

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Application for Children's/Youth Ministry**

On March 22, 2001, Amended Ohio Senate Bill 187 became law (Ohio Revised Code sections 109.574-577, 121.401, 121.402). The legislation's purpose is to help ensure that youth-serving organizations that place volunteers in positions requiring "unsupervised access to children on a regular basis" use appropriate screening methods. In accordance with the law, the Ohio Community Service Council, the state government unit responsible for administering AmeriCorps and promoting community service and volunteerism throughout Ohio, was mandated to develop a set of "best practices" for organizations to use when screening volunteers who work with children. "Unsupervised" means that "no other person 18 years or older is present in the same room with the child and/or if outdoors, no other person 18 years or older is within a 30 yard radius of the child or has visual contact with the child" (Section 109.574). A child is defined as an individual under age 18 or a mentally and/or physically handicapped individual under the age of 21.

(source: *Best Practices for Screening Volunteers who Work with Children in Ohio*,  
[www.cdeducation.org/oym/safe/bestpractices.pdf](http://www.cdeducation.org/oym/safe/bestpractices.pdf))

This form is to be completed by any applicant for a position involving the supervision or custody of minors. This form is extensive, but your cooperation will assist church leaders in their efforts to provide a secure environment for children and youth. Your responses will remain confidential, although there may be circumstances where such information may be provided on a "need to know" basis to individuals working with our ministry and to other individuals in order to evaluate your application and/or to comply with applicable legal requirements.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Information (please print):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last* *First* *Middle*

If you have ever used other names, please provide complete name(s) and date in use:

Age Range: Under 18 \_\_\_\_\_ 18-21 \_\_\_\_\_ Over 21 \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified in First Aid? **Yes No** CPR? **Yes No**

If yes, expiration date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Have you lived outside the state of Ohio during the past five years? **Yes No**

(If yes, please list previous address(es) on a separate piece of paper and attach to this form.)



**Legal Questionnaire:**

1. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense (felony or misdemeanor, except for minor traffic violations)? You will need to answer "yes" if you have entered into a plea agreement, including a deferred sentence or deferred judgement agreement, in connection with a criminal charge. **Yes No**

**If you have been convicted of such an offense, please attach a statement of explanation, including the nature of the offense, date, court where conviction was entered, and any other relevant information.**

2. Have you ever been arrested for or charged with a sexual offense, offense relating to children, or crime of violence (that is not covered in question 1 above)? **Yes No**

**If you have been arrested for or charged with such an offense, please attach a statement of explanation, including the nature of the charge, date, law enforcement agency making the charge, and any other relevant information.**

3. Have you ever been reported to a social services agency, law enforcement agency, or any organization regarding abuse or misconduct involving children? **Yes No**

4. Have you ever been subjected to expulsion, reprimand, or other discipline by a church, denomination, or other religious organization? **Yes No**

5. Have you ever been the subject of a civil lawsuit involving sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, or other immoral conduct, involving children or adults? **Yes No**

6. Have you ever been the subject of a complaint or disciplinary proceeding against a professional license or other license held by you, including but not limited to a license to provide childcare or similar services? **Yes No**

7. Have you ever been the subject of any disciplinary action, transfer, or dismissal, or been named as a defendant in a civil or criminal lawsuit, as a result of an accident or mishap involving children? **Yes No**

8. Have you ever been subject to any disciplinary action (including discharge) or investigation by a church, organization, or employer? **Yes No**

**If your answer to any of the questions 3 – 8 is "Yes", please provide the following information for each positive response:**

- ◆ **Date and complete description of the circumstances**
- ◆ **Name and address of the organization involved**
- ◆ **Name and telephone number of a person familiar with the circumstances**

**Personal References:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Statement:**

The responses I provided in completing this application form are complete, truthful, and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I hereby authorize Grace Baptist Church to make inquiries concerning my background in connection with evaluating the information I provided on this form and in the application process, including possible fingerprinting and a criminal background check if deemed necessary by the Church. If a criminal records check is made, it would be to determine whether I have been convicted of one or more offenses described in Division (A)(1) of section of 109.572 of the Ohio Revised Code. If a criminal records check is made and it shows that I was convicted of one or more of these offenses, Grace Baptist Church may be required to inform all parents and guardians of children (to whom I have had unsupervised access) concerning any such reported conviction. I hereby authorize all persons connected with me, including churches, employers, law enforcement, licensing, and social services agencies, to release any information contained in their files and records concerning me to the Church and its representatives.

In consideration of the receipt and evaluation of this application form by the Church, I hereby release the Church and its employees, agents, representatives, and any other person or organization that may release information concerning me, both collectively and individually, from any and all liability for damages of whatever kind or nature which may, at any time, result to me, my heirs or family on account of inquiries concerning my background and any disclosures of information concerning me to the Church. I waive any right that I may have to inspect any information provided about me by any person or organization identified by me in this application.

**I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FOREGOING RELEASE AND KNOW THE CONTENTS OF IT, AND I SIGN THIS RELEASE AS MY OWN FREE AND VOLUNTARY ACT.**

**I HAVE READ ALL OF THE POLICY GUIDELINES AND APPENDIX MATERIALS (OHIO SENATE BILL 187, BEST PRACTICES, AND REPORTING LAWS) AND AGREE TO COMPLY.**

I understand that my service with the Church shall be volunteer service. It is a personal ministry, not a contractual agreement. In addition, my volunteer services shall be at-will and the Church shall be entitled to terminate my services at any time, with or without cause or advance notice.

**I will report any known or suspected child abuse or other violation of policy to the Senior Pastor, a member of the church staff, or to a deacon of the church.**

I affirm that I will strictly comply with all policies and procedures of Grace Baptist Church including, but not limited to, its' Child Protection Policy. If at any time I find that I am unable to support the policies, procedures, or doctrine of the Church, I will resign my volunteer position. I understand and agree that failure by me to abide by such policies and procedures may result in my immediate dismissal or disciplinary action, all at the discretion of the Church.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness' Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_