



## **INTRODUCTION TO THE COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (C.I.T.) PROGRAM**

### **COUNSELOR IN TRAINING APPLICATION/INTERVIEW**

#### **Why Be a Counselor-In-Training?**

- Gain a behind-the-scenes experience of the camp community
- Establish job and character references
- Develop new skills
- Challenge yourself in regard to personal growth and expanded self-esteem through leadership opportunities
- Gain the ability/skill needed to work with children in a camp setting/community or any youth program
- Have fun helping kids
- Learn to work as a team

The camp environment provides a unique opportunity for youth to build leadership skills, particularly assisting camp staff with younger campers. The goal of the training program is to develop general skills of leadership that you can use throughout life at school, home and community (not just at camp). It is also an opportunity for former campers to transition from campers to counselor roles.

The training received and talents of C.I.Ts are put into action. Being a counselor-in-training is an important role at camp, in which leadership skills, good character, integrity, patience, and self-control are nurtured and developed. If you are accepted into the counselor-in-training program, being committed to the kids and being a good example is important and serves as a gift to the campers. By participating in the program, you will have the opportunity to give back and help create lasting memories. At the end of the summer, you will have hopefully gained experience and gained skills that you are able to build on or put into action in other life settings beyond camp. The C.I.T. program serves as a possible stepping stone to future employment with the Camps at Granite Falls.

#### **Counselor-in-Training Description:**

A C.I.T. serves as the right hand person to the camp counselors. The position includes helping to lead games, crafts, activities, songs, skits and tell stories. Counselors-in-Training help with supervising campers during their recreation times, meal times and assists with camp preparation, and clean-up. A C.I.T. serves as a positive role model for young children and helps to create a supportive camp community. They participate in all necessary camp activities.

## **CIT Responsibilities and Duties**

### **Responsibilities:**

- Set a good example by being a positive role model. Campers Come First!
- Assist camp counselors with daily activities, such as; crafts, sports, and various outdoor/indoor activities.
- Associate with campers NOT other C.I.Ts
- Be punctual, attend, and be an active part in all camp activities (Required Camp hours: 8:30am-4:30pm)
- Attend 100% of the sessions accepted in.
- Abide by all camp rules, policies, and procedures.
- Treat all campers equally.
- Be cooperative with the camp director, counselors, your peers, and the campers.
- Be enthusiastic and have a positive attitude.

### **Specific Duties**

- Help to secure and set up supplies and equipment before and after activities
- Consistently model good behavior, character, integrity, and adaptability
- Help camp staff get children to and from activities and various locations safely
- Contribute ideas to improve the program
- Report any unsafe actions by children or other CITs to camp staff
- Provide children with positive behavior
- Assist in keeping camp areas clean
- Assist with bathroom breaks
- Accept supervision and guidance
- Must work as a team regarding the sharing of duties
- Respect each camper with their uniqueness – within each group help create a community of people.
- Other duties as assigned by director or camp staff

### **Counselor-in-Training agrees to:**

- Stay with assigned group at all times unless otherwise stated by camp staff. If on an assigned task, the CIT shall not deviate from the task unless other directions are given.
- Listen to camp leaders and follow directions.
- Maintain personal care and wear appropriate camp attire as described below. CIT's arriving at camp without appropriate attire will be asked to leave the site.
- Respect others in what you say and do. CIT's shall never use inappropriate language while in the vicinity of the site.
- Refrain from using a cell phone during camp hours. CIT's may keep a cell phone while on duty but on vibrate or silent mode. CIT's found using a cell phone for any reason during camp hours, except for designated times, will immediately forfeit their right to carry their cell phone. Confiscated cell phones will remain in the camp office until the end of the day, when a parent/guardian may pick up the phone. CIT's needing to make an emergency phone call during the day will have the opportunity to do so, as long as, they notify camp staff.
- Greet parents and children at the beginning of the day and acknowledge them at departure.
- Be involved and engaged with campers throughout the entire camp day.
- Do their best to get to know campers' names on the first day of each week.
- Never use physical punishment, restrain or force a child.
- Be of good character.
- When swimming, follow pool rules and model good pool behavior. CIT's are expected to swim with the group.
- Keep campers' information confidential.
- Take care of your own personal belongings & keep belongings out of reach of children.
- Use equipment and supplies in a safe and appropriate manner.
- Teasing and bullying are not tolerated and are grounds for enrollment termination for counselors in training. Observing bullying and not communicating it to a counselor is just as bad as doing the bullying yourself.
- Never say or do anything that campers might perceive as teasing and/or bullying.
- Create a safe and fun environment.
- Notify a counselor if a child is injured...this includes broken or lost teeth, bruises, and cuts.
- Use appropriate chain of command when reporting problems.
- Never come to work while under the influence of any drugs or alcohol!
- Having fun while learning about the sport and improving individual and team skills is the idea behind sports at camp
- If there are any problems with a camper or patrons at Granite Falls, do not try to solve it, rather, refer them directly to Counselor, or Supervisor.
- It is expected that the CIT be at camp and ready to work by 8:30am.

**The following dress code is enforced to ensure staff consistently present themselves as professionals and proper role models while fostering a positive self-image.**

1. Granite Falls issued CIT shirt must be worn each day
2. You must wear closed toed shoes while attending the park
3. For safety reasons, dangling jewelry is prohibited
4. Swim suits for women must be one piece or tankinis.
5. Shorts, hats, etc. shall not have pictures of words implying or relating to profanity, vulgarity or sexual connotations
6. Failing to come to work properly dressed will be asked to leave the site.

When submitting this form, only return the CIT interview questions portion of this packet. Keep the CIT guide for future reference.



Granite Falls C.I.T. Information and Interview Questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size (please circle one): S M L XL

Emergency Contacts: Please list the names and best phone numbers of two people who will be able to pick up your child if you are unable to be reached in case of an emergency.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please describe any allergies or health problems: (include any chronic physical problems and pertinent developmental information.) If an allergic reaction does occur parents will be notified.

Doctor's Name and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_