

Oz-Some 4-H Camp Counselor Application and Code of Conduct

Completed form due to Extension Office no later than April 23

Note change: Camp Counselors must be 14-18 years of age (as of January 1, 2020).
Counselor Fee is \$50 – Do not pay this until you are selected

All Counselor Applicants must attend Training on June 15 & 16

Name _____ Real Age _____

Address _____
(Street, Road) (City) (Zip Code)

Grade _____ Your Phone () _____ Parent's phone _____
(As of May 2020)

T-Shirt - Adult Size (circle one): S M L XL XXL

E-mail - **that gets checked regularly** _____

Counselor Objective

Serving as a counselor at 4-H Camp is a rewarding experience. The personal growth and sense of accomplishment that counselors gain by providing educational experiences for campers is significant.

Counselor Agreement

I realize that as a counselor at Rock Springs 4-H Center for the Oz-Some 4-H Camp group, I will:

- ✓ **Must attend the Camp Counselor Training.**
- ✓ Be responsible for a group of 8-9 4-H campers from our camp group. This group will be of similar grades. This responsibility will be 24 hour per day while at camp, beginning when campers start arriving and ending when all campers leave camp.
- ✓ Give permission to submit your name to for a background check from the Department of Child Abuse/Neglect

This responsibility will include, but not be limited to the following:

- ✓ Getting campers to scheduled activities on time.
- ✓ Being with campers at all times! The only exception is counselor meetings.
- ✓ Being accountable for the camping group's behavior. Acceptable behavior and discipline policies will be discussed during counselor training and meetings.

Your cost for camp will \$50. Do not pay at this time. If selected, you can pay your fee later.

Counselor Questions

Have you served as a camp counselor before?

CHECK: _____ 4-H, Years _____ Other, Years _____

Explain _____

Have you attended camps before?

CHECK: _____ 4-H, Number of times _____
_____ Other, Number of times _____

Explain _____

What camp experience would you prefer? Please rank the following from 1st preference and 2nd preference:

Rank: _____ Full Time Rookie Counselor (both sessions June 16-19)
*** (Preference given to those who can attend both Rookie sessions) ***
_____ Regular Camp (June 16-19)

What Grade level group do you prefer? (ie, 3rd, 4th, etc.) _____

Optional: List someone you would like to be a co-counselor with _____

Would you be able to be a “solo” counselor if necessary? _____

What previous experience do you have working with youth, small groups specifically? (i.e., church, school, community, etc.)

Why are you interested in serving as a camp counselor? Why should you be selected to serve as a counselor this year?

Have you read the camp counselor guidelines and job description? _____. After doing so, what is the role of a camp counselor? How can you fulfill this role?

What are some of the reasons for having 4-H Camp, besides fun?

What counselor responsibilities would you like to learn more about in the counselor training session?

For experienced counselors – what suggestions do you have for more advanced training for you? What session would be you be willing to help teach?

If selected, you will need to submit information for a national background check. The online link will be sent to you to complete ASAP. If you do not complete it in time by the deadline, you will not be eligible to be a camp counselor.

Committee Selection: Please rank the following committees 1 thru 4 (All selected Rookie Counselors will be on a Rookie Committee)

_____ Manners and Grace Committee

_____ Spirit Committee – leading simple activities and songs while campers are waiting for meals

_____ Campfire Planning Committee

_____ Camp Closing Ceremony Committee

COUNSELOR RELEASE/AGREEMENT FORM

Message to Parent and Campers

All reasonable efforts are made by the OZ-Some Camp Association to provide a safe, secure environment at 4-H Camp. As part of that effort, parents and counselor applicants are asked to jointly complete the following information.

COUNSELOR CODE OF CONDUCT:

Attending camp and being a camp counselor at Rock Springs 4-H Center is a **privilege; not a right**. Camp provides a wonderful opportunity for exploring new interests, making new friends and learning to make decisions as a member of a group. To maximize this experience, each counselor is expected to abide by the camp rules and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Please read and sign this agreement at bottom of page.

As a camp counselor, I agree to:

- ✓ Follow the guidance of the agents and Rock Springs staff.
- ✓ Attend all scheduled camp activities and be on time. I will communicate with an agent if problems arise.
- ✓ Use language and manners that will bring respect to myself and Kansas 4-H. Bad language will not be tolerated.
- ✓ Treat Rock Springs 4-H Center, including the wildlife, with respect.
- ✓ Follow and enforce curfew and quiet time hours.
- ✓ Not bring water guns, water toys, radios, tape players, electronic games, weapons (knives, guns, etc.) matches, lighter, cell phones or offensive magazines.
- ✓ No cell phones are allowed. If a counselor or camper is found to have a cell phone, he/she will be sent home.
- ✓ Abide by the OZ-Some Camp Group Dress Code:
 - Items of clothing advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or drugs, or that have vulgar, obscene or offensive messages **are not appropriate**.
 - Undergarments should be worn but not seen.
 - Hats, caps, and visors are not appropriate inside buildings and at meals.
 - Shorts should be appropriate for school (Example: 3-5 inch inseam).
 - Shirts, blouses, tops and t-shirts cannot expose the midriff, the back, or cleavage. Tank tops are allowed as long as they are not revealing. See through shirts are not acceptable. Shirts cannot be altered.
 - One piece swimsuit is preferred.
 - When leaving the swimming pool area everyone must have a shirt on.
 - All wardrobes are subject to approval of adults in charge.
- ✓ Forfeit my camp counselor experience, if I am arrested and/or convicted of a DUI, MIP and/or other drug or alcohol-related offense after being selected as a camp counselor.
- ✓ Contact my Extension Agent to let them know I have been arrested and/or convicted of a DUI, MIP and/or other drug or alcohol-related offense.
- ✓ Attend Camp Counselor Training, background check, and fulfill my Camp Counselor time commitment.

PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby give my permission to K-State Research and Extension to use any photography of my child taken by the official 4-H activity or 4-H conference photographer for programs, promotions or for any other use by K-State Research and Extension. I also recognize that these photographs are the property of K-State Research and Extension.

Signature (parent or guardian if under 18)

Date

I have read the Camp Counselor Agreement and completed the application to the best of my ability. I also understand that the decision to not behave acceptably or carry out my responsibilities in the accepted format could result in my being sent home at my own and parents' expense, i.e., transportation.

(Parent or Guardian Signature)

(Counselor Signature)

OZ-Some Camp

Title: CAMP COUNSELOR

Purpose: Provide guidance and leadership for 8-9 campers in a safe, nurturing environment.

Responsibilities of Duties:

1. Complete the camp counselor application, arrange for interview time, and sign camp counselor code of ethics.
2. Attendance and participation in camp counselor training.
3. Welcome campers to camp and make them feel safe.
4. Create a team atmosphere among campers while participating in activities.
5. Observe campers and be aware of their health (checking health card and taking campers to nurse if necessary), safety and well-being. Report to camp nurse if necessary.
6. Know where campers are at all times and be present during critical times.
7. Observe the camp rules.
8. Initiate group decisions.
9. Follow camp schedule.
10. Communicate with agents any behavioral problems, sickness, etc.
11. ½ payment of camp registration (depends on your Extension Unit).

Skills/Knowledge Needed:

- Junior Counselor experience (preferred not required)
- Communication skills both written and verbal
- Organizational skills
- Ability to work with youth
- Listening skills
- Sensitivity to campers' personalities, differences, and needs
- Ability to motivate youth
- Small group decision-making skills

Time Required:

- 2 day camp counselor training
- 4 days Rock Springs 4-H Center

Resources Available:

- Previous camp counselors
- OZ-Some Association members
- County/District Extension Agent
- Counselor Application

Benefits to Volunteer:

- Camp fee provided
- Meet new friends
- Work with youth
- Leadership skills gained
- Opportunity to role model

Expectations Resulting from this Position:

- Fun, safe, camp environment
- Campers' feeling safe
- Self-confidence