

Deerkill Day Camp Job Description

Job Title: **Group Counselor**

Reports to: Head Counselor/Director

Position Purpose:

Group Counselors are the primary caregivers for each camper working under the supervision of the Group Leader. The Group Counselor is responsible for planning, teaching, coordinating, and carrying out activities and guiding campers in their personal growth and daily living skills.

Essential Job Functions:

1. Assist in the direction, supervision, and organization of campers in their camper group within activities and throughout the camp in order to meet the intended camper outcomes.
 - Apply basic youth development principles in working with campers through communication, relationship development, respect for diversity, involvement and empowerment of youth.
 - Assures campers are properly supervised at all times.
 - Be aware of and implement safety guidelines.
2. Participate in the development and implementation of program activities for campers within the mission and outcomes.
 - Responsible for leading or assisting with the teaching of activities.
 - Actively participate in all program areas as assigned.
 - Provide for a progression of activities within the framework of individual and group interests and abilities.
 - Assist in program areas such as waterfront, nature, all camp activities, and arts and crafts as directed.
3. Maintain high standards of health and safety in all activities for campers and staff.
 - Provide the daily care of each camper within your supervision including recognition of personal health needs.
 - Ensure that campers receive their medications as directed by Health Director.
 - Be alert to campers and staff needs and assist them with personal and/or health problems; discuss with Health Director and/or Camp Director when appropriate.
 - Be alert to equipment and facilities to ensure utilization, proper care, and maintenance is adhered to; report repairs needed promptly to camp director.
4. Be a role model to campers and staff in your attitude and behavior.
 - Follow and uphold all safety and security rules and procedures.
 - Set a good example to campers and others in regard to general camp procedures and practices including sanitation, schedule, and sportsmanship.
5. Represent the camp when interacting with parents or community members.
 - Provide parents appropriate feedback and information as needed for their campers to have a successful camp experience.
 - Follow safety and security protocols when campers are in public while presenting a positive image of the camp.

Other Job Duties:

- Provide supervision for campers while campers are transported to and from camp or during scheduled field trips off of camp property.
- Contribute to verbal and written evaluations and communication as requested.
- Identify other tasks or duties that this position may be expected to perform but are not necessarily the primary focus of this position.

Equipment Used:

Counselors may be asked to use fire protection equipment and specialty program equipment.

Qualifications: (Minimum Education and Experience)

- Must be 18 years of age or high school graduate.
- Must be able to obtain or become certified in First Aid/CPR.
- Must submit health history record and examination form prior to first day of work.
- Ability to interact with all age levels.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Understanding of the development needs of youth.
- Ability to relate to youth and adults in a positive manner.
- Demonstrated knowledge and skill in program areas designated camp program areas.

Physical Aspects of the Job:

- Ability to communicate and work with groups participating (age and skill levels) and provide necessary instruction to campers and staff.
- Ability to observe camper behavior, assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques.
- Ability to observe staff behavior, assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate management techniques.
- Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to the activity.
- Physical ability to respond appropriately to situations requiring first aid. Must be able to assist campers in an emergency (fire, evacuation, illness, or injury) and possess strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of campers.

Some physical requirements of a general counselor position could be endurance including prolonged standing, some bending, stooping, walking long distances, hiking, climbing, and stretching; requires eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity to manipulate outdoor equipment and camp activities; requires normal range of hearing and eyesight to record, prepare, and communicate appropriate camper activities/programs and the ability to lift up to 50 lbs; willing to live in a camp setting and work irregular hours with limited or simple equipment and facilities; and with daily exposure to the sun, heat, and animals such as bugs, snakes, bats, etc.