



## River Camp Support Counselor

### General Description

The San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust (Parkway) strives to incorporate Inclusive Practices across all organizational areas. Support Counselors assist in providing equal opportunities for youth of all abilities to safely participate in River Camp programs. Campers ranging from preschool through middle school will have the ability to choose their level of engagement throughout the River Camp experience with the support and supervision of River Camp Support Counselors.

Support Counselors will report directly to the Inclusion Coordinator of Parkway. Support Counselors are responsible for providing 1:1, 1:2, or 1:3 supports as needed for campers with disabilities. Individuals in this position are expected to maintain constant vigilance with their assigned camper(s) for the week and are expected to accompany them in pursuing their interests at camp. Support Counselors report directly to the Inclusion Coordinator but will also be supervised by Site Directors, dependent on weekly placement.

### Support Counselor Responsibilities and Duties

- Support Counselors will receive camper profiles each week outlining the abilities and interests of their assigned camper(s). Support Counselors are to review these profiles with the Inclusion Coordinator prior to the camper's arrival before the start of camp to clarify any questions and ensure a clear understanding of each camper's needs and support requirements.
- Collaborate with the Inclusion Coordinator and other camp staff to create an inclusive, safe, and supportive camp environment for all participants.
- Communicate effectively with the assigned camper's family and the Inclusion Coordinator to ensure a consistent and individualized support plan.
- Actively engage with and interact with all campers in your group throughout the week to promote socialization, participation, and ensure an inclusive camp environment. Support Counselors will advocate for the inclusion of all campers and ensure activities and the camp environment are inclusive and accessible to all.
- Assist River Camp Counselors with group management, engagement, and leadership as necessary.
- Accompany campers on various activities and outings, ensuring safety, enjoyment, and engagement based on the child's chosen level of participation.
- Monitor and assist assigned camper(s) throughout the day, including providing physical, emotional, and behavioral support as needed.

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- Prioritize assigned campers' needs and safety while also providing the group counselor and other campers support when/if time allows.
- Provide toileting services to campers when needed as indicated by parents or guardians. Toileting services include full diaper changes or assistance using the restroom.
- Promptly communicate any important information regarding assigned camper(s) to the Inclusion Coordinator to ensure timely support and coordination.
- Communicate with parents/guardians during pick-up and drop-off to provide updates on the camper's day and behavior, when applicable.

### Essential Functions and Qualifications

- Minimum 2 years of college or 4 years of experience working with children strongly preferred.
- Enthusiasm and passion for working with children of all abilities.
- Passionate for all children having equal outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Experience working with special needs populations (i.e. intellectual/developmental delays, physical impairments).
- Experience working with/supervising children ages 3 - 14 years old.
- Comfortable being outdoors for 8 hours each day knowing you will likely get wet, become dirty, and be required to sit on the ground.
- The willingness to change diapers and assist campers with using the restroom and changing clothing/swimsuits.
- Understanding the possibility of receiving physical and/or verbal aggression from campers.
- The ability to work outdoors in variable weather conditions and on uneven terrain, and have the ability to lift up 40 lbs., including children.
- Reliable transportation is required. You may be required to submit a written transportation plan, situation dependent.
- **CPR/First Aid Certification (the Trust will provide training for any employees uncertified upon hiring).**
- *All individuals working with children must submit to a DOJ background check through LiveScan service upon receiving a conditional offer of employment if over 18.*

### Time Commitment

- Specialized training for Support Counselors will take place in the weeks leading up to River Camp.
- All River Camp staff (including Support Counselors) **are required to attend 75% of staff training.**
- Staff may request a **maximum** of five days personal time off (vacation, etc.) during the camp season, though requested time off may not be granted.
- Schedules are dependent on inclusion camper participation and registration, therefore full-time work over the 8-week camp season is not guaranteed.
- Time commitments will vary at each individual program; information listed below maybe subject to change.
  - **River Camp Young Explorers** – 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, M-F, June 22<sup>nd</sup>-August 14<sup>th</sup>
  - **River Camp Adventurers** – 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, M-F, June 22<sup>nd</sup>-August 14<sup>th</sup>
  - **River Camp Rangers**– 8:15 am – 4:15 pm, M-F, June 22<sup>nd</sup>-August 14<sup>th</sup>

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Starting Rate: \$17.50

To apply please submit a cover letter, resume, and [completed application](#) to the e-mail [awagner@riverparkway.org](mailto:awagner@riverparkway.org) with the subject line "Support Counselor Application." Position open until filled; final applications due by March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

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