

Camp Bethel Counselor-in-Training Application 2010

(for all new and returning CIT applicants)



Prerequisites: In order to serve in 2010 as a C.I.T. at Camp Bethel, you must...

1. C.I.T. must be fully enrolled in at least one 2010 camp week for which you are age-eligible; and
2. C.I.T.s are required to attend an overnight training on Tuesday, June 15 at 9:00am through Wednesday, June 16 at 8:00pm.

Directions:

1. BEFORE completing this application, read the following three documents: (a) 2010 (or most recent) Summer Camps Brochure at: <http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/summer.htm>; (b) Residential Summer Camp Counselor position description & Summer Staff Standards at: <http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/CampBethel2010PositionDescriptionPlusStandards.pdf>; and (c) Camp Bethel: Mission Statement and Summer Program Philosophy at: <http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/philosophy.htm>.
2. Give your 3 recommendation forms (included as page 3 of this packet) with stamped and addressed envelopes to those recommending you, so that they may mail/e-mail the forms directly to the camp.
3. Along with your application answers, send the following (printed or attached digitally) to Camp Bethel: (a) photocopy/scan showing your driver's license, if applicable; (b) photocopy/scan of any current certification cards (described in #26), if applicable; (c) a recent photo (digitally or printed) of you.
4. Complete this application and e-mail numbered answers to camp_bethel@yahoo.com or post-mail printed/written application and forms to: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CAMP BETHEL, 328 BETHEL ROAD, FINCASTLE, VA 24090.

Applicant Questions/Information:

1. The date you are completing this application.
2. Your full name (first, middle, last).
3. If under 18, your parent(s)/guardian(s) full name(s) with whom you live.
4. Your e-mail where we can respond to you.
5. Your Social Security Number.
6. Your date of birth.
7. Your home, permanent mailing address (number and street or PO Box, city, state, zip). This is usually your parents' address if you are a student.
8. Your home, permanent phone, including area code.
9. Your cell phone number (if applicable), including area code.
10. 2010 summer camp week for which you are fully enrolled as a camper (dates and camp title):
11. DATES YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER THIS SUMMER: CITs are invited to serve for 1-5 weeks and must be 2 years older than the oldest camper in a program. Please check http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/summer_camps.htm and list the dates you are available to serve:

For #s 12-25, expand your responses:

12. List your previous camping experiences (include name of camp, your position, dates there, location, highlights and favorite aspects of your work/time there). Previous camping experience is NOT required for volunteering.
13. List your related work, volunteer or leadership experiences (include name of institution, position, duration/dates, location, description of duties, and highlights and favorite aspects of your work/time there).
14. You will live with and lead a small group of children/youth each week from Sunday to Friday. Why do you wish to spend part of this summer volunteering in a Christian resident camp with children and youth? Explain your interest and commitment to children and youth.
15. Are you a member of a church? If yes, include the church name, denomination and location of church. Specific church membership is NOT required for volunteering.
16. Your ability to verbally express your own Christian faith will be an important witness to your campers. Briefly describe your faith journey, and include details about your personal devotional life, your involvement in Christian community, and your vision for your work towards Christian community at Camp Bethel.
17. Camp counseling involves a wide variety of skills, from fire building to creative play, bedtime stories and conflict resolution. Name the top 5 skills that qualify you to work as a camp counselor at Camp Bethel. Include additional skills in #23.

18. Camp counseling involves hard, physical work, long hours, professionalism, creativity, and a high-energy, positive attitude. Describe your work principles.
19. Caring for children requires an unselfish maturity and empathy uncommon among teens. Why should the Camp Director trust YOU to be his son's/daughter's counselor and care-giver?
20. Camp activities are focused in the outdoors (hiking, camp-outs, cookouts, exploration, etc.) and involve direct interaction with our 470 acre natural setting. As a volunteer camp counselor, you will be expected to lead many hikes per week, lead overnight camp-outs, and generally spend most of each week outdoors. Describe your comfort in the outdoors and your willingness to "get dirty" in order to give your campers an authentic outdoor Christian experience.
21. One of the greatest joys of volunteering at a Christian camp can also be one of the greatest challenges: living in close, intentional Christian community with your campers and other peers. How will you positively contribute to this community during your time here?
22. You have read the Residential Summer Camp Counselor position description & Summer Staff Standards at: <http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/CampBethel2010PositionDescriptionPlusStandards.pdf> and our mission statement and program philosophy at: <http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/philosophy.htm>. Do you understand (a) the position description & standards (volunteers are held to the same duties and standards as hired staff), (b) our mission statement and philosophy, and do you agree to fulfill these responsibilities, and fully support and enhance our mission and program philosophy? Do you have any questions regarding these documents and ideas?
23. Share any other information about yourself that might be helpful as hiring decisions are made. Include additional skills, experiences, languages, etc. Why should we choose you?
24. Upon reading through our program information, do you feel your abilities enable your full participation in all aspects of this highly demanding volunteer position?
25. VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE: Have you been convicted of any crime, felony, child abuse, or sexual abuse? (If yes to any, please explain.)
26. Mail copies of any/all CURRENT certifications for the upcoming summer (through August 7, 2010), including, but not limited to: First Aid and/or CPR through American Heart Association or Red Cross, Red Cross Lifeguard Training, Red Cross WSI, Basic Canoeing, Wilderness First Aid, and Wilderness First Responder.
27. IDENTIFICATION: Did you attach a photocopy/scan of your valid driver's license (if applicable)? If yes, give state and license number:
28. RECOMMENDATIONS: List names and phone numbers of the three persons to whom you have sent your forms (one Employer/Teacher reference; one Character reference; one Minister/Character reference).
29. You (and if you are under 18, your parent) must type or scan your and their signature and the date if you/they agree to the following statement: I verify the information on this application and grant the Outdoor Ministries Committee of the Virginia District of the Church of the Brethren and Camp Bethel permission to perform a comprehensive criminal background check and driver's license investigation.

Return application, forms and photocopies/scans to camp_bethel@yahoo.com or to: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, VA, 24090.

If you have any questions about the application process, call Jenny or Barry at (540) 992-2940 or e-mail at camp_bethel@yahoo.com.

Camp Bethel programs are open to everyone regardless of age, race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

Camp Bethel Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Recommendation 2010

328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, VA, 24090
(540) 992-2940; camp_bethel@yahoo.com; www.campbethelvirginia.org

Recommendation: (circle one) Employer-or-Teacher Character Minister-or-Character

Upon completion, please return to:
JENNY STEINBACH, Assistant Director
CAMP BETHEL, 328 BETHEL ROAD, FINCASTLE, VIRGINIA 24090
OR e-mail this information to Jenny at camp_bethel@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your cooperation in this recommendation process. The person named below has applied to volunteer on a camp staff for up to four weeks this summer with children and youth in the summer camp ministry of the Virgina District of the Church of the Brethren. We anticipate that during our 8 weeks of programming, approximately 890 campers will participate in our residential and adventure camping programs that will be offered on our 470 acre facility in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Our activities are focused in the outdoors, and we depend upon rugged, high-initiative counselors and volunteers to creatively engage the campers in experiential Christian education in our natural setting. Your perceptions of the applicant will assist in our evaluation, acceptance and training of prospective volunteers. Please list your phone number and e-mail address so that we may clarify or expand on your responses if necessary.

If you have questions, call Jenny Steinbach (Assistant Director) or Barry LeNoir (Camp Director) at (540) 992-2940, or e-mail camp_bethel@yahoo.com. Thank you again for your assistance.

To be completed by the C.I.T. applicant:

C.I.T. APPLICANT'S NAME: _____

To be completed by the reference (use more paper if needed):

1. WHAT IS YOUR RELATION TO THE C.I.T. APPLICANT?

2. HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN THE C.I.T. APPLICANT?

3. WOULD YOU RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE OF THE C.I.T. APPLICANT AS A CHRISTIAN SUMMER CAMP COUNSELOR? WHY OR WHY NOT?

4. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN OUR DECISION?

Name of person completing this form: _____

E-mail: _____; Phone: _____

Signature of person completing this form: _____; date: _____

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