



## Sea Turtle Conservancy Action Ambassadors (STCAA) Application

*This program was funded by a grant awarded from the Sea Turtle Grants Program. The Sea Turtle Grants Program is funded from proceeds from the sale of the Florida Sea Turtle License Plate. Learn more at [www.helpingseaturtles.org](http://www.helpingseaturtles.org)*

**Program Description:** Sea Turtle Conservancy at the Barrier Island Center on the Archie Carr Refuge is inviting applicants to join the STCAA program for 11-18-year-old students interested in environmental issues that will train students in the skills necessary to make real change in their communities through advocacy and stewardship. This is a school year program with required monthly meetings on the first Saturday of the month from 10 am to noon, (except for those that conflict with holidays or Spring Break). Additional bimonthly meetings will be scheduled as needed that will be organized during times the majority of the STCAA students are available. Likely meeting times will be after school, evenings and weekends. Some of the meetings will be in-person and some will be on Zoom so we can engage a broader range of mentors. Students will learn about the issues facing sea turtles and their habitats, select an issue to address, design a project and make a request for change with the goal of improving sea turtle survival and habitat quality. The program will use the impactful UF IFAS Community Action Projects for the Environment (CAPE) model. Read more about CAPE here: <https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/cape/>.

Ten STCAA students will receive a \$300 stipend if they successfully complete the program and make a request for change in the community. The program runs from October through May. The in-person meetings will be at the Barrier Island Center, 8385 S. Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL, 32951.

If you are interested, please **fill out the application** below and return to Sarah Rhodes-Onodi, STC Community Stewardship Coordinator, [sarah@conserveturtles.org](mailto:sarah@conserveturtles.org) by September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please also email Sarah **two letters of recommendation** from two different adults who know you but are not related to you. These can be from teachers, coaches and extra-curricular program supervisors. These letters can be emailed directly to Sarah with Letter of Recommendation and your name in the subject line.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

School or Homeschool \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address\_\_\_\_\_City\_\_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name (if different than parent)\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone\_\_\_\_\_

**MEDIA RELEASE** is required for participation in this program. We will use the photos to promote the student's project and the program. Do you agree to give Sea Turtle Conservancy permission to use photographs and video of your students participating in the Sea Turtle Conservancy Action Ambassadors Program? This is a grant funded program and photos and video helps tell our success story. **Circle: Yes**

**LIABILITY RELEASE-** Having been informed of the activity to provide supervised recreation for youth, having read the above program description, I, the parent/guardian of the participant named, do hereby give my approval for participation in all of the activities as indicated in the program information packet. I assume all risks and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activity, transportation to and from the activities, and I do hereby release, absolve, indemnify, and hold harmless Sea Turtle Conservancy and Brevard County, its agents and employees, the organizers, and sponsors, any and all of them. In case of injury to the participant, I hereby waive all claims against the organizers, the sponsors or any of the supervisors appointed by them. I likewise release from responsibility any person transporting the participant to and from activities. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Sea Turtle Conservancy, Brevard County Parks & Recreation, the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners, its municipalities, Charter Officers, Brevard County School Board and their agents and assigns and any licensees of the aforementioned against any liability, loss, or other injury whatsoever caused by or arising out of my, or the participant's, appearance on the program or any utterance made by me, or the participant, on the program or the use of any materials furnished for use by me, or the participant, on the program including reasonable costs and attorneys' fees. Brevard County Parks & Recreation and Sea Turtle Conservancy permitting me, or the participant, to appear in their programs shall constitute its approval of this agreement.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contract:**

If selected, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (printed student name) agree to participate in monthly and/or bimonthly meetings of the Sea Turtle Conservancy Action Ambassadors. I understand that if I am sick or have another obligation arise that prevents me from attending meetings, I will notify the program organizers a minimum of 24 hours prior to the meeting. I will only receive a \$300 stipend through regular meeting attendance, consistent effort and program completion through the month of May 2026.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Commitment:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (printed parent name) support my young adult/teen's participation in the STC Action Ambassadors program and will provide transportation to in-person events and meetings when needed. I understand this is a commitment for the entire school year through May 2026.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Short Answer:**

- 1) Are you involved in any other environmental organizations? If yes, please share which organizations and what you do with the organizations.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) Are you involved in any other leadership programs? If yes, please share which programs and what you do with the program.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) What is your current career interest? How will participation in STC Action Ambassadors help you achieve your goals?

**STCAA Essay:** In one page or less please answer “Why do you want to join the Sea Turtle Conservancy Action Ambassadors?”