

CAMP UNALAYEE SUMMER JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Because Camp Unalayee is committed to serving a diverse population, we actively seek applicants for all positions who reflect that same diversity. People of color, LGBTQ+ and multilingual people are encouraged to apply.

All Staff at Camp Unalayee are required annually to satisfactorily pass a criminal background check and sign a criminal history voluntary disclosure form.

Counselor: Counselors supervise and provide care for the children at camp 24 hours a day. They plan and lead activities, campfires and backpacking trips. Counselors also help with the basic operations and maintenance of the camp. Counselors work in teams of two or three, and are assigned a group of about eight campers, all genders together. For half of each session, most campers and counselors are at our base camp in the Mosquito Lake basin. During the base camp days, counselors and campers are in their Camp Site for meals and sleeping. Counselors engage their campers in cooking meals over an open fire, eating together, playing games, doing chores and building community. In the morning and afternoon, counselors offer activities for the campers (such as arts & crafts, group games, rock climbing, canoeing, archery, dance and music) and in the evening, groups take turns leading campfires. Most campers and counselors are out on the trail backpacking for the other half of each session. Counselors must be very comfortable living outdoors and must be in excellent physical condition as they will be leading backpacking trips for 3 days or more and carrying a backpack that may weigh up to one third of their body weight. Counselors should arrive at Camp with good wilderness and trail skills (map, compass, & navigation, knot tying, tarp setting, fire building, etc.), though Unalayee does provide additional training. Some counselors will have the opportunity to lead one of our trail programs where they will spend 10 or more of the 15 days of Camp in the backcountry. Counselors must have current Wilderness First Aid certifications or better (we offer Wilderness First Aid prior to staff training).

Program Counselor: Program Counselors have much the same role as Counselors, but do not need the same wilderness and trail skills. Their focus is on making the base camp portion of each session fun, engaging, exciting, and rewarding for the campers. They lead more activities and provide more leadership and supervision in the Mosquito Lake basin. Because their days are busier during the base camp time, Program Counselors are not expected to go on backpacking trips and typically have more time off when the rest of the staff and campers are out on the trail.

Counselors and Program Counselors: Counselors and Program Counselors need lots of energy, patience, a good sense of humor, and skill in working with children and working with other adults as a team. They must be at least 19 years old (or 18 if they have participated in CampU's Counselor-in-Training program). Counselors and Program Counselors must have valid CPR/AED training. Staff Training is mandatory for both of these positions.

Unpaid Support Staff: Support Staff are un-paid positions intended to be mutually beneficial to the staff member and to Camp. These positions are available to those 18 years old or over who may have little or no wilderness, backpacking, or youth-work experience, but who have a commitment to learn and an eagerness to work hard and be part of the Unalayee staff team.

Support staff wishing to improve their skills or knowledge in a particular area will work closely with the Camp Director to ensure that the experience is meaningful and useful for both Camp and the staff member. Support Staff can assist and build their skills in specific areas such as arts and crafts, rock climbing, wilderness navigation, backpacking skills, child counseling and support, environmental education, camp maintenance, land stewardship or food management, or can generalize like an older counselor-in-training. Support staff may or may not work on a team with other counselors in a group or assist on backpacking trips. They are involved in leading activities; cooking, leadership, and chores with their group of campers; helping with general maintenance and upkeep of camp; and providing supervision support as needed. Support staff are not required to attend staff training (though it is encouraged to do so), CPR and wilderness first aid are not required, and support staff will never be solely responsible for supervision of children.

Other Positions: Most other positions at Camp Unalayee are open to returning summer staff members only. However, if you are highly experienced in one of these areas, and would like to apply for a position, please contact us at Director@GoCampU.com to discuss the possibility.

“Swiss Army” Counselor: Has the same duties, qualifications, time-off and training requirements as a Counselor but is not assigned a group of campers, lives in Central and is available to step-in for a sick or injured counselor if needed. During hikes: is available to lead a hike in place of a sick or injured counselor, is also available to assist with an evacuation if needed or do work projects. Ideally a Swiss Army Counselor is 21 or over and has a valid driver’s license.

Counselor-In-Training (CIT) Director: Only open to returning staff. Plans, designs, and runs our counselor-in-training/leadership training program. Teaches wilderness, counseling, backpacking, group-management, and conflict resolution skills to 16- and 17- year-olds. Evaluates the participants’ growth and skill development. The CIT Director should have experience with the Unalayee program, counseling, and experience in a supervisory position in outdoor settings.

Trinity Trek Leader: Plans route and programming of, does recruitment for, and leads an extended backpacking trip that spans at least two CampU sessions. Position involves planning and recruitment work throughout the winter and spring. Leader must be able to communicate with potential parents and campers before the camp season. Leader must have extensive prior backpacking experience and strong wilderness and navigation skills. They must be at least 19 years old (unless they have participated in Unalayee’s Counselor-in-Training program, in which case they may be 18.) They must have valid CPR/AED and Wilderness First Aid certifications. Staff Training is mandatory for this position.

Jump Into Summer Leader: This position is for returning staff members only, those who would like to lead a 10-day backcountry program but will not be working as a counselor the rest of the summer. They must have valid CPR/AED and Wilderness First Aid certifications. Attendance at the first couple days of Staff Training is required for this position, the hikes take place simultaneous to the rest of staff training.

Summit to Summit Leader: Plans route and programming of, does recruitment for, and leads an extended backpacking trip of 15-days (the entire session). Position involves planning and recruitment work throughout the winter and spring. Leader must be able to communicate with potential parents and campers before the camp season. Leader must have extensive prior backpacking experience and strong wilderness and navigation skills. They must be at least 19 years old (unless they have participated in Unalayee's Counselor-in-Training program, in which case they may be 18). They must have valid CPR/AED and Wilderness First Aid certifications. Staff Training is mandatory for this position.

Central Work Crew: Volunteer roles with a wide variety of responsibilities, such as camp maintenance (chopping firewood, maintaining water system, keeping the site clean, repairing equipment, helping distribute food, etc.), carpentry, helping out in camp sites, assistant food management, office and administrative support. Typically, these volunteers do not live with camper groups, though they may occasionally have meals with them. *Qualifications:* At least 18 years old. In good physical shape. Able to do basic camp maintenance projects.