



DEER RUN CHRISTIAN CAMPS

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2012 CAMP SUMMER STAFF

Being on summer staff 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.** Following is information to answer questions you may have.

WHAT ARE DEER RUN CHRISTIAN CAMPS? (DRCC)

DRCC are exciting summer day camps, adventure day camps, and overnight camps which take place at Deer Run Retreat Center located 45 miles south of Nashville, Tennessee. All camps include 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.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A RESIDENT CAMP SUMMER STAFF?

Resident camp staff are Christian college-age students who:

- stay in cabins or bunkrooms 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 the students.
- create an exciting, engaging environment for God to speak to each person attending camp.
- may work 12 to 15 hour days loving and teaching campers and sharing Christ with them along the way.
- 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 individual assignments 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**—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 such as camper check-in and organizing supplies.
7. **Camp Clean Up**—Work with Deer Run staff to consistently keep the campground clean. Additionally, before being released for weekend time off, help clean the camp facilities and grounds plus staff cabins.
8. **Videographer**—Record, edit, and create a DVD of camp activities during each week of programmed camps. Duplicate the master DVD so each camper has a DVD of their camp week experience.
9. **Photographer**—Take digital photographs of daily camp activities during each week of programmed camps. Upload the images to an online web gallery and work in cooperation with Deer Run's Director of Communications.
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 and participate in 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 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 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 TO GET TO CAMP?

Travel to and from DRCC is the summer staff’s financial responsibility. If you travel by plane, Deer Run staff will pick you up at the Nashville International Airport when you arrive to begin your summer staff position and will take you back to the airport for departure when your position is over.

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

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

1. Complete the online application located at www.Camps.DeerRunRetreat.org/campstaff.

All information submitted by applicants and personal references will be held in the strictest confidence and only read by those directly involved in summer staff selection.

2. The deadline for receipt of applications and reference forms is **February 24, 2012**. However, please apply as soon as possible. Applications are reviewed by our camp staff leadership and decisions will be made by March 15, 2012.

Personal References

To check on the status of your personal references, call Fred Reyes, Camps and Recreation Director, at 615-491-3581 or e-mail him at CampDirector@DeerRunRetreat.org.

Interviews

If you are in the Nashville area, a personal interview will be scheduled.

If you live outside the Nashville area, a telephone interview will be scheduled.

Background Checks

Background checks are completed on all applicants.