

Volunteer Online Registration (TDCJ)

Please register as a volunteer with the **Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)** as soon as possible. The TDCJ approval process can take **several months**, and once approved, your volunteer status is valid for **two years**.

Search online for or click the link to [TDCJ Volunteer Training](#) to begin.

Step 1: Complete the TDCJ Online Application

On the TDCJ volunteer website, complete the **online application** *before* taking the TDCJ online training.

- Enter your name **exactly as it appears on your driver's license** (Last, First, Middle Initial).
 - On the second page of the application, check the **Chaplaincy** box and complete the required fields below it.
 - Under **Facilities of Interest**, select the prison(s) where you plan to serve.
 - If you are unsure which facility to select, ask your **Malachi Dads contact**.
 - Continue through the application and submit it.
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Step 2: Complete the TDCJ Online Training

After submitting your online application, complete the **TDCJ online volunteer training**.

- Once completed, you will receive an **email confirmation** from TDCJ.
 - Be sure the name on the confirmation email **matches your driver's license**.
 - Final approval may take **several months**.
 - TDCJ will notify you by email once you are approved.
 - After approval, **notify your Volunteer Leader** so your name can be added to the **gate list**.
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Step 3: Check Your Approval Status

Every few weeks, you may contact **TDCJ Volunteer Services** to check on your approval status.

This office is staffed by volunteers, and checking in occasionally may help move the process along.

- The phone number is listed on the **TDCJ Volunteer Training website**.
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Step 4: Apply for a Special Volunteer Pass (While Waiting)

While waiting for final TDCJ approval, complete a **Special Volunteer Request** to receive a **four-visit special pass**, allowing you to attend meetings during the approval period.

- The Special Volunteer Request form is available on faithprisonministry.org under Resources then go to New Volunteer Onboarding then go to Step 2.
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Eligibility Note (Formerly Incarcerated Volunteers)

Formerly incarcerated individuals may serve as volunteers if they:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have no pending charges
- Have been released from an adult prison for at least 12 months

For additional questions, you may contact **TDCJ Volunteer Services at 936-437-3026**.