

INQUIRY PROCESS

HOW IT WORKS

Eligibility Checklist

As a mentoring organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex provides a number of mentoring programs where screened volunteers are matched with children in a one-to-one relationship or in a group mentoring program. Our volunteers are dedicated adult (18+) members of the community who share their time and caring with children. While they do receive program specific child-safety training facilitated by program staff, they do not have professional training in managing challenging behaviours or supporting children whose needs exceed their capabilities.

If you are interested in applying to the **Big Brother/Big Sister program** for your child, please read the eligibility checklist thoroughly and acknowledge your understanding of the criteria by checking off all of the items that apply to you and your child. It is very important to do this before completing the inquiry form to make sure BBBSWE is a good fit for your child. **This process must be completed by the child's parent/guardian.** Please let us know if you require assistance with this.

- I understand that if I do not have sole custody, consent from the other parent will be required.
- I understand that BBBSWE matches boys from primarily father-absent families and who lack a male influence in their lives. If your child does not meet this criteria, they may be eligible for group programming.
- I understand that the Agency is under no obligation to provide my child with a Mentor
- I understand that all applicants must be between the ages of 6-16 years. A mentoring relationship can be supported by the agency through to 18 years of age.
- I understand that it becomes more difficult to match children over the age of 13 years. As a result, my child may only receive group services.
- I understand that the time between application and program involvement could be between 3-12 months
- I understand that the Agency may ask to contact any professionals or agencies involved with the child
- My child agrees to be involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex
- My child does not have any presenting behaviours that could potentially put themselves or a volunteer at risk of harm
- My child will be able to understand child safety messages delivered during the Pre-Match Training
- My child is able to form a two-way relationship with a volunteer that is positive, healthy and respects boundaries
- My child is able to communicate verbally and manage self-care independently
- My child can function independently in a group program (initial programs within BBBSWE are offered in a group format)

INQUIRY FORM

Child's Name: _____ Gender: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

Parent/Guardian full Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Who is your child's Legal Guardian? _____

If you do not have sole custody of your child, consent from the other parent is required.

Have you ever applied to a Big Brothers Big Sisters agency in the past? Yes / No

Who referred you to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex?

How do you think Big Brothers Big Sisters can meet your child's needs?

Is your family receiving any other supports? Yes / No

If yes, from whom? (The Children's Aid Society, Regional Children's Centre, Counselling, etc.)

If you are interested in applying to BBBSWE for a boy, please answer the following additional questions.

Is the father living in the home? Yes / No

If not, how often does the father see the boy?

- Once a week Once every two weeks Once every three to four weeks
 Less than once a month Never

Is there any other adult male living in or out of the home who spends time with your son?
Yes / No

If yes, who? Describe the relationship between him and your son and the frequency of their contacts.

Once you have completed and submitted the Eligibility Checklist and the Inquiry Form, we will email you regarding the application process.

Thank you!