

Adult Sponsor Requirements

According to Texas State Department of Health Act Chap. 265.12, all adult counselors / sponsors that have any direct contact with underage individuals at a Camp must have:

1. A current criminal and sex offender background check performed (within 365 days of camp start date) prior to contact with underage campers. Both criminal and sex offender background checks may be performed online for a nominal charge at the following website: <https://records.txdps.state.tx.us>. It is the sponsoring churches responsibility to perform these checks and submit proof of proper documentation with camp registration.
2. Attend and participate in a one hour child abuse and sexual abuse prevention and recognition class; as well as pass a written exam prior to contact with underage campers. Highland Lakes Camp provides a state approved online Child Protective Training video and test, located within the Camp registration system. Upon request, you may also purchase a DVD containing the state approved session and written test material from Highland Lakes Camp for \$10. Call 888-222-3482 to order.
3. Upon successful completion of the Child Protective test, the test administrator (church) must keep the **original** Certificate of Completion on file for two (2) years and supply the camp a photocopy of the certificate.
4. The following documents must be submitted with each Camp Adult Registration (Medical/Liability Release Form): (1) Criminal background check, (2) Sex offender background check, (3) A copy of the certificate issued by test administrator upon successful completion of the Child Abuse and Sexual Abuse Prevention/Recognition Class, and (4) A church letter of recommendation signed by the senior pastor.

Child abuse, real or alleged, must be reported to the proper authorities.

The training requirements and other information required by the state can be found on the Department of Health Services website at <http://www.dhs.state.tx.us/youthcamp/statutes.shtm> .

Disqualification Convictions

Any person with the following types of criminal convictions or deferred adjudications cannot be accepted at camp as a volunteer adult sponsor: a misdemeanor or felony under Texas Penal Code, Title 5 (Offenses Against the Person), Title 6 (Offenses Against the Family), Chapter 29 (Robbery) of Title 7, Chapter 43 (Public Indecency) or 42.072 (Stalking) of Title 9, 15.031 (Criminal Solicitation of a Minor) of Title 4, 38.17 (Failure to Stop or Report Aggravated Sexual Assault of Child) of Title 8, or any like offense under the law of another state or under federal law.