

November 1, 2019

To: Older 4-H Members (aged 14 and up!)

From: Stephanie Femrite, 4-H Youth Development Specialist

It is time to apply for one of the camp counselor positions for 2019. I have enclosed an application for you to use. Camp will be held at Camp Cedar Crest, off of Route ZZ north of Mexico. The counties we will be camping with include Audrain, Shelby, Clark, Knox, Lewis, Marion, Pike, Ralls, and Scotland.

Any teen between the age of 14 and 18 (as of 12/31/19) can apply for camp counselor. Applications are due in your local extension office by Friday, December 20

We have a limited number of counselor positions for Junior Camp (campers aged 8-11) and for Teen Camp (campers aged 12-14). Counselors are selected based upon a variety of criteria, including age, meeting our balance for gender, geographical location, whether they have applied previously to be counselor and other factors. Prior camping experience is NOT required!

If you have questions about the counselor position or the application process, please let me know.

The following dates are tentative, but ones you should be aware of. If you foresee significant conflicts to your attending most of these planning sessions, you may not be in a position to serve as counselor. Participation in planning is the key to your success as a counselor and to the success of the entire camp.

- February 28-29, 2020: An overnight session at First Christian Church, Hannibal
  - We will begin the evening of Feb 28 and wrap-up by 11 a.m. on Feb 29
- May 2, 2020 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Junior Camp will be held May 31-June 3 (Counselors report to camp at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 30)

Teen Camp will be held June 3-6 (Counselors report to camp at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2)

I have also included a copy of the counselor agreement. We will talk more about this at our first planning meeting if you are accepted. It may be helpful, though, for you and your parents to look this over as you apply, so you will know some of the expectations of counselors.

Note: There are two different applications in this packet.  
Choose the one appropriate for you! New Counselor?  
Returning Counselor?



(over)

## **CAMP COUNSELOR ROLES & EXPECTATIONS**

The University of Missouri 4-H Youth Development Program coordinates 4-H educational events and activities, such as 4-H Camp. All participants (adult and youth) must observe the following guidelines for conduct:

1. I will participate fully in all sessions. If I cannot attend a planning session, I will directly notify either Patty Fisher or Stephanie Femrite.
2. I will participate in at least one of the two camp planning sessions unless other arrangements are made with either Patty or Stephanie in advance.
3. I will work with the UM Extension Service staff to develop and conduct a quality program for the 4-H campers.
4. I will show respect for property and facilities used during the camp and planning sessions, and assume financial responsibility for any damage I cause.
5. I will observe the established schedule, including being in my own cabin at the announced curfew.
6. I will use appropriate and courteous behavior. I will not swear or use obscene gestures. All participants, guests, chaperons, and visitors will be treated with respect and common courtesy.
7. This event should bring about a “natural high.” I will not use alcohol, stimulants, or non-prescription drugs.
8. I will help develop, and observe all basic camp rules and agreements, including in part:
  - No tobacco or tobacco related products, including electric cigarettes or vapor.
  - No fireworks, matches or lighters.
  - No boys in the girl’s cabins and vice versa.
  - If you break it, you bought it. Cost of repairing damage to cabins will be shared equally by the residents.
  - Observe camp boundaries.
9. I will serve as a positive role model. By my example, I will help individuals learn to respect and cooperate with others. I will teach others to participate with honesty and fair play.
10. I will work as a “team player” for the good of all people. I will work cooperatively with other staff for the good of all involved.
11. I will provide a safe environment. I will not harm youth or adults in any way, whether through harassment, physical force, verbal or mental abuse, neglect or other harmful experiences.

*I understand and accept the responsibility for following the above guidelines, and understand that failure to do so could result in dismissal from 4-H Camp and my role as camp counselor. Further, I accept financial responsibility for damages to property or materials, travel costs, and/or program costs which might result from violation of this agreement.*

4-H Camp Counselor Application – First Time Counselor Applicants  
2020

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (if you check it regularly): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the camp sessions would you like to be considered for? (check one or both)

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior Camp: May 31-June 3, 2020 (plus evening of May 30)

\_\_\_\_\_ Teen Camp: June 3-6, 2019 (plus evening of June 2)

Have you *applied* to be a counselor at this camp before this year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in serving as 4-H camp counselor?**

**What skills would you like to learn more about that would help you prepare for your role as counselor?**

**Do you have special skills, abilities or interests that would be useful as a counselor? If so, what?**

**In your opinion, what is the most important skill or ability a camp counselor must have? Explain why?**

**Think back over all your years as a camper (4-H or other, if you attended camp), and describe one incident where you witnessed a counselor exhibiting true leadership. Tell what they did and how it showed leadership.**

The first camp planning session will be February 28-29, 2020, an overnight. To the best of your knowledge, is this a date you can commit to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application due in your local Extension office on or before December 20**

Returning 4-H Camp Counselor Application  
2020

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (if you check it regularly): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the camp sessions would you like to be considered for? (check one or both)

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior Camp: May 31-June 3, 2020 (plus evening of May 30)

\_\_\_\_\_ Teen Camp: June 3-6, 2019 (plus evening of June 2)

How many years have you served as a camp counselor? \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in serving as 4-H camp counselor?**

**What training or information do you need to better prepare you for your role as a counselor?**

**List at least three things you learned as a counselor, or since you returned home from being a counselor, that would make you a better camp counselor this year?**

(over)

**In your opinion, what is the most important skill or ability a camp counselor must have? Explain why?**

**What skills, talents, and personal traits do you have that would make you a good counselor?**

**Think back to your last year as a camp counselor. List the things you feel you could have improved upon as a counselor, and explain what you would do/or have done to address these things.**

The first camp planning session will be February 28-29, 2020, an overnight. To the best of your knowledge, is this a date you can commit to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application due in your local Extension office on or before December 20**