

In Camp Specialist

Job Description

Reports To: Director of Camp Programs and In Camp Coordinator



American Youth Foundation Mission

We dare people to discover and celebrate the very best in themselves and others; inspire them to explore diverse perspectives and complex challenges; and embolden them to live courageously, engaging their full capacity.

Job Location: Position is located at Merrowvista in Center Tuftonboro, New Hampshire. The Merrowvista site necessitates the ability to move through rugged terrain. Employees are required to live onsite for the duration of their employment including staff training and the two camp sessions.

Job Type: Full-Time, Seasonal. Employment begins June 13 and ends August 11. An optional Lifeguard training and certification course will be provided on site June 11-12.

Job Summary:

Merrowvista is an overnight, residential summer camp for youth ages 8-17. In Camp Specialists will be responsible for assisting In Camp Leaders (camp counselors) with the day-to-day management of a group of elementary and middle school campers. They will also teach activity blocks, assist the Activities team with recreational programming, and participate in backpacking and canoe trips. In Camp Specialists may live in a cabin with the campers at times or may live in communal staff housing. The In Camp Specialists will assist all cabin groups and will spend their time working across all areas of camp, helping whenever and wherever is needed throughout the daily schedule. In cases of emergency, absences, illness, terminations or early departures, the In Camp Specialist will be required to fulfill the role of In Camp Leader with all of its responsibilities including working in a co-staffing pair, living in a cabin with campers and being available to address campers at any time of the day or night.

Position Responsibilities:

- Plan and facilitate activity blocks throughout the camp day: swimming, boating, arts and crafts, sport and games etc.
- Sit with campers during all mealtimes, creating relationships with campers across the entire camp.
- Assist camper groups and In Camp Leaders with cabin clean up, rest hour, wake up and bedtimes etc.
- Participate in all camp programming: early morning and evening activities, daily reflections, special events.
- Co-lead campers on 1-3 day backpacking and canoe trips through rugged terrain to primitive campsites.
- Act as a substitute for an In Camp Leader in the case of an unexpected vacancy, fulfilling all duties of the In Camp Leader position.
- Live in a cabin with 4-12 campers at a time and maintain a positive communal experience.
- Ensure the safety of campers at all times, follow and implement all safety standards and assist campers in need throughout the day and night.
- Build relationships with campers to foster friendly, nurturing and age-appropriate group dynamics.
- Communicate daily with supervisor, attend staff meetings and receive guidance and instruction from coordinators and directors.
- This is not meant to be a complete list of all responsibilities. Other duties may be assigned.

Skills and Qualifications:

Required:

- Wilderness First Aid and CPR (will be provided during staff training).
- Minimum Age: 18 and completed one year of college or post-high school work or service experience.
- Support the organization's mission and vision with integrity, dependability, and accountability.
- Interact effectively with individuals and groups respecting social and cultural diversity. Establish and maintain appropriate professional relationships and interpersonal skills that contribute to a positive community.
- Demonstrate passion for serving youth, encouraging campers to explore through play and creating a space where youth feel included and a sense of belonging.
- Fully participate in and be present at all camp community activities, including staff training activities.
- Maintain effective mental, emotional, and social interactions in our youth-centered residential summer camp program.
- Ability to handle stressful situations appropriately, maintaining mental, emotional, and social resiliency needed for the job in a fast-paced, interactive environment.
- Use effective and appropriate self-care practices for maintaining overall wellness.
- Follow all guidelines and policies as described in the AYF (American Youth Foundation) staff manual.

Preferred:

- 1-3 years working or volunteering with youth in recreational or educational settings.
- Leadership experience: including student, sports, club, team and community leadership.
- Basic outdoor skills: hiking, camping, canoeing (training will be provided).
- A personality and character that exudes leadership, flexibility, trustworthiness, creativity, energy, inspiration and positivity.

Work Environment:

- Live onsite in communal housing for the duration of employment including weekends and evenings and be available 24 hours/day in case of emergencies.
- All meals are provided. Dietary accommodations will be made when needed.

Compensation:

- Weekly pay: \$600
- Employees will receive one day off for every six days worked.
- Wilderness First Aid and CPR training and certifications are required and provided during training.
- Lifeguard training and certification is not required, but will be offered before staff training begins.

Company Culture:

The AYF believes that how we act and interact reflects who we are as a community. In practice, at the AYF we value investing in youth, stewarding the environment, encouraging participants and staff to explore and develop their values and beliefs, belonging in community, and growing together.

Recognizing the full value of all, the American Youth Foundation affords equal opportunity for employment and program participation to all individuals on the basis of merit and/or eligibility without regard to race, color, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, familial status, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, military status, or any other basis prohibited by law.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by the individual(s) assigned to this position. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, and skills required for this position. This document does not create an employment contract, implied or otherwise, other than an “at will” relationship.

Updated: 11/15/2023