

Red Lodge Camp 2019 Counselor Information

The primary function of this camp is to facilitate the growth and fellowship of each youth in connection with their faith in Jesus Christ as it relates to their whole life and specifically as it facilitates their participation in camp activities.

Qualifications and Responsibilities

1. Youth camp counselors must be dedicated Christians who are active members in good standing of an LCMS congregation.
2. Counselors must be willing and able to teach and behave in accordance with the doctrine and practice of the LCMS. Anything to the contrary will not be tolerated.
3. Counselors must be able to develop a positive relationship with young people, while maintaining appropriate boundaries. Your behavior is a reflection of Christ's love for your campers. As a role model, you are expected to exert a Gospel oriented Christian influence, and be alert and ready to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the campers.
4. Counselors are expected to be involved in all the daily activities with the youth under their oversight, and to be engaged in integrating all the individuals in the group activities. Special care is to be given in regard to health and safety. Favoritism, making special rules or exceptions for individuals or groups, is counterproductive and not beneficial to the whole camp. **Under no circumstances is a camp counselor to engage in a romantic relationship at any level.** It is essential that you be an example, by taking the lead and helping each camper in the following:
 - a. Keep the camp rules, fit in, and participate.
 - b. Develop a "cabin family" attitude including devotional life, **being in your cabin together at bedtime**, cleaning the cabin completely before departure.
 - c. Spending time individually with each person, developing God pleasing relationships, and applying correction and forgiveness in times of conflict.
 - d. Alert the camp director in the event of any health problem or injury.
 - e. Prevent cabin mischief, ridicule, abusive language, dangerous activity, etc.
 - f. Get up and be at the meals and activities on time.
5. It is imperative that counselors refrain from activities that detract from Christian harmony and the well-being and mission of the whole camp, **including exhibiting a romantic relationship, which competes with or detracts from your relationship with the campers**, complaining about rules, and controlling campers with anger, unkind words, or negative peer pressure (permitting dismissive and negative attitudes/language between campers is counter to developing Christian fellowship – John 13:34-35).
6. Bring any problems and suggestions to counselors' meetings and/or to the camp director. Be looking for ways the camp can be made better.
7. Camp Counselors may not have a record of child abuse or molestation. **All counselors over 18 must submit to a background check done through the MT District LCMS Office. All counselors under 18 must be a member of a LCMS congregation and must submit a letter of recommendation from their pastor along with their application. This must all be turned in by May 24, 2019. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION BY MAY 24, 2019 YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AT OR ON CAMP PROPERTY.**

8. A counselor for High School Camp should have graduated from high school two years ago and a counselor for 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Camp should be a junior in high school or older.

Rules for Camp

1. No one is allowed in a cabin of the opposite sex.
2. Other people's cabins are off limits.
3. Littering, playing with fireworks, use of tobacco or drugs (other than medication), and other potentially damaging behavior is not allowed.
4. Dress appropriately.
5. Do not go off on your own. Check with your counselor before doing any other activity outside planned group activities.
6. Actively participate and facilitate the participation of others in all camp activities.
7. Be in and remain in your cabin each night after "lights-out" time.
8. **ABSOLUTELY NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES.** (cell phones, i-pods, i-pads, video game systems, etc.)

Failure to follow the above will result in removal from your counselor duties and dismissal.