

# Diocese of Brownsville – Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors

## Young Adult Ambassador Application Form

For accuracy purposes, please write legibly.



Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address / Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Current Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

*Young adults encompass a variety of significant transitions in life. To better understand where you are today and to best serve the needs of other young adults in the diocese who may share a similar status, please circle all that apply:*

Single      Engaged      Married      Parent      Discerning Religious Life      Active Military Duty

Level of education: Undergraduate student      Bachelor’s      Master’s      Doctorate

*If you are employed, who is your current employer, position, and city of employment?*

\_\_\_\_\_

**AREAS OF INTEREST** Please circle 3 of the following commission activities in which you feel strong:

Leadership Development

Communications

Fundraising or Finance

Prayer & Spirituality

Service, Social Justice, and Advocacy

Sports & Social Events

Young Singles Ministry

Collegiate and/or Campus Ministry

Young Couples Ministry

### ADDITIONAL APPLICATION MATERIALS NEEDED

1. On a separate page, please submit a very short essay (between 200 and 300 words) on why you feel called to be a part of Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors – and what gifts and skills you might be able to bring to the work of the ministry and the diocese. If you are part of a young adult group in your area, please include it in your essay. Also, include any questions you may have about the program’s “Mission and Responsibilities” section that may need clarification.
2. Please list two reference persons who can attest to your character and/or your ministry experiences, and provide one short letter of recommendation from one of them who has witnessed your service:

Reference #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Position / Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Position / Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

## Application Process

To be considered for Bishop's Young Adult Ambassadors, applicants must either live, work, study, and/or worship in the boundaries of the Diocese of Brownsville and be between the ages of 18 and 39. They must also demonstrate an ability to speak and advocate on behalf of their peers, work collaboratively with other young adults, and be open to using their spiritual gifts, talents, and leadership abilities in the service of the Catholic Church.

The application forms for new members will be reviewed by the Office of Campus & Young Adult Ministry and the current Ambassadors. Nominees may be interviewed or asked for follow-up information, if necessary. All applicants will be contacted with the final decision the third week of August.

**The deadline to apply is August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

For more information about Bishop's Young Adult Ambassadors and the application process, contact Raul Cabrera at (956) 784-5045 or email [rcabrera@cdob.org](mailto:rcabrera@cdob.org).

Please checkmark the following and initial at the bottom before submitting your complete application to acknowledge that you have:

- Read the "Mission and Responsibilities" section, including external, internal and fine print information
- Completed the form
- Listed two references
- Attached an essay on why you are called to be part of Bishop's Young Adult Ambassadors
- Included a letter of recommendation
- In the case of being selected, reserved August 27<sup>th</sup> to attend the Day of Recollection in Brownsville

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit complete application form, essay, and letter of recommendation to:

**Campus & Young Adult Ministry**  
**Diocese of Brownsville**  
700 N. Virgen de San Juan Blvd. San Juan, TX 78589  
or email them to [rcabrera@cdob.org](mailto:rcabrera@cdob.org)

# Diocese of Brownsville – Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors

## Mission and Responsibilities



The diocesan Office of Campus & Young Adult Ministry (CYAM) supports single and married young adults (age 18-39) to live the Gospel message through prayer, community and service. To accomplish these goals, a team of Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors has been established with the following mission: To advocate for the spiritual wellbeing of all young adults in the Diocese of Brownsville, and to inspire their active participation in parish life and in the mission of the Church. The BYAA consists of young adults representing the 8 deaneries (geographic boundaries) in our diocese: Brownsville, San Benito, Harlingen, Weslaco, Pharr, McAllen-Edinburg, Mission, and Rio Grande City. Ambassadors are a voice for their peers in the diocesan landscape, as well as agents that help develop solid parish and diocesan ministry for young adults.

The purpose and responsibilities of the Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors is two-fold, external and internal:

1. **External**—To communicate with the Office of Campus & Young Adult Ministry on the concerns and issues facing young adults across the area today, and offer feedback on the current work and initiatives of the office to improve its outreach effectiveness. To prepare for this purpose, Ambassadors should carefully listen and be attentive to the needs of the young adults in their deanery and in their specific ministries, as well as their peers who are not active in the practice of their faith. Responsibilities include:
  - a) Support the ministry of the Church through the leadership of the Bishop, Priests, Deacons and CYAM Office.
  - b) Represent the young adults of the community by attending or participating in other events, activities and meetings as requested by the CYAM Office, especially if they are in their deanery.
  - c) Distribute information about diocesan young adult events to parishes/young adult groups in deanery and vice-versa via periodic personal visits, social media and other forms of publicity.
  
2. **Internal**—To assist the Office of Campus & Young Adult Ministry in planning and implementing diocesan-wide gathered activities for young adults. These include spiritual, service and social justice-related projects, social/sports activities, faith formation, and evangelization initiatives that go beyond what any one parish or ministry can do on its own. To accomplish this work, teams may be formed to envision, develop, execute, and evaluate these programs throughout the year, under the direction of the CYAM office. Responsibilities include:
  - a) Attend monthly Ambassador meetings, usually last Sunday of the month in San Juan (subject to change). If unable to attend, prior communication with CYAM Office and/or officers is needed.
  - b) Attend two Ambassadors’ Day of Recollection, **including the upcoming one scheduled for August 27, 2016, in Brownsville** and two Ambassador hosted events per year.
  - c) Appoint a Chair, co-Chair, and Secretary to serve one-year terms of office.
  - d) Meet on your own to develop young adult gathered events and activities as needed, and include prayer and social time amongst the body of Ambassadors.
  - e) A senior Ambassador will provide an introduction to the parishes/young adult groups for the incoming Ambassador and will also provide the incoming Ambassador with deanery, parish and young adult groups’ contact information.

# Diocese of Brownsville – Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors

## Mission and Responsibilities, continued...



The Office of Campus & Young Adult Ministry will provide:

1. An introduction letter to the dean and respective parishes regarding the appointment of a new Ambassador.
2. Contact information for all Ambassadors, including list of parish contacts and deans.
3. Timely information and materials regarding diocesan events pertaining to young adults.
4. Support pertaining to young adult groups, event planning, communication between young adults and deaneries, etc.
5. Opportunities for exclusive fellowship and leadership training.

The vision for the Bishop’s Young Adult Ambassadors is to form them in their vocation as Catholic leaders and develop a community of faith-filled disciples with mission. Using the skills learned and the networking received while a part of their humble service to the diocese, it is our hope that Ambassadors will build up their own young adult ministries and expand the young adult outreach of their home parishes.

The fine print: Ambassadors will be recognized and sent forth to begin their role in this function. Some Ambassadors will rotate out every year and will be followed by other new Ambassadors commissioned annually to take their place. **Ambassador appointments are volunteer based and consist of three years of service.** Reliability and availability to provide for any potential incurred costs such as personal transportation and other costs of nominal nature to serve productively in the ministry is expected. If an Ambassador is unable to fulfill his or her respective term with its responsibilities, notification must be given as soon as possible to the CYAM Director.