**Requirements to Become a Big Brother/Sister**

**Be motivated to serve**! There are two ways to volunteer with BBBS.  In the **community-based** program Bigs take their Littles out to do activities they both enjoy--going to the park, playing sports, visiting the library, getting a bite to eat --simple activities that end up making a big difference.  In our **site-based** program Bigs visit with their Littles at an after-school program in Bryan where they help with homework, play in the gym or on the playground, do crafts, or just talk with their Littles.

**Have the time**: Community-based Bigs get together with their Littles two to four times each month. These outings can take place at times and on days that work best for you, your Little and their family: afternoons or evenings, weekdays or weekends. Site-based Bigs visit their Littles once a week on Tuesdays or Wednesdays for an hour after school between 3:00 and 5:00.

**Be committed**: We ask for a commitment of at least one year. Before committing to a match, consider if you will be experiencing any major life changes in the next year, such as graduation, new job or promotion, marriage, birth of a child, or moving. If so, it might be best to wait until after the change takes place so you will be better able to determine your ability to commit.

**Meet the program criteria**: Be at least 18 years old and out of high school. Hold a valid driver’s license and automobile insurance.

If you meet the above requirements and are ready to be a Big, complete the following steps of the BBBS volunteer process.

1. Complete a **volunteer** **application** and **match interest form**.
2. Schedule an **interview** with BBBS staff.
3. Sign a **release** and **background check form**.
4. Provide your **driver’s license** and **auto insurance card** to staff so they can be copied for your file.
5. Pay a **$25 volunteer application fee** to offset cost of running background check.
6. Provide **references.** Contacting referencescan really slow down the process if your references don’t call us back. Let them know to expect our call.
7. Attend **pre-match training**. There are no special skills required to be a Big except a desire to help, but you will be much more successful as a Big if you take advantage of the support that BBBS provides.
8. Get matched! After all the previous steps have been completed and you are approved as a Big Brother or Sister we will match you with a Little Brother or Sister who shares your interests and will be a good fit with your personality and preferences.

***READY TO GET STARTED?*** As soon as your completed application is received (in person, mail or e-mail) you will be contacted to set up an interview day and time.

***QUESTIONS?*** Contact Terry Dougherty at tdougherty@bigmentor.org / 979-224-3660