



# CAMP COUNSELORS CANADA

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INTERNATIONAL WORKING ADVENTURES

BE MORE THAN JUST A TOURIST



**CCUSA**



# Work with Canadian Youth

Camp Counselors Canada gives you the opportunity to work at a Canadian summer camp for 8 to 10 weeks from June - August. Each year thousands of children aged 8 – 17 head off to one of over 800 residential or day camps (similar to the US style summer camp).

Canadian camps are located in some of the most pristine natural areas of the world. They have sports fields, cabins, dining halls, arts and crafts areas, lakes and / or pools, campfires and a whole lot more. At camp, you can either be a Camp Counselor where you will become a mentor, teacher, best friend, role model and leader to these campers (children) or work as Support Staff and be the backbone of camp.



For more info and to apply visit [www.ccusa.com.au](http://www.ccusa.com.au)



## CCUSA Offers Tremendous Value:

- ✓ A confirmed placement prior to heading to Canada!
- ✓ A one-on-one placement service. We make every effort to place you at a accredited camp that fits your personality, interests and skills. You have the CCUSA reputation, support and seal of approval behind you!
- ✓ A straightforward and affordable program
- ✓ A wage – Earn Pocket money at camp up to CAN\$1,700 for 9 weeks
- ✓ Accommodation and 3 meals a day at camp included at no additional cost.
- ✓ Access to great flight prices through our preferred travel agent STA Travel.
- ✓ An easy application process and informal one on one question and answer interview.
- ✓ Arrival orientation in Canada, includes 2 nights of accommodation, preparation for camp sessions, assistance with securing your Canadian bank account, social insurance number and may include Red Cross and CPR certification.
- ✓ CCUSA in conjunction with our Canadian partner can assist you with obtaining your Canadian Working Holiday visa or Temporary Work Permit.
- ✓ CCUSA and our Canadian partner are here to help you every step of the way; whether it be prior to leaving or once in Canada. We have all experienced working and travelling overseas.
- ✓ Four offices in Australia and over 100 local area representatives, give you the local service you need.
- ✓ Free Information Meetings held in cities near you. Through videos and discussions with our staff and past participants you will discover what working, playing and travelling around the Canada is really like and have all your questions answered about the program.
- ✓ Online International Staff Handbook – which will give you all the information you need to know about life at camp, arrival orientation, taxes, social insurance number, bank account and much more.
- ✓ Mobile phones and SIM cards at exclusive CCUSA discounted prices.
- ✓ Option to stay in Canada and do the Work & Play Canada Winter program or extend your stay after the summer and work at another camp from September – November.
- ✓ Optional Work and Travel Insurance that can be extended up to 18 months or upgraded.
- ✓ Twenty-four hour emergency assistance hotline once in Canada.
- ✓ Valuable life-long skills, independence, confidence and maturity that will broaden your horizons and your future career.
- ✓ The opportunity to meet people from different countries and make friends to last a lifetime. Do it now, while you still can!

*"It has been great to get away to a new place where you don't have to worry about anything and just relax and have a lot of fun with the kids. It has been great to do all of the activities and I love the canoe trips."*

*Geraldine*

## What will I earn?

As a first time participant your Pocket Money varies according to your age, experience and qualifications, but you can expect to earn between:

\$1,600 - \$1,800 (Canadian) for your placement as a Camp Counselor.

\$1,800 - \$1,900 (Canadian) for your placement as Support Staff.

Camp Directors are encouraged to pay supervisory staff a higher salary. If you work longer than 10 weeks you will be paid approximately \$30-\$40 per day for each day over 10 weeks.

# Your Role as a Camp Counselor

As a leader, role model, friend, instructor, big brother or sister, cheerleader and hero to campers ages 7 - 16, your primary responsibility is overall supervision. You are there to ensure their well-being and safety, and to make their camp experience more fun and rewarding. As a Counselor you will be with campers 24 hours a day. Counselors make sure the campers eat meals, attend and participate in day and evening activities, clean cabins, and even get to sleep at night.

## During the day

Different camps have different staff requirements and you will be hired to either lead or assist campers of all ages in one or more activities. Your willingness to try everything and anything will be a great asset.

## You do not need to be an Olympic athlete!

The good news is that in many cases, the skills and knowledge you have gained as a hobby, playing on local teams, in a club with friends, or at university will be enough experience to teach, or assist in that activity at camp so all of these skills should be included in your application. But remember this is a job you are applying for so you need to have skills and experience to teach or assist plus you need to be flexible and willing to help out where ever you can.

# Your Role as Support Staff

A popular and affordable choice for you as a student, Support Staff members enjoy all the wonderful benefits of working at a summer camp (such as free meals and accommodation) without living or working directly with the campers. The backbone of camp, Support Staff help to keep camp operations running smoothly and efficiently. Your job at camp can range from preparing meals and cleaning the kitchen, to office work, maintenance and grounds work.



## Camp Counselors Skills

- Arts & Crafts**
- Batiking
- Cartooning
- Ceramics/Pottery
- Graphic Arts
- Jewelry Making
- Leather Work
- Metal Smithing
- Nature Craft
- Painting
- Photography (Film/Digital)
- Rocketry
- Screen Printing
- Sculpture
- Stained Glass
- Tie-Dyeing
- Woodworking

- Land Sports**
- Aerobics
- American Football
- Archery
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Fencing
- Field Hockey
- Fitness Instructor
- Football/Soccer
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Lacrosse
- Martial Arts
- Pilates
- Riflery
- Roller Hockey
- Rugby
- Skateboarding
- Softball
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Yoga

- Outdoor Activities**
- Abseiling/Rappelling
- All Terrain Vehicles
- Backpacking
- BMX Cycling
- Camping
- Go-carts
- Hiking
- Horseback Riding English
- Horseback Riding Western
- Low/High Ropes
- Mountain Biking
- Orienteering
- Outdoor Cooking
- Rock Climbing
- Scouting
- Trekking
- Trip Leader

- Performing Arts**
- Choreography
- Circus
- Costume/Set Design
- Culinary Arts
- Dance
- Drama
- Fashion/Clothing Design
- Guitar
- Magic
- Music
- Piano
- Radio Amateurs
- Singing
- Stage Direction
- Theater/Stage Manager
- Video Production

- Waterfront**
- Boat Driving
- Canoeing
- Crew Rowing
- Diving
- Fishing
- Jet Ski/Sea Doo/Personal Watercraft
- Kayaking
- Kneeboarding
- Lifeguard Surf/Pool
- Rowing
- Sailing
- Scuba Diving
- Surfing
- Swimming
- Wakeboarding
- Waterskiing
- Whitewater Kayaking
- Whitewater Rafting
- Windsurfing

# Camp Accommodation

Most counselors will be living in a cabin or platform tent with a co-counselor and 8 to 10 campers of similar age. Sometimes cabins have their own bathroom, but it is also common for several cabins to share a large centralized bath and shower facility. Support Staff generally have their own housing with co-workers and do not share a cabin with children.

# Camp Food

Staff and campers eat in what is normally called the Dining Hall. Depending on your camp, you get your food from a "buffet" or served "family style" in which platters of food are brought to your table. In most cases you will eat with your campers and co-counselors. Aside from a place to eat, the dining hall is a fun, lively and noisy part of camp with lots of talking, chants and singing.

Support staff will either sit at their own table or eat before or after the campers.



- Degree/Certification\***
- American Red Cross (ARC)
  - Boat License
  - Child Care
  - Community Services
  - Counseling
  - CPR/First Aid
  - Disability Studies
  - Lifeguard
  - Nursing
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Outdoor Education
  - Personal Training
  - Physical Education
  - Religious Studies
  - Social Work
  - Special Education
  - Sport Coach
  - Sports Science
  - Swim Instructor
  - Teaching
  - Water Safety Instructor (WSI)
  - Welfare Studies

- Specialty Skills**
- Disability Practical Experience
  - Farm Animal Care
  - Farming

\* Must be currently studying or have a degree/certificate.

## Support Staff Skills

- Cleaning**
- General Cleaner
  - Housekeeper
  - Janitor
  - Sanitation
  - Laundry
  - Rubbish Removal

- Kitchen**
- Chef
  - Assistant Chef
  - Dishwashing
  - Food Server
  - Waiter/Waitress
  - Kitchen Assistant
  - Food Prep

- Office Skills**
- Accounting
  - Camp Store/Canteen
  - Filing
  - Secretary
  - Telephone
  - Word Processing/Data Entry/Computers

- Maintenance**
- Building Repairs
  - Driver
  - Grounds Work
  - Handyman
  - Mowing Lawns
  - Night Watchman
  - Painting
  - Stable Work

# A Typical Day

## Camp Counselors

Working at a Summer Camp is an experience you will take with you for the rest of your life! You will be challenged daily by the long hours, rustic living conditions and camp food. Mix that with campfires, canoeing on clear lakes, playing all day long and watching young children flourish, and this will be a memory you will cherish.

You will be required to be a dedicated worker. You will have fun, guaranteed, but remember it is not a holiday. Except for your time off, you'll spend 24 hours a day with an active group of children, or if Support Staff, you will follow a set work schedule. A cheerful, hardworking attitude is a must!

You will be expected to follow strict camp rules for campers and staff: no smoking, no drinking of alcoholic beverages and a nightly curfew. It is important to remember that you are a role model for children and you must behave accordingly.

All in all, the joy of summer camp more than offsets the hard work. Please do not be discouraged by the negatives you may read or hear about. Camp is a wonderful place to spend your summer.

## Example of Camp Counselor Schedule

- 7:00 Wake up, get dressed, maybe a swim
- 7:30 All camp gathering – flag raising, thought for the day
- 7:45 Breakfast
- 8:45 Cabin Inspection, cabin cleaning, prepare for day
- 9:00 Activity Period – land based activities usually
- 10:30 Activity Period – water based activities
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Rest Hour – quiet time for letters home, reading a book...
- 2:30 Activity period – land based or water based activities
- 4:00 Waterfront – free swim and boating
- 5:30 Free time
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Specialty programming – hobbies, activity planning time
- 8:00 Evening activity
- 9:00 Snack and bedtime (younger campers)
- 9:30 Snack and bedtime (older campers)

## Support Staff

During the summer, you are entitled to a minimum of 24 hours off per week, of which 12 hours must be continuous during daylight hours. Support Staff are not allowed to work more than 10 hours in any one full day and/or 60 hours in one full week.

You will be expected to follow strict camp rules for campers and staff, such as no smoking, no drinking of alcoholic beverages on camp, a nightly curfew, etc.

All in all, the joy of summer camp more than offsets the hard work. A cheerful, hardworking attitude is a must!

## Example of Support Staff Schedule

- 6:15 Breakfast preparation
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:30 Clean up and preliminary lunch preparation
- 10:00 Free time
- 11:15 Lunch preparation
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Clean up and preliminary dinner preparation
- 14:00 Free time
- 17:00 Dinner preparation
- 18:15 Dinner
- 18:45 Clean up
- 19:30 Off for the day  
(Kitchen staff example)



# Camp Types

## 1. TRADITIONAL PROGRAM CAMPS

- Independent / Privately owned camps
- Co-ed or single-gender camps (often with a brother/sister camp nearby)
- Service campers from middle to high-income families, where many campers return year after year.
- Offers a variety of sports, creative arts and special activities as the foundation of their programs. They also may include wilderness tripping programs that involve canoe and hiking trips on many Canadian lakes and rivers.

## 2. RELIGIOUS CAMPS / YMCA CAMPS

- Christian (Catholic, Anglican), YMCA or Jewish faith camps ranging from conservative to liberal philosophies.
- Co-ed camps that service low, middle and high-income families of different faith.
- Offer a wide variety of traditional activities, Outdoor Adventure, Waterfront, Land sports, Arts & Crafts, Performing Arts within the framework of promoting positive life values
- Daily prayer, worship and religious study are not the major camp activities; however, they may be a part of daily camp life.

## 3. GIRL SCOUT CAMPS

- Scouting experience is not necessary however the camps will follow the traditional philosophies of the Girl Guides and Scouting
- Girls-only camps that service middle income families
- Offer a wide variety of traditional activities, Outdoor Adventure, Pioneering Waterfront, Land sports, Arts & Crafts, Performing Arts.

## 4. WILDERNESS CAMPS

- Many residential Canadian camps have strong wilderness tripping programs.
- Wilderness camps will take groups of campers away from camp for extended periods of time to travel by canoes on Canadian lakes and rivers.
- Co-ed camps that service low, middle and high-income families of different faith.

## 5. UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN CAMP

- Many organizations throughout Canada provide a summer camp program for youth from challenged backgrounds and living conditions.
- Through scholarship programs, community donations, fund raising and social services, these camps are able to offer an experience that many young people may never get the opportunity to experience.
- Campers of many different ethnic, social and racial backgrounds attend these.
- Co-ed camps that service low – middle income families.
- Offer a wide variety of traditional activities, Outdoor Adventure, Waterfront, Land sports, Arts & Crafts, Performing Arts.

## 5. CAMPS FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- Prior Experience is not necessary.
- Camps that offer programs for physically disabled individuals will offer adapted activities and facilities suited for the clientele with special considerations making it possible for them to enjoy a wide range of camp activities.
- Staff will assist with daily instruction as well as with eating, dressing and bathing.
- Several camps offer adult programs as well.

## 6. CAMPS FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS

- Prior Experience is not necessary.
- Children with learning disabilities and/or developmental delays are situated in smaller camp groups to allow for special time and attention to help them achieve their fullest potential.
- Programs are adapted to provide for their uniqueness and specific needs.
- These camps will include campers with ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Non Verbal Learning Disabilities, Downs Syndrome and many other recognized Learning Disabilities.
- Several camps offer adult programs as well.

## Apply Today if You:

- ✓ Enjoy working with or being around children.
- ✓ Are outgoing, cheerful, adaptable, flexible, and reliable.
- ✓ Are prepared to work for at least nine weeks from May / June to August.
- ✓ Will be at least 19 years old by June 1st 2010.

If you meet these requirements and are ready for a once in a lifetime experience then CCUSA's Camp Counselors Canada program is for you! Visit [www.ccusa.com.au](http://www.ccusa.com.au) to apply. After we receive your application, we will contact you to schedule an interview.



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**CCUSA**