining their oath of confidentiality, the Teen Court asks clarifying questions to both the youth and their parent(s) to formulate their understanding not only of the offense but how the youth currently functions at home, in school and in their community.

After hearing the case, the Teen Court deliberates in private and utilizes restorative justice theory to create a sequence of logical consequences for each defendant. Teen Court panelists create a dispositional agreement designed to help defendants recognize the negative effect of his/her actions have had themselves and others. This agreement is designed to connect the defendant to community service that relates to an existing personal interest and create opportunities for active personal reflection. The defendant has the opportunity to sign the deferred prosecution agreement, which is legally binding, and complete the agreement or the case will be referred back to the Ashland County Circuit Court.

The Teen Court receives training and monthly advisory support from, Doug Liphart, UW-Madison Extension Youth Development Educator, along with an annual training with Judge Kelly McKnight and Ruth Kressel of the Ashland County District Attorney's office. The current Teen Court will select new panelists through an open application process.

When the juvenile offenders successfully complete their Teen Court Sentence, they will have the conviction removed from their record. For the offender and the community, Teen Court is a second chance for youth who have made a poor decision.

Overall, the feedback from the parents of defendants and the defendants themselves has been very positive and encouraging. The Teen Court panelists benefit through direct training, and a hands on service learning experience that benefits the community. They also increase their communication and leadership skills in a judicial setting. Ashland County is on the forefront of a statewide and national trend with the establishment of this program.

Ashland County Teen Court Applicants

Location: The Teen Court meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the courthouse in Ashland.

Term of Appointment: One year with the option to renew

General Responsibilities:

1. Attendance- if you can not attend we expect you to let us know.
2. Attend trainings and conduct yourself within the established guidelines for the Teen Court.
3. Come prepared to hear cases.
4. Honor the Oath of Confidentiality for Teen Court members.

Qualifications:

1. Currently in high school.
2. Ability to attend scheduled cases during the evenings at the courthouse in Ashland.
3. Access to transportation to attend these meetings
4. Ability to effectively work with other people in a structured setting to identify issues related to first time juvenile offenders who are involved in the judicial system.
5. Good organizational and verbal skills.
6. Willing to openly express themselves to both a youth and adult audience.

Application Procedure and Deadline:

Submit application along with references by May 11, 2020 . Applications can be dropped off at the Extension Office in the Courthouse in Ashland, or mailed or scanned and e-mailed to:

Doug Liphart
Teen Court Advisor
UW-Extension Office
201 W. Main
Courthouse, Room 107
Ashland, WI 54806
doug.liphart@wisc.edu

How do you plan on being a role model in your school and in the community?

How are you going to keep all homework caught up on nights that Teen Court meets? How will you deal with sports, music or drama practices? List your plan of action:

List the other community and co-curricular activities you are involved in, including work.

Have you ever received a citation for any offense? If so, please describe and what was the outcome?

Explain why it is important for a Teen Court panelist to have a commitment to attend each case?

Are you willing to make this commitment? Yes No

What do you hope to achieve through your involvement in Teen Court?

The previous information is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of applicant

Date

Please return this completed application to:

Doug Liphart
UW-Extension -Teen Court Advisor
201 W. Main St
Courthouse, Room 107
Ashland, WI 54806
doug.liphart@wisc.edu

*Thank You for Applying to the Ashland County Teen Court.
You will be contacted when final selections have been made.*



UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.



To: Ashland County Applicant Reference

From: Ashland County Teen Court

The Ashland County Teen Court was started in 2006 in response to research which identified that youth defendants respond more effectively to a jury of their peers. The Ashland County Teen Court provides this representation and develops leadership skills for county youth.

The objectives are:

- 1) Hear first time juvenile cases.
- 2) To create a logical sequence of consequences based in restorative justice.
- 3) To increase their leadership and communication skills while serving the community.

_____ has been identified by their peers to apply for The Ashland County Teen Court. You have been selected as a reference. Your honest opinion of this applicant's qualifications to represent your community on the Ashland County Teen Court is appreciated. The information you provide will be handled in a confidential manner and will not be released without your permission.

Please take your time to be complete and return the reference by the **May 11, 2020** deadline to Doug Liphart, Teen Court Coordinator and UW-Extension Youth Development Agent, 201 W. Main, Courthouse, Room 107, Ashland, WI 54806. Or via email to doug.liphart@wisc.edu.

Feel free to provide additional information that goes beyond that addressed by the reference form by attaching a letter. If you have any questions about the position or the reference form, or want to scan and send, please contact Doug Liphart at (715) 682-7017 or via e-mail doug.liphart@wisc.edu.

Enclosure: Reference Form

Ashland County Teen Court Application

Reference Form

Your honest assessment of this applicant's qualifications to be a panelist for the Ashland County Teen Court is appreciated. This reference will be handled in a confidential manner and will not be released to the applicant unless you indicate your permission on this form. Please return the completed form by **May 11, 2020** to Doug Liphart; Advisor for the Ashland County Teen Court. Email to doug.liphart@wisc.edu. Or hard copy to the UW-Extension Office, 201 West Main St., Courthouse Room 107, Ashland, WI 54806.

Name of Applicant:

Date:

Person Furnishing Reference:

Agency:

Title:

How long have you known the applicant?

What is your relationship to the applicant?
(co-worker, teacher, supervisor, friend, etc.)

Your Phone No. ()

Email

QUALITIES RELATED TO JOB SUCCESS

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Success in previous job(s) or projects | _____ |
| 2. Able to work with people (team) | _____ |
| 3. Able to lead or inspire others | _____ |
| 4. Oral communication skills | _____ |
| 5. Written communication skills | _____ |
| 6. Completes assignments | _____ |
| 7. Organizes time and work | _____ |
| 8. Accepts guidance | _____ |
| 9. Creative and innovative | _____ |

Rating Scale

- 5 = Far Exceeds expectations
4 = Above expected level
3 = At expected level
2 = Below expected level
1 = Not satisfactory

NA = Not able to judge

PERSONAL QUALITIES THAT AFFECT PERFORMANCE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Neat, well-groomed appearance | _____ |
| 2. Tactful and courteous | _____ |
| 3. Enthusiastic | _____ |
| 4. Dependability and promptness | _____ |
| 5. Maturity and poise | _____ |
| 6. Deals constructively with pressure | _____ |

- 7. Flexibility/adaptability _____
- 8. Demonstrates honesty/integrity _____
- 9. Commitment to employer _____
- 10. Accepts differences in others _____
- 11. Potential for professional growth _____

Overall Judgment of the Applicant for this Position _____

Do you know of any reason(s) why this applicant should not be considered for this type of position with the Ashland County Teen Court?

Yes No

If yes, please explain _____

A. What qualities such as leadership, organization, or dedication does this applicant bring to the Teen Court?

B. What limitations (if any) does the applicant have for this position (transportation, inability to follow through with commitment) ?

C. Additional information is appreciated and may be included on an attached sheet.

_____ I believe this information is fair and accurate based upon my experience with the applicant.

Signature _____

_____ Date

Please sign on the line following this statement if you give permission to release information contained in the reference to the applicant upon applicant request. No signature will imply lack of consent.

 Signature to authorize release to applicant

Please send reference to:

Doug Liphart, Teen Court Advisor
 UW-Extension Office, Courthouse Room 107
 201 W. Main St.
 Ashland, WI 54806
doug.liphart@wisc.edu

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Email

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- | | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 10. | Success in previous job(s) or projects | _____ |
| 11. | Able to work with people (team) | _____ |
| 12. | Able to lead or inspire others | _____ |
| 13. | Oral communication skills | _____ |
| 14. | Written communication skills | _____ |
| 15. | Completes assignments | _____ |
| 16. | Organizes time and work | _____ |
| 17. | Accepts guidance | _____ |
| 18. | Creative and innovative | _____ |

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PERSONAL QUALITIES THAT AFFECT PERFORMANCE

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------|
| 12. | Neat, well-groomed appearance | _____ |
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| 14. | Enthusiastic | _____ |
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- 19. Demonstrates honesty/integrity _____
- 20. Commitment to employer _____
- 21. Accepts differences in others _____
- 22. Potential for professional growth _____

Overall Judgment of the Applicant for this Position _____

Do you know of any reason(s) why this applicant should not be considered for this type of position with the Ashland County Teen Court?

Yes No

If yes, please explain _____

D. What qualities such as leadership, organization, or dedication does this applicant bring to the Teen Court?

E. What limitations (if any) does the applicant have for this position (transportation, inability to follow through with commitment) ?

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