

Dear Flat Rocker and Family,

Thank you for your interest in our CIT/WIT program! The purpose of this letter is to help applicants and parents understand the current incarnation of the program and our expectations. The intent of this program is to gain some basic experience and life skills. Yes, if you train well then you are arguably a good candidate for a JC position next summer. However, a camp staff position is not for everybody. Great campers do not necessarily make great staff. As a C/WIT you stand on a bridge between your memories as a camper and your future adulthood. At all times, you are a program participant and expected to adhere to the guidelines of our program, our camp and our camp's directors.

Here is an outline of the program:

- Applicants must submit a camp registration, C/WIT application, three references, and complete a phone interview. Not everyone who applies will necessarily be chosen.
- If possible, please submit your camp registration and C/WIT application together.
- We encourage C/WITS to be age 16 by June 1st. This way you would be age 17 the following summer. This is a requirement for a Junior Counselor position.
- International campers interested in the C/WIT program are encouraged to apply at age 17. This way you would be age 18 the following summer. This is an eligibility requirement for a work visa.
- While at camp, C/WITs will have two directors who supervise your program. During the first week of the program C/WITs will live together with either their female or male leadership director. During the second week you will be "apprenticed" to a cabin. This assignment will ultimately be decided by camp's directors. As a group you must also execute an all-camp activity.
- C/WITs will have pre-determined workshops during the day. For the remaining periods, CITs choose from the clinics offered that session. WITs will head to the ranch.
- C/WITs might be invited to volunteer after completing the program on an as-needed basis. This is not a goal of the program. Camp does not hire 16 year old counselors. Please understand that camp is liable for volunteers, in a very real sense. Any C/WITS in a volunteer status are program participants and are extending training.

Availability to volunteer is primarily dependant upon a need for additional hands. Currently camper enrollment can change right up until the day before a session. This is tough to swallow and I get that. I was a CIT once! I know what it feels like to invest so much in camp and want to do more. I check the "magic 8 ball" when I'm charting how many staff I need. It always tells me to "Ask again later." I would prefer every session was wait-listed so I could better predict our needs. Ours is not a perfect world. Not

volunteering will never invalidate a strong performance!

This program is an often overlooked opportunity. It's hard not to dwell on your connection and memories as a camper. Where else have people grown up at their job? If accepted you have the chance to grow your perspective, step out on the bridge, and consider this period in your life. This transition is bigger than camp. It's an opportunity to affect your path into adulthood. That path may not lead to camp but I hope you will be better prepared for the journey.

Steve Heiny - Camp Director

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