

SINCE 1917

SKYLAND CAMP FOR GIRLS

P.O. Box 128 Clyde, North Carolina 28721

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Job Description

Job Title: Seasonal Camp Counselor

Reports to: Head Counselor

Skyland Camp for Girls is an independent camp that has been owned and operated by the women of the same family since 1917. Located in the Great Smoky Mountains of Western North Carolina, Skyland has catered to five generations of young women and is honored to share its rich history with future leaders.

Offering a wide variety of “traditional” camp activities, campers have extensive opportunities for creative and athletic achievement. Limited to just 65 campers per session, Skyland is committed to the individual camper, and the contribution that she can bring to camp life. For campers and staff, lasting friendships are formed, and memories of camp days are never forgotten.

A Skyland camp counselor is the most important person in a camper’s life. Setting the tone for the entire summer, and in some cases, for life, the counselor’s job is not to be taken lightly. Serving as a cabin counselor AND an activity counselor, the most successful candidates are those who are able to manage multiple priorities, create fun in an instant, maintain high energy and serve as a positive role model in camper’s lives. As a counselor at Skyland Camp for Girls, you will be a friend, confidante, teacher, big sister, maker of magic, soother of boo-boos, and brave bug wrangler! You will grow and gain confidence over the summer in ways you cannot imagine.

Counselors at Skyland fill roles as both cabin AND activity counselors.

As a cabin counselor, you will work with one or two other counselors to directly supervise 8-12 campers of the same or similar age group. The cabin counselors are primary caregivers for campers and serve as guides for personal development through positive role modeling, coaching and mentoring.

Activity counselors are responsible for planning, teaching and leading one (or more) of many camp activities. Camp activities include archery, musical theater, swimming, tennis, horseback riding, recycled arts & crafts, culinary arts, games and others. Each activity has a lead (or specialist) and at least one assistant ... or in some cases, two co-leads ... who are responsible for providing developmentally appropriate programs for each activity period.

Position Purpose:

Counselors are primary caregivers for each camper, guiding campers in their personal growth and development of daily living skills. Counselors are also responsible for planning, coordinating, and teaching camp activities.

Essential Job Functions:

1. Assist in the direction, supervision, and organization of campers in their living unit, 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.
 - ♦ Assure campers are properly supervised at all times.
 - ♦ Be aware of and implement safety guidelines.
2. Participate in development and implementation of program activities for campers within the Skyland (and summer) mission and outcomes.
 - ♦ Responsible for leading and/or assisting with the teaching of activities.
 - ♦ Actively participate in all program areas as assigned.

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Job Description: Seasonal Camp Counselor (Continued)

- ♦ Provide for the progression of activities within the framework of individual and group interests and abilities.
- ♦ Assist in any program areas as needed (swimming, crafts, archery, riding, etc.)
- 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.
 - ♦ Be alert to camper and staff needs and assist them with personal and/or health problems, and discuss with supervisor, nurse, or resident camp director when appropriate.
 - ♦ Be alert to equipment and facilities to ensure proper use, care, and maintenance is adhered to; report repairs needed promptly to camp director.
- 4. Be a positive role model to campers and staff
 - ♦ Ensure positive attitude, behavior and interaction with campers and staff at all times.
 - ♦ Follow and uphold all safety and security rules and procedures.
 - ♦ Set a good example to campers and others with regard to general camp procedures and practices, including sanitation, schedule, and sportsmanship.
- 5. Be physically capable of actively engaging in camp activities with campers. See Essential Physical Requirements of the Job listed below.

Other Job Duties

- ♦ Participate enthusiastically in all camp activities.
- ♦ Participate as a member of the camp staff team to plan, implement and supervise evening clubhouse events, special programs, overnights, and other all-camp activities and camp functions.
- ♦ Serve as positive Skyland representative during time away from camp.

Required Qualifications: *(Minimum Education and Experience)*

- ♦ Must be 18 years of age
- ♦ Must be able to obtain or become certified in First Aid/CPR.
- ♦ Ability to interact positively with all age levels.

Job Description: Seasonal Camp Counselor (Continued)

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- ♦ Knowledge of child and youth developmental stages and needs
- ♦ Previous experience working with groups of children (ideally, as a youth development professional in a camp or similar setting)
- ♦ Ability to relate to youth and adults in a positive manner
- ♦ Demonstrate knowledge and skill in assigned program areas
- ♦ Proven ability to maintain high levels of endurance, positive attitude and leadership abilities for the entire session

Relationships:

It is expected that relationships and interactions are respectful and that special attention is given to meeting the needs of each individual ... and creating harmonious relationships throughout the summer. Counselors are expected to create and maintain positive relationships with a variety of individuals, including, but not limited to:

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- ◆ Parents on opening and closing days, as well as with visitors during camp sessions
- ◆ Skyland staff team(s)
- ◆ Kitchen staff
- ◆ Program specialists
- ◆ Business and administrative staff

Equipment Used:

On the rare occasion that a counselor will be asked to use special equipment, it will include the following:

- Fire protection equipment
- Dishwasher
- Lining equipment for games court
- Power washer
- Golf-cart

Essential Physical Requirements of the Job:

- ◆ Ability to communicate and work with groups of various 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 model appropriate behavior-management techniques.
- ◆ Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Physical endurance to walk/hike long distances and engage in activities requiring prolonged standing, bending, stooping, eye-hand coordination, & manual dexterity to manipulate equipment.
- ◆ Normal range of hearing and eyesight to record, prepare and communicate appropriate camper activities/programs.
- ◆ Ability to lift up to 50 pounds
- ◆ Willing to live in a camp setting and work irregular hours with basic equipment and facilities.
- ◆ Withstand daily exposure to sun, heat and cool night temperatures.
- ◆ Comfort with exposure to animals including horses, dogs, cats, as well as other camp life, including caterpillars, bugs, snakes, etc.
- ◆ In the presence of campers, ability and willingness to eat food provided by the camp kitchen.

Skyland Camp is an EOE/Drug Free Workplace