



# YMCA CAMP ERNST SUMMER STAFF

## JOIN OUR SUMMER CAMP TEAM

### OUR STAFF

YMCA Camp Ernst is Greater Cincinnati's favorite overnight camp. Our programs for kids ages 5-15 combine safety, creativity, good clean fun, leadership activities, spiritual development and so much more. We are looking for top-notch staff members that will help us promote positive character values of honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility in young people through the healthy development of spirit, mind, body, and friendship.

### CAMP HISTORY

In 1928 Willard L. Wade was looking for a way to provide a positive summer experience for the young people of Greater Cincinnati. He shared his vision with United States Senator Richard P. Ernst, who donated funds for the first 100 acres. Since that time Camp Ernst has grown to 365 acres of rolling hills, a 26 acre lake, ponds, creeks and clearings. Currently, there are 2 swimming pools, a 25 horse ranch, 36 cabins and other buildings to accommodate more than 400 boys and girls ages 5-15.



### FACILITIES

The camp property is made up of 365 scenic acres of hardwood forests, playing fields, a horse barn and trails, and a 26-acre spring-fed lake. Camp's two creeks, two swimming pools, high and low ropes ensure that every day is full of exciting activities. Counselors sleep in a cabin with 10-12 campers and at least 1 other counselor. Bathhouses are located near each cabin area.

### SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Campers are divided into units based on the grade level they will enter in the fall. Each camper is assigned to a cabin with 10-12 other campers and two counselors, with whom they will participate in camp activities. Cabins will rotate together throughout four activities areas: the ropes course, the lake, valley rotations, and fine arts. Meals are served family style and cabins will eat all meals together at the dining hall. Evenings are filled with large programs, including games like capture the flag, dodgeball, the Camp Ernst Party, and opening and closing campfires.

### CAMP ACTIVITIES

With over 27 daily activities, there is something for everyone to enjoy at YMCA Camp Ernst. Activities include:



- Archery
- Fishing
- High Ropes Course
- Aquacycles
- BBs
- Fine Arts
- Low Ropes Course
- Water Trampoline and Blob
- Nature
- Mountain Biking
- Lakefront
- 100 ft water slide
- Sports and Games
- Tunnel Slide
- Canoes
- Banana Boat
- Arts and Crafts
- Swimming
- Kayaks
- Horseback Riding

### LOCATION

YMCA Camp Ernst is located in Burlington, KY. The camp is conveniently located 15 minutes away from the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport and just 25 minutes from downtown Cincinnati.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Lead Week (for all those hired into a leadership position): May 26-31.
- Orientation Week (mandatory for all Junior Counselor staff and older: June 2-7.
- Summer Dates: One week camper sessions run from June 10-August 11.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

Staff members must report to camp the Sunday of each week by 1:00pm for a staff meeting. Staff members will receive time off each day. Each staff member may leave after being checked out on Saturday by their unit leader, typically around 10:30am.

## EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

8:00am- Wake up	5:00pm- Dinner
8:15am- Breakfast	5:30pm- Mail Call
9:15am- Activities with cabin	6:30pm- Choice Activities
12:30pm- Lunch	8:00pm- Evening Program
1:30pm- Activities with cabin	9:30pm- Cabin time and devotion
4:30pm- Chapel	10:30pm- Lights Out

## STAFF EXPECTATIONS

Staff members are to uphold and abide by the mission, values, general rules, and authority of camp administrators. Staff members are expected to be on time and on duty attending to campers' individual needs, positive experience, and safety (physical & emotional). Staff is expected to respectfully help maintain equipment and facility for safety and positive image. Staff must abide by the YMCA Child Protection Policy including never being alone with another camper or staff member. We have a zero tolerance policy for alcohol or drugs on property; in addition, no alcohol or drug use is tolerated (including marijuana) during your contracted time with us whether on- or off-duty. All staff members are to be certified in First Aid and CPR. Each staff member will receive our code of excellence and employee handbook.

## STAFF POSITIONS EXPLAINED



### JUNIOR STAFF POSITIONS

#### E-team

Rising Juniors in High School. E-team members are responsible for running the camp activities under the supervision of their unit leader. E-teamers will be assigned to an activity team, which includes the Lifeguard team, Ropes Team, General Activities Team and Ranch Team, for their three week session.

#### Junior Counselor

Rising Seniors in high school. Junior counselors will be assigned to a cabin and under the guidance of their cabin counselors and junior counselor leader, will learn the important skills needed to be a successful camp counselor.

#### Ranch Junior Counselor

Rising Seniors in high school. Ranch Junior counselors will be assigned to a cabin and under the guidance of their cabin counselors, ranch staff and junior counselor leader, will learn the important skills needed to be a successful camp counselor and ranch staff member.

#### Junior Counselor Internships

Rising Seniors in high school. Junior Counselor interns can expect to gain leadership experience at camp, apply new skills in their assigned area, and learn how to best incorporate this experience into their resume. Both administrative and Activity based internships are available.

## COUNSELOR POSITIONS

### Cabin Counselors

Rising Freshmen in college and up. Cabin counselors will work as a team with their co-cabin counselors in leading the cabin group of campers through a successful camp week. Cabin counselors will facilitate relationship building between campers, play an active role in all camp activities, maintain paperwork, and act as the first level of intervention in camper and cabin issues.

## **LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

### **Camper Unit Director (Lakeview, Valley, and LITs)**

At least 21 years old. The camper unit directors are responsible for their assigned unit, including campers and staff. They will plan, schedule, implement, and evaluate all aspects of the program. Unit Directors will create a positive environment and will counsel staff and campers as issues arise.

### **Color Leader**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. Color Leaders are first a cabin counselor. Color leaders will take on additional responsibilities to support the unit leaders and the other campers and counselors within the unit.

### **Crew Leader**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. Crew leaders are counselors for our 15 year old leadership program, Crew. Crew leaders will work as a team with the other crew leaders guiding the campers through a successful two week session. Crew leaders are responsible for cabin life, crew duties including kitchen, bathrooms, and youth builder projects, planning and implementing programs, and ensuring a quality leadership experience.

### **Crew Unit Director**

At least 21 years old. The crew unit director is responsible for the entire crew program, including campers and staff. The crew unit director will plan, schedule, implement, and evaluate all aspects of the program. The crew unit director will create a positive environment and will counsel staff and campers as issues arise.

### **Evening Program Leader**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. The Evening Program Leader will be the master of all evening camp fun-planning and implementing big games, special evening programs, and choice activities for all camper units each week. The Evening Program Leader will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as assigned.

### **Facilities Management Internship**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. The Facilities Management Intern will assist in grounds keeping duties on the camp property, facility projects, custodial duties, and minor maintenance and repairs under the supervision of the Property Manager. The Facilities Management Intern will assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other duties as assigned.

### **Fine Arts**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. The fine arts team will plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects of the fine arts program (art, music, movies). They will organize a talent show for campers to show off their work from the week. They will also help capture the camp experience by taking pictures daily and uploading to our photo site. The fine arts team will assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **General Activities Leader (E-team leader)**

At least 21 years old. The General Activities leaders are responsible for the safe and efficient operation of all general camp activities and overseeing the completion of all assigned office duties. They are responsible for supervising the general activities team – ensuring the safety of all participants at all times, creating schedules, evaluating programs and staff. The general activities leaders will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **International Program Leader**

At least 21 years old. The International Program leader will help with the organization of international staff and campers. They will plan activities, organize weekend stays, and communicate with agencies and parents as necessary. The International Program Leader will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Lakefront Leader (E-team leader)**

At least 21 years old. The Lakefront leader is responsible for the safe and efficient operation of the waterfront program area, including all swimming and boating activities. They are responsible for supervising the lifeguard team, ensuring the safety of all swimmers and boaters at all times, creating schedules, evaluating programs and staff. The lakefront director will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Media Intern**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. The media intern will be responsible for capturing the camp experience through pictures and video and upload to our photo site. They will help maintain all social media accounts and blogs throughout the summer. The media intern will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Mountain Bike Leader**

Rising Sophomores in college and up. The mountain bike leaders will be responsible for the safe and efficient operation of the mountain bike program. They are responsible for ensuring the safety of all participants at all times, creating schedules, evaluating the program, and basic bike maintenance and upkeep of mountain bike trails. They will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Resource and JC Leader**

At least 21 years old. The Resource and JC Leader will support the Unit Directors and Junior Counselors. They will plan, implement, and schedule leadership and counselor skill lessons each week for all junior counselors. They will be a support to cabin counselors and will be available to help campers have a successful week. The Resource and JC Leader will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Ropes Leader (E-team leader)**

At least 21 years old. The Ropes leader is responsible for the safe and efficient operation of the high and low ropes course. They are responsible for supervising the ropes team – ensuring the safety of all participants at all times, creating schedules, evaluating programs and staff. The ropes leader will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

### **Senior Office Intern**

At least 21 years old. The office intern will help with daily office responsibilities, including mail, assisting with cabin assignments, care packages, and food ordering. The office intern will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

## **RANCH POSITIONS**

### **Ranch Counselor**

Rising Freshmen in college and up. Ranch counselors will counsel ranch camp campers and others through a successful camp week and assist in the care of and instruction of ranch programs. They will help maintain a clean, safe ranch facility and program, lead trail rides, facilitate relationship building between campers, play an active role in all camp activities, maintain paperwork, and act as the first level of intervention in camper and cabin issues.

### **Ranch Unit Leader**

The Ranch Unit Leader is responsible for the safe and efficient operation of all ranch program. They are responsible for supervising the ranch team – ensuring the safety of all participants at all times, creating schedules, evaluating programs and staff. The ranch unit leader will also assist in the implementation of the summer camp program and assist in other camp duties as needed.

## **HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?**

Feel free to call or email Megan Gierhart, Program Director, at [mgierhart@myy.org](mailto:mgierhart@myy.org) or 859-586-6181. If interested in applying, please fill out our online staff application found on our website, [www.myYcamp.org](http://www.myYcamp.org)