

FAQ- Summer Positions

What is the summer schedule?

The overall camp schedule includes a 10 day training, 3 camp sessions and a few days of clean up. Sessions are 16-19 days long.

Session 1: Female campers, ages 11-13, program levels 1 & 2

Session 2: Male campers, ages 11-13, program levels 1 & 2

Session 3: All gender, ages 13-15, program levels 3 & 4

What is an average day look like?

Each session is a combination of outdoor trips, days on the City Kids ranch, and day trips, as a result almost no day at City Kids looks the same! Some days look like a “classic” summer camp- with a rotation of activities, sports, and games. Some days are day trips for hiking, white water rafting, or visits to town. Each session includes 2 short outdoor camping or backcountry trips for youth. City Kids is a combination of summer camp and backcountry trip leading.

What age groups does City Kids work with?

City Kids works with ages 11-18. Campers are typically between 11-15.

What types of trips will I lead?

The majority of City Kids trips are 2-4 days long. Program staff are responsible for leading canoeing and backpacking trips, technical climbing and whitewater sports are contracted to professional guides. There is one extended trip (16 days) in the City Kids program for 3rd year participants.

Will I live in a cabin with kids?

Yes, anytime there are same- gender participants at camp, program staff live in a small cabin with groups of 4-8 campers. Staff have a small room, sometimes shared with another staff member separate from campers. When not living with campers, staff members will be in shared housing with other employees. Housing is rustic - wood cabins with electricity and water.

What is the ratio of staff to campers?

4:1 for middle school participants and 8:1 for high school participants. However, in most circumstances, trips have more staff than required for ratios. In addition to counselors and trip leaders, there are many other adult staff at City Kids, including kitchen staff, ranch staff, and support staff. The camp is managed by a leadership team of 4-6 full-time employees during the summer.

What is training like?

Training is a 10 day paid experience facilitated by City Kids. Training includes a 4-5 day backcountry trip, training on the City Kids camp property, and facilitating a mini-camp for an 8th grade youth group from Colorado. Training focuses on outdoor trip leading, youth development, daily systems, community development and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

How does time off work?

Each program staff has one 24 hour break during a camp session, and four days off between camp sessions. Small breaks during the day are scheduled some days and not possible other days due to the natures of backcountry leading.

I have to take some time off in the middle of the summer, is this possible?

Generally, no. Please make City Kids aware of scheduling conflicts early in the interview process, for the right candidate exceptions may be possible if dates align with time off.

What is the staff team like?

City Kids strives to hire a diverse staff team in the summer. Staff are a range of ages but typically in their early 20's, with some pursuing a college degree. Staff come from across the country and have a range of experiences leading in the outdoors and working with youth. Summer positions are entry level positions in to the organization. City Kids camp has gendered programming, and the seasonal staff team reflects that in a split between female-identified and male identified youth. City Kids welcomes all genders, and encourages inquiry's about our practices for non-binary or transgender people. City Kids strives to hire a racially diverse staff and works to create a staff team that reflects our youth population. Staff teams vary year to year in terms of experience and diversity.

Do many staff return?

Many CK staff members continue to work for City Kids after their first summer. Many program counselors and trips leaders work 1-2 years full summers and the return to work specifically with an age group they know or go on to work full-time. The primary seasonal staff team for the first two sessions of camp is typically composed of our newest staff members.

Is there full-time work available at the end of the summer?

Occasionally, there is a full-time role available during the fall – seasonal staff are invited to apply. Many of our full-time staff began at City Kids in a seasonal role, however a full-time position is not guaranteed to be available. Seasonal school year positions in DC are available annually.

Are pet's allowed?

Pets are not allowed for seasonal employees, exceptions possible for *current* year round residents.

Is there a stipend for transportation?

At this point, there is not a transportation stipend for staff. Once hired City Kids staff will help provide guidance on best travel and connect carpooling staff members.

Is there a stipend for required certifications?

City Kids will reimburse for up to \$350 in training acquired for the position with prior approval. Reimbursements will be processed once a staff member arrives in the summer.

Should I bring a car?

It's recommended for staff to bring a personal car if possible. The City Kids ranch is 20 miles outside of Jackson and within driving distance of spectacular outdoors area. Regular transportation is not provided to and from town, and public transportation is limited. While many staff carpool and share rides, it is not reliable.

Is there internet or cell service?

The City Kids property is located in Hoback Canyon, outside of Jackson, WY. While we are only a short drive from town, cell service is not available. The closest service is 4 miles away. City Kids has internet, but at times it is slow or unreliable and does not extend to the full property.