



San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

River Camp Counselor Positions

General Description

River Camp is a summer day camp program held along the San Joaquin River. There are currently six River Camp programs: **River Camp Young Explorers, River Camp Adventurers at Scout Island, River Camp Academy at Sumner Peck Ranch and Sycamore Island (two programs serving local school districts), River Camp Rangers at Owl Hollow, and River Camp at Firebaugh.** For full descriptions of all the River Camp programs, please visit our **Pre-Application Information Guide**, linked under [River Camp 2025 Staff Positions](#). Counselor applicants apply to River Camp programs in general, and may be offered a position at any of the six programs, or asked to work at multiple programs during the camp season. While we will ask about preferences during the interview process, placement at the indicated preferred program site is not guaranteed.

River Camp programs typically include environmental education activities, wildlife habitat exploration, swimming and canoeing, games, arts and crafts, songs, and free time. Specific activities and counselor duties vary by program. River Camp programs are conducted entirely outdoors. Applicants should be physically capable of comfortably working outside for up to 8 hours each day. Training on safety, working with youth, and specific camp activities is provided during the training session, spread over four weeks in May and June. River Camp staff report directly to the respective River Camp Director and are responsible for conducting the daily activities at camp.

COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES

- Supervising groups of 10-14 campers (ages pre-K through thirteen, site dependent) and overseeing basic group management for that group
- Leading basic games, songs and activities, arts and crafts and providing supervision during water activities
- Shadowing/learning environmental education activities with the goal of leading them independently
- Assist with site set up and site clean-up as needed throughout the camp day
- Providing leadership for and direction of Junior Leaders (high school volunteers)

All positions assist with materials management and maintenance, site organization and cleanliness, and may be asked to perform other duties related to the daily implementation of camp programs by the respective Camp Director.

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ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS & QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be age 16+ and have valid authorization to work in the US; if entering Junior or Senior year of high school in fall 2025 a work permit provided through high school is required
- Live Scan (electronic fingerprinting) required for those over the age of 18
 - *If hired for the River Camp Academy program with the Fresno Unified School District, additional fingerprinting through the school district will be required*
- DMV report required on hiring for those with current Driver's License
- Ability to maintain a positive learning environment
- Ability to work well with parents, other adults, peers and children
- Ability to stand, stoop, kneel, crouch, walk, swim, use hands/fingers (dexterity) and lift up to 40 lbs
- Ability to work outdoors in heat (sometimes exceeding 110°F)
- Previous successful experience working with children
- Interest in the outdoors and water activities; experience with watercraft/canoes preferred
- High energy and a positive attitude
- Knowledge and/or appreciation of conservation and the natural world
- Spanish and/or Hmong language ability preferred

TIME COMMITMENT

All River Camp Counselors **are required to attend 75% of staff training**. All staff will receive the date of July 4th off. Time commitments will vary at each individual program; information listed below may be subject to change. Staff may request a **maximum** of one-week personal time off (vacation, etc.) during the camp season, though requested time off may not be granted.

River Camp Young Explorers – 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, M-F, June 23rd-August 8th

River Camp Adventurers – 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, M-F, June 23rd-August 8th

River Camp Academy - 8:15 am – 4:15 pm, dates TBD

River Camp Rangers– 8:15 am – 4:15 pm, M-F, June 23rd-August 8th

River Camp at Firebaugh – 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, M-F, June 23rd-August 1st; additional days as necessary

Starting Rate: \$16.50/hour

To Apply

- **New staff** complete a brief Google Form ([click here to access](#)) to indicate their interest. After River Parkway Trust staff review each form, selected staff will be invited to attend a group interview, date TBD, prior to an individual interview taking place.
- Upon completion of the group interview select individuals will be invited to participate in individual, in-person interviews.

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- Physically or electronically submit a cover letter* describing your skills as they apply to the listed Responsibilities and Qualifications, a resume, and a completed [Job Application](#). Please be sure to provide both a phone number and e-mail address for the references listed in the application.
- **Return staff** complete a job application, cover letter, and submit a resume. They do not need to fill out the Google Form or attend the group interview.

Applications may be submitted to:

San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Attn: River Camp
11605 Old Friant Rd, Fresno, CA 93730

Or electronically with the subject line "River Camp Counselor Application" to Katie Kincaid at kkincaid@riverparkway.org

Applications are open until filled.

**Please note: River Camp positions are extremely competitive. Please take a moment to review one of the many online guides [detailing how to write a cover letter](#) and [how to write a resume](#) before submitting your completed application packet.*

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