



TEXAS CRIME STOPPERS AMBASSADORS

Application and Instructions



TEXAS CRIME STOPPERS OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1100 San Jacinto, Austin, TX 78701

TEXAS CRIME STOPPERS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program Leader
Erin Cole, Office of the Governor
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The Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program is a student-based leadership program for Texas youth involved in their Crime Stoppers community across the state. The program consists of 12 students who are carefully chosen and tasked with setting leadership standards of excellence among their peer groups, acting as role models on their campuses and in their communities, and are also required to complete a series of projects over the course of a calendar year.

MISSION STATEMENT

To encourage positive relationships between Campus Crime Stoppers and our communities and inspire lasting changes within individuals through our leadership and unity.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

The primary objective of the Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program is to shape young leaders in the Texas Crime Stoppers community. The aim of the program is to establish a network of informed and influential students throughout Texas who can actively represent Crime Stoppers while building a proficient skill set and gaining leadership experience.

Ambassadors are selected to represent their peers all over the state and serve as the youth voice for Crime Stoppers in Texas. Ambassadors are expected to exhibit a high degree of maturity, responsibility, flexibility, and leadership at all times.

SELECTION PROCESS:

There are twelve Ambassadors appointed to the program. Those selected as an ambassador remain in the program until/unless the follow occurs:

1. Ambassador graduates from high school,
2. Ambassador submits termination of involvement in writing to Program Leader
3. Ambassador fails to attend a campus conference, or
4. Ambassador is asked to resign by Ambassador Program Leader.

The number of Ambassadors selected each year during the conference is based upon Ambassador vacancies. Applicants must be in the eighth, ninth, tenth or eleventh grade at the time of application. Application forms must be complete to be considered for selection.

Applications must be submitted via email by Friday, January 10, 2025

Email to Erin Cole at erin.cole@gov.texas.gov. Applicants will be notified if selected for a panel interview.

Upon receipt of your completed application, you will be scheduled for an interview with the selection panel. Interviews are held Sunday, February 16, 2025. Decisions will be announced at the awards ceremony.

INTERVIEW PROCESS: A panel of up to four judges, selected by the state office, will conduct interviews. Applicants are expected to dress business casual and conduct themselves appropriately during the interview. Questions regarding basic knowledge of Crime Stoppers and the Ambassador program as well as leadership abilities.

Each applicant will be given an opportunity to share further information or ask questions during the panel interviews. We encourage applicants to use these interviews to explain why they would be a good candidate as an ambassador based on their experience and goals. For questions, please contact the Program Leader (see contact information above). Good luck to all applicants!

AMBASSADOR CODE OF CONDUCT:

Appropriate behavior is required at all times during the conference, in your school, and in your community.

Dress Appropriately

Ambassadors are expected to adhere to a Business Casual dress code. Acceptable attire includes collared shirts, slacks, skirts, neat denim jeans (without holes), khaki pants, dresses, and sweaters. Inappropriate clothing encompasses t-shirts (unless provided for an event or part of a layered ensemble), sweatshirts, sweatpants, shorts, workout attire, or torn clothing. While not an exhaustive list, exercising good judgment is crucial, and immediate feedback will be provided if attire is deemed unacceptable. Remember, you represent your school and the state of Texas, so maintain a positive image.

Be Respectful

Ambassadors function as a team, necessitating consideration for how their actions impact fellow ambassadors, students, and the community. Treat each other and event participants with respect, even in situations of disagreement. Disagreements should not be an excuse for poor behavior or manners; instead, the focus should be on resolving differences constructively. Seeking advice when needed helps determine the most acceptable course of action.

Be Collaborative

Being an ambassador emphasizes collaboration and teamwork, minimizing redundancy and enhancing event quality. When uncertain, seek assistance, as no one knows everything, and perfection is not expected. Asking questions is encouraged to avoid potential issues, and those approached for help should be responsive and helpful. Ensure questions are posed in an appropriate forum.

Be Honest

The commitment to honesty includes acknowledging when it's challenging to say "no" or admitting oversight. Ambassadors must be honest with each other and themselves about their commitments and capabilities.

Be Punctual

Timeliness is crucial for all scheduled meetings, courses, and appointments. Being punctual reflects responsibility and excellent time management. Lateness may result in missing vital information, disrupting meetings, and conveying disrespect.

Accountability

Ambassadors are accountable for their actions and commitments. Upholding a sense of responsibility ensures a positive and productive environment within the team. Ambassadors should not only hold themselves accountable but also encourage others to do the same.

Ending Your Ambassadorship

Ambassadors have the autonomy to terminate their position at any time, for any reason. A written notice of such a decision should be communicated promptly to their local program and the Texas Crime Stoppers team.

Dismissal of an Ambassador

Ambassadors who do not adhere to the rules and agreements are subject to dismissal. No ambassador will be terminated until the ambassador and his/her sponsor has an opportunity to discuss the reasons for possible dismissal with the Texas Crime Stoppers staff. Possible grounds for dismissal may include, but are not limited to, the following: gross misconduct, theft of property or misuse of materials, abuse, or mistreatment of event attendees, staff or other volunteers, and failure to abide by policies and procedures set by the Code of Conduct.

If you use profanity, vulgarity, threats, derogatory reference to nationality, gender, religion, or personal characteristics at any time, either in person or by posting in any social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok, email, or any other means of electronic communication at ANY time, you will be asked to seek your community service elsewhere and Texas Crime Stoppers will be obligated to contact your sponsor and your parents. This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy.

Use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs at ANY time will be cause for immediate dismissal, and Texas Crime Stoppers will contact your sponsor, your school, and your parents. This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Address: _____
(Street Address or P.O. Box)

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Applicant E-mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Age: _____ DOB: _____ Gender: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____
(Street Address or P.O. Box)

School Phone: _____

Applicants Grade Level: _____ Applicants Grade Point Average: _____ / _____

Applicants Expected Year of Graduation: _____

Crime Stoppers Organization Name: _____

Current Position on Crime Stoppers Board: _____
(i.e. new to crime stoppers, member, secretary, board member etc.)

How long have you been involved in a campus Crime Stoppers Organization? _____

APPLICANT PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____ Relation to Applicant: _____
(Last) (First)

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

APPLICATION

List your IN-SCHOOL activities from the past three years. Include leadership positions you have held. (i.e. choir, band, school clubs, etc.)

Date	Organization and Activity	Role/Involvement

List your OUT-OF-SCHOOL activities from the past three years. Include leadership positions you have held. (i.e. volunteer work, church involvement, etc)

Date	Organization and Activity	Role/Involvement

List all SPORTS activities participated inside and outside of school, if any.

Date	Sport and Activity	Role/Involvement

1. How long have you been apart a crime stoppers and in what positions have you held, if any?

2. What interests you in serving the Crime Stoppers community as an ambassador?

3. What are your thoughts/concerns about crime on school campuses?

4. What are your strengths and how will they benefit the Ambassador program?

5. How do you plan to grow the Campus Crime Stoppers programs in your community?

6. Give an example of how you have resolved a conflict in your life between two things that had to be done?

7. Is there anything you would like us to know about you that you have not already stated?

AMBASSADOR SERVICE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this service agreement is to effectively carry out the Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador initiative as an integral part of Texas Crime Stoppers. Ambassadors serve under the direction and guidance of Texas Crime Stoppers Staff.

(Please initial each of the following statements)

___ All information that I have provided is true and correct and may be verified, if necessary, by contacting persons or organizations named in this application, or by contacting any person or organization that may have information concerning me.

___ I understand that I am applying to a volunteer program and although I may benefit both personally and professionally from this experience, I will not receive nor expect any compensation for my volunteer service as an ambassador. I am willing to perform the volunteer service without promise, expectations, or receipt of wages and without any coercion or pressure.

___ I will keep all academic responsibilities a top priority.

___ I will maintain contact with the Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Leader and Liaison.

___ I will notify the Ambassador Program Leader of any change of address, phone number, email or other contact information, including changes in sponsor.

___ Texas Crime Stoppers may use photographs or film that may be taken of me.

___ I will report on time, as scheduled and check-in with the staff.

___ I will keep open communication with my Student Ambassador Sponsor regarding activities in the Ambassador program.

___ I will keep open communication with my parent/guardian regarding activities in the Ambassador program.

___ I am able to communicate effectively and efficiently.

___ I am passionate about promoting the Crime Stoppers message.

___ I am open-minded and respectful of others.

___ I am a person that likes to have fun and meet new people.

___ I am willing to take reasonable risks and learn new things.

___ I am and will remain tobacco, alcohol, and drug-free.

By initialing the above statements and signing this application, I have read and understand the Code of Conduct and Service Agreement. I am aware of the consequences for violations to these policies.

Signature of Ambassador: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

SPONSOR SERVICE AGREEMENT:

Sponsor Name: _____
(Last) (First)

Sponsor Title: _____

School Name: _____

Crime Stoppers Organization Name: _____

School Address: _____
(Street Address or P.O. Box)

Sponsor E-mail Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____

I have read and fully understand the information given in this application and know the expectations of my student. I hereby request and approve this application and participation in the Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program. When volunteering through the Ambassador Program, I understand that I am responsible for my student's participation, travel arrangements and travel expenses throughout the program. Travel expenses may be reimbursed through the Texas Crime Stoppers training grant. Reimbursements must be submitted within 14 days of the last day of training.

(Please initial each of the following statements)

___ I will maintain contact with Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program Leader.

___ I will notify Texas Crime Stoppers of any change of address, phone number, email or other contact information, including changes in sponsor.

___ I agree to be responsible for my student's attendance, travel arrangements and travel expenses to all Ambassador Activities.

___ I agree to release and hold harmless from liability Texas Crime Stoppers, its employees, and volunteers.

SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR: _____

DATE: _____

TWO-MINUTE ELEVATOR PITCH INTERVIEWS

What is an elevator pitch?

Your elevator pitch is your quick, personal selling statement.

How it will work:

Each applicant will be given 120 seconds to share information about themselves with the “hiring team”. We encourage applicants to use the two minutes to explain why they would be a good Ambassador based on their experience and goals.

What to include in your two-minute pitch:

1. Introduction; Name, Year, and what program you’re with, etc.
2. Ambassador program interest.
3. Demonstrate your skills by sharing leadership experience, achievements, strengths, and skills/goals you want to achieve or fortify through Ambassadorship.

Example Elevator Pitch:

1. Hello, my name is _____ and I am a _____ at _____ (high/middle) school and I’m with the _____ campus crime stoppers program.
 2. I am interested in a position as an Ambassador because _____, _____, and _____.
 3. I have been involved in _____ which I believe makes me an excellent candidate for the Ambassador program.
 4. And developed skills in _____. I have also had a work/volunteer position as a _____ with _____ and discovered that I really enjoy _____.
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