



DEER RUN CHRISTIAN CAMPS

Mail 3845 Perkins Road | Thompson's Station, TN 37179

E-mail CampDirector@DeerRunRetreat.org

Phone 615.491.3581

Web www.DeerRunRetreat.org or go to Camps.DeerRunRetreat.org

2010 RESIDENT CAMP SUMMER STAFF APPLICATION

Being a resident camp summer staffer at Deer Run Christian Camps is a unique opportunity to teach, encourage, mentor, guide, and lead children and youth through week-long camp experiences. **If you choose Deer Run Christian Camps as your place of ministry for this summer, you will have the ability to positively affect student's lives for the Kingdom of God. You will also gain unforgettable life experiences and make new friendships with other staffers.** These first few pages answer many of your questions and help you get started with the application process.

WHAT ARE DEER RUN CHRISTIAN CAMPS? (DRCC)

DRCC are exciting summer day camps and overnight camps which take place at Deer Run Retreat Center located 45 miles south of Nashville, Tennessee. All camps consist of worship, Bible study, relationship building, recreation, and opportunities to share your faith with campers.

Additionally, Deer Run Retreat hosts church groups for camps and retreats throughout the summer. Summer staff provide support for these camps and retreats in areas of recreation, food service, housekeeping, and general grounds upkeep during the weeks we are not programming our own camps.

RESIDENT CAMP SUMMER STAFF

Resident camp staff are Christian college-age students who:

- stay in cabins with the campers some weeks and in staff housing some weeks.
- serve elementary, middle school, and high school students in various ways and invest themselves in ministry to them.
- create an exciting, engaging environment for God to speak to each person attending camp.
- are committed to the overall success of the camp program by working alongside other staff members to create a fantastic experience for the campers.

Every part of Deer Run Christian Camps should be enjoyable for each camper, but ***the main focus is creating an environment for all who attend to experience God.*** That often means resident staff members will make sacrifices of their time and sleep to make sure the camps are the best they can be and that the campers have a great experience. This requires a high level of commitment, but yields immeasurable eternal benefits.

What are Resident Camp Summer Staff Responsibilities? (Some of these are assigned based on interest & skills.)

1. **Pray**—Pray consistently for individual campers, speakers, worship leaders, staff, and for God to change lives.
2. **Bible Study**—Participate in scheduled Bible study/devotion gatherings.
3. **One-on-One Ministry**—Most personal ministry opportunities fall into one of two categories:
 - a) Opportunities to share Jesus Christ with campers and guide them through a salvation experience or lead them to a deeper commitment to Christ.
 - b) Opportunities to listen, encourage, affirm, and respond to God's leading as you meet campers at their specific point of need.
4. **Recreation**—Assist in adventure recreation, organized games, water sports, and various other recreation activities as assigned.
5. **Kitchen Team**—Serve on a rotation basis to assist in the kitchen to prepare and serve food plus clean up.
6. **Administration**—Help with many administrative duties at camp from registration to organizing supplies, etc.
7. **Camp Clean Up**—Work with other staff to keep the campground clean. At the end of each week, all staff assist in cleaning bathrooms, rustic cabins, game fields, The Creekside Meeting & Dining Facility, and pavilions.
8. **Videographer**—Record & edit camp activities and provide a DVD compilation to campers of their camp experience.
9. **Photographer**—Photograph camp activities, create web galleries plus categorize photos for future marketing use.
10. **Sound/Audio-Visual**—Run sound, MediaShout, and setup stage lighting.
11. **Bible Study Leaders**—Prepare lessons and teach God's Word to an assigned group of campers. (Lessons will be creatively developed during training week using resources provided by DRCC.)
12. **Worship**—Lead worship in various ways and demonstrate an attitude of worship throughout the day while leading campers in daily activities.
13. **Night Life**—Plan, direct, and facilitate evening activities after worship.

WHAT IS TRAINING WEEK?

Training week attendance is mandatory for all Resident Camp Summer Staff members and takes place the end of May/ first of June. *(Exact dates and schedule will be given to you once you are accepted as a summer staff member.)*

Training Week is a time for the summer staff and leadership team to:

- get to know each other and build relationships,
- work on evangelism/counseling training,
- learn about the philosophy of Deer Run Christian Camps,
- receive job assignments & training, and
- become familiar with the facilities at Deer Run Retreat.

It is important that summer staff arrive at Training Week ready to learn and work hard. Having a positive attitude, a commitment to teamwork, a willingness to tackle new challenges, and the availability to pitch-in wherever help is needed are all necessary traits for summer staff.

WHAT ABOUT TRAVEL?

Travel to and from DRCC will be the summer staff member's financial responsibility.

If you are a Resident Camp Summer Staff who travels by plane, Deer Run staff will arrange to pick you up upon arrival and take you back for departure at the Nashville International Airport.

WHAT ARE THE SUMMER STAFF REQUIREMENTS?

- Be available during the last week of May through the first week of August. Resident staff will have a rotation of "off time" throughout their stay in order to rest and be renewed to perform at their best.
- Have a heart for ministry and a desire to be a servant leader.
- Provide 3 references regarding your Christian walk, character, and work ethic.
- Raise prayer support.
- Be willing to work hard with a positive attitude and sometimes with limited rest.

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

After praying, if you believe the Lord is confirming that you become a summer staffer at Deer Run Christian Camps, please read ALL of the following instructions carefully. There are a limited number of Resident Camp Summer Staff positions available. If you feel called to this type of ministry opportunity, please do not hesitate to get your application turned in.

1. To apply for a summer staff position, complete the following application and mail it to our office. Please **DO NOT** fax the application and please include a recent photograph. All information included will be held in the strictest confidence and be read only by those directly involved in summer staff selection.
2. The deadline for receipt of applications and reference forms is **February 5, 2010**. Applications are reviewed by our camp staff leadership and decisions will be made by March 5, 2010.

Interviews

If you are in the Nashville area, we will schedule a personal interview with you.

If you live outside the Nashville area, we'll arrange a telephone interview with you.

Reference Forms (Read this section carefully!)

References cannot be a relative and must be adults over the age of 25. Three reference forms are provided on the following pages: Personal Reference, Pastoral Reference, and Employer Reference.

Please do the following for your references:

- Print each form and give it to your references.
- Ask your references to complete the form privately and mail directly to Deer Run Retreat by **Feb. 5, 2010**.
- Provide stamped envelopes addressed to our office for each of your references. **Reference forms mailed by an applicant (instead of the reference) will result in that applicant being disqualified for summer staff consideration.**
- Encourage your references to mail their forms right away! **We cannot complete the review process until we have received all 3 reference forms.** If you would like to check on the status of your reference forms, feel free to call Fred Reyes, Director of Camps and Recreation, at 615-491-3581 or e-mail him at campdirector@deerrunretreat.org.

Note: Background checks will also be made on all applicants.

EDUCATION

School Name	Dates	Awards/Honors/Scholarships
High School _____	_____	_____
College _____	_____	_____
College _____	_____	_____

Check the appropriate box if you hold any of these certifications:

CPR (Expiration date: _____) First Aid (Expiration date: _____) Life Guard (Expiration date: _____)

CAMP EXPERIENCE

Have you attended a summer camp? Yes No

If yes, what camp(s) and years attended? _____

Have you been on staff at a summer camp? Yes No

If yes, where/year(s)/position(s)? _____

How did you find out about DRCC? _____

REFERENCES

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL ALL REFERENCE FORMS ARE RECEIVED.

Please list your references. References cannot be a relative and must be adults over the age of 25.

Personal Reference _____ Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Pastoral Reference _____ Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Employment Reference _____ Phone (_____) _____ - _____

SPECIAL SKILLS

Although none is required, please list any experience, special abilities, or training you have that would aid our efforts to host great camps. Examples are counseling, sign language, drama, adventure recreation, archery, photography, arts & crafts, musical talents (singing/instruments played), audio/lighting/video, team sports, organization, administration, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Do you have a valid drivers license? Yes No If yes, DL# _____ State _____

List any commercial endorsements (such as bus) _____

2. Have you attended an event at Deer Run Retreat before? Yes No

If so, when and with what group? _____

3. Is your girlfriend/boyfriend applying for a position at Deer Run Christian Camps? Yes No

4. Have you ever been arrested or charged for any crime involving a minor? Yes No

Have you ever been arrested or charged for any other type of crime? Yes No

If you answered yes to either of the above, attach a detailed explanation of the circumstances and outcome.

5. Have you ever suffered from, been diagnosed, been treated by a physician, or taken medication for an eating disorder, depression, mental illness, emotional problems, etc? Yes No If yes, please explain on a separate page.

6. Are there **any** reasons (like mental, physical, or emotional health, physical stamina, etc.) which might cause you difficulty in performing any of the functions of the operation of a summer camp program or any other job/career?

Yes No If yes, please explain on a separate page.

7. List the dates and procedure(s) of all medical operations you have had in the past:

8. What is your strongest character quality? _____

Weakest? _____

9. On a separate piece of paper, please type (do not handwrite) a few paragraphs explaining how you became a Christian. As you recount your story, be sure to include **the circumstances surrounding your conversion, who led you to the Lord, and the approximate date you became a Christian**. Then briefly share a few of your important decisions and experiences that have impacted your Christian life. Finally, let us know why you want to spend your summer with DRCC and how you feel you can positively impact students in this camp ministry.

Deer Run Christian Camps
SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FAITH

In the interest of maintaining the spiritual unity of Deer Run Christian Camps, we require all staff members to give signed agreement with the following statements:

Scripture: The Bible alone in its entirety—the Old and New Testaments—is God’s inspired Word.

God: God is the Creator of all things. He exists eternally in three persons—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ: Jesus Christ is God incarnate. He is fully God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, and fully man, having been born of the virgin Mary. He is the only begotten Son of God.

Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is fully God. From the moment of conversion, He indwells and is at work in all who believe and are born again. He seals believers in Christ for eternal life.

Man: Man is born with a sinful nature, and so is separated from God, under the penalty of death, and unable to save himself.

The Death and Resurrection of Christ: Jesus Christ, who was without sin, voluntarily died on the cross, shedding His blood to pay the penalty for our sin. He was raised bodily from the dead on the third day, and ascended bodily to heaven.

Salvation: Salvation—the deliverance from sin and its penalty of death—is a free gift of God’s grace, available to all but effect only to those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him as their Savior. All who are saved are spiritually reborn with a new nature and given eternal life.

Please read very carefully. A check box indicates your agreement with the statement. Confirm with your signature.

- I agree with the DRCC Statement of Faith. (If you disagree with any part, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.)
- I understand the information given by me in the application will be checked and that any false statement or omission of facts involving this application may result in rejection of application or dismissal from DRCC if already hired.
- I certify that I have read and understand the application information and the answers given by me to the foregoing questions and the statements made by me are complete and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
I authorize Deer Run Christian Camps and/or its agents, including consumer reporting bureaus, to verify any of this information. I authorize all former employers, persons, schools, companies, and law enforcement authorities, to release any information concerning my background and hereby release any said persons, schools, companies, and law enforcement authorities from liability for any damage whatsoever for issuing this information.
- I understand that the purchase or use of alcohol, tobacco, and/or illegal drugs is prohibited during my time of ministry service at DRCC (May 28, 2010–August 7, 2010) and will subject me to immediate termination. If the DRCC camp director requires, I am willing to submit to drug testing to detect the use of illegal drugs prior to and during my time of ministry service.
- I commit not to initiate or seek romantic relationships with any other Deer Run staff member or campers/guests during my time of ministry service at DRCC (May 28, 2010–August 7, 2010). I further understand that relationships considered inappropriate by the camp director or any sexual misconduct will result in my immediate termination.
- I understand that if I accept a summer staff position with DRCC, I will be committing myself to a position of service, and my behavior and attitude will be examined in terms of my modeling and ministry to others at all times while at Deer Run Retreat and in the community.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____



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**PERSONAL
REFERENCE FORM**

Name of person applying for Summer Staff _____

The summer staff at Deer Run Christian Camps plays a large role in creating a great camp experience. We are looking for people who are confident and knowledgeable in their faith as well as responsible, hard working, and outgoing. Please keep these things in mind as you take time to answer the following questions regarding the named applicant. These forms are confidential and will only be read by the camp directors.

The applicant should have provided you a stamped envelope addressed to Deer Run Christian Camps. Please **do not** return this form to the applicant after completion. Place it in the stamped envelope provided and mail to our offices at 3845 Perkins Road, Thompson's Station, TN 37179 by **February 5, 2010**.

Reference Info

Your first/last name _____

Daytime Phone Number (_____) _____ - _____

How long have you known the applicant _____

What is your relationship to the applicant _____

Describe the applicant in 5 words or less _____

Do you feel that the applicant is ready to be a spiritual leader for 1st–12th grade students? Explain.

Please rate the applicant on the following areas.

Circle the appropriate number.

	poor	average	good	superior
Hard-working	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Responsible	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Teachable	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Leadership ability	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Trustworthy	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10

	poor	average	good	superior
Good sense of self-esteem	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Focuses on tasks	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Follow-through	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Following instructions	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Promptness	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Bible knowledge	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Maturity/moral character	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Outgoing/energetic	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Friendly/personable	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10
Sense of humor	1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10

How does this person respond to authority figures? _____

Would you hire this person? (circle one) Yes/No Why? _____

Do you consider him/her to have a servant's attitude? Explain. _____

Does the applicant have any habits or traits that we should be aware of? If so, please explain. _____

Are you aware of any health, legal, spiritual, emotional, or psychological issues of any kind? If so, please explain.

List 3 strengths of the applicant _____

List 3 weaknesses of the applicant _____

By signing this form I am verifying that the information that I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____



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PASTOR OR YOUTH PASTOR REFERENCE FORM

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Daytime Phone Number (_____) _____ - _____

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EMPLOYER REFERENCE FORM

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