

Please copy or reproduce this page onto your church's or organization's letterhead.

This **SHEPHERDS RECOMMENDATION FORM** is the first step in ensuring the safety of children, youth, adults, and camp staff during summer camp at Texas Baptist Encampment. To that goal, TBE is required by the state of Texas to ascertain and have on record information, such as this letter of recommendation, attesting to the character and integrity of each adult camper, adult leader, or camp volunteer (Shepherds) working with youth (under 18). The church, organization, or supervisory pastor can attest to each person's character but, though not required, is also advised to additionally perform a criminal records check on each individual adult listed. A hard copy of the criminal records check is not required to be attached to this form **unless** there **is** a record of criminal conviction for someone listed. This would not necessarily disqualify that person from serving as a Shepherd at TBE but the pastor or church leader would at least need to discuss the situation, well ahead of time, with the TBE Director.

Shepherds for children's camps should be at least 18 years old. Youth camp Shepherds should be at least 21 years old. Shepherds should supervise no more than ten (1:10 ratio) children or youth and must be of the same gender. The church should bring enough Shepherds to supervise all of their children or youth. Shepherds should be in good enough health to be able to stay with their youth at all times during their week of camp. Shepherds are accountable for guidance and leadership to their youth in the areas of personal hygiene, safety, adherence to camp policies, participation in activities, eating meals, and their behavior and interaction with other campers. Shepherds are responsible for knowing camp rules & guidelines and communicating them to their youth. Shepherds will, most importantly, serve as a good Christian example in attitude, personal speech, and their willingness to mentor.

The following people will serve as Shepherds to our youth & children at TBE during summer camp:

<u>Full Name of Shepherd</u>	<u>Driver's Lic. # & State - OR - Soc. Sec. #</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
<i>If there is not enough room to list all Shepherds, use additional copies of this form.</i>		

"We have screened and are familiar with each of these individuals and can attest to the good character, integrity, and ability of each to serve in the role of a Shepherd, as outlined above. We recommend them as persons who will represent our church and organization well in the supervision of our young people and in cooperation with others."

Signature of Pastor or organization representative / Position

Date