

Position Announcement Roger Williams Park ZooCamp 2012

POSITION TITLE: Counselor-in-Training (CIT)

PURPOSE: CITs are teen volunteers within our Zoo Crew program. Available to teens in 8th – 12th grade, the CIT position provides extensive experience in the organization of camp programs, teamwork, public speaking and group management. CITs will acquire professional job experience while earning volunteer service hours and assisting Roger Williams Park Zoo in its mission to educate and inspire.

RESPONSIBILITIES: CITs will assist the counselors in all aspects of camp. They are expected to help with the morning drop off/afternoon pickup of campers, contribute to the creation and organization of environmental activities and help with the general operation of camp and supervision of campers. CITs are required to lead a craft, activity or tour by the end of their fourth week at ZooCamp. In the event of a counselor's absence, a CIT who has shown superior responsibility may be asked to lead the group activities for the day. CITs are role models for ZooCampers and representatives of Roger Williams Park Zoo. CITs must be able to commit for at least five **full** weeks during Summer ZooCamp.

QUALIFICATIONS: CITs must have an interest in the conservation of the natural world and enjoy working with children. They must be enthusiastic, ready to work with others and willing to learn. CITs must show confidence, independence and a genuine interest in creating a safe, happy learning environment for ZooCampers. All applicants must be willing to be interviewed by the ZooCamp Director and available to assist with either Winter (2/21 – 2/24) or Spring (4/16 – 4/20) Camp as a working interview if advanced from preliminary interview rounds.

INTERESTED? To be considered for a CIT position with our Zoo Crew team, please complete the following application. Completed applications should contain:

- ★ CIT Application (2 pages)
- ★ ZooCamp Lesson Plan
- ★ ZooCamp Availability
- ★ Parent Permission Slip
- ★ Application Check-list

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

DEADLINE: February 1st, 2012

Please return completed applications by **February 1st, 2012** to:

**Jen Karow, Education Dept.
Roger Williams Park Zoo
1000 Elmwood Ave
Providence, RI 02907**

ZooCamp 2012

CIT Application: Page One

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please Print)

Last Name:		First Name:		Middle Name:	
Date of Birth (D/M/Y):		Current Grade:		H.S. Graduation Date:	
Address (street, city, state, zip):					
Home Phone:		Parent/Guardian Cell Phone:		Parent/Guardian E-mail:	
		Your Cell Phone:		Your E-mail:	

CIT Application: Page Two

Please describe your previous experience with Zoo Camp (if any):

Explain why you would like to become a Counselor-in-Training:

List any special skills that you would bring to our ZooCamps:

What do you think are the most important characteristics of a CIT?

Is there anything else you would like to tell us as to why you would be a great CIT?

Your Mission: To Design a ZooCamp Lesson

Show us your creativity and skills by designing an hour long lesson for children 6-10 years old on a topic of your choice. Please attach your typed lesson plan to your application. You may use the example outline and tips below to help you.

Note: Applications without an attached original lesson will not be considered for an interview.

Example Outline

- Title: Keep titles short and fun to spark the interest of campers.
- Age: 6 – 10 year old ZooCampers
- Time required: One hour
- Objective: What is the goal of your lesson? What do you hope the campers will learn?
- Area of the Zoo: Do you want to include a trip to an exhibit? Why?
- Activity Idea: Your lesson will be more effective if you use activities. Be sure to explain why you have included the activity.
- Craft Idea: Include a craft for the campers to do based on the topic (**be original**).
- Materials Needed: What supplies might you need? For the craft? Activity? To illustrate your point? Other materials?
- Background Info: Include at least one page of information on the topic so that other C.I.Ts or counselors could teach your lesson in your absence.

Have Fun with It!

Your ZooCamp Availability

Name: _____

Please **mark all times and weeks** that you anticipate being available (we understand that schedules change but please try to provide us with your best estimation).

Working Interview

Remember: All CITs are required to assist with either Winter or Spring Camp as a working interview if advanced from preliminary interview rounds. This will allow us to observe you with the campers, counselors and other CITs. It will also provide you with a sneak peek of what the summer holds and allow you to ask questions.

Please indicate which camp you are available for. If you are available for both, please mark both. ****CIT hours for camp are 8 AM – 4:30 PM M-Th and 8 AM – 5:00 PM Fridays****

Winter Camp	2/21 - 2/24	_____
Spring Camp	4/16- 4/20	_____

Training

We would like CITs to attend portions of training for summer with staff and counselors. Please provide us with the dates and times that you, if selected, would be available so that we may design the training schedule to include as many CITs as possible.

Sunday, June 10	AM _____	PM _____
Monday, June 11	AM _____	PM _____
Tuesday, June 12	AM _____	PM _____
Weds, June 13	AM _____	PM _____
Thursday, June 14	AM _____	PM _____
Friday, June 15	AM _____	PM _____
Saturday, June 16	AM _____	PM _____

Summer Camp

All CITs are required to work **five weeks** of the summer. Please mark **all** weeks that you anticipate being available, even if it is more than five. ****CIT hours for camp are 8 AM – 4:30 PM M-Th and 8 AM – 5:00 PM Fridays****

Week 1	6/18 – 6/22	_____
Week 2	6/25 – 6/29	_____
Week 3	7/2 – 7/6	_____
Week 4	7/9 – 7/13	_____
Week 5	7/16 – 7/20	_____
Week 6	7/23 – 7/27	_____
Week 7	7/30 – 8/3	_____
Week 8	8/6 – 8/10	_____
Week 9	8/13 – 8/17	_____
Week 10	8/20 – 8/24	_____

To be Completed by your Parent or Guardian

Parent or Guardian please read and sign the following:

I, _____, authorize my child, _____, to be considered for a CIT position with Roger Williams Park Zoo's Zoo Crew. I am aware that he/she will be interviewed by the ZooCamp director and that, if advanced from preliminary interview rounds, he/she will be required to commit to one week of either Spring or Winter Camp as a working interview. If selected for the CIT program following the interview process, he/she will be required to assist with five weeks of Summer ZooCamp.

I understand that if my child is accepted as a CIT, he/she will be working with children, zoo staff and potentially handling program animals.

I also understand that if my child is accepted as a CIT, he/she will be offered team building and field trip opportunities outside of the regular ZooCamp day. I allow my child to participate in these opportunities unless otherwise communicated to the ZooCamp Director.

My child has or I will provide reliable and on-time transportation to and from each day of camp. I will also make every effort to not schedule appointments/activities during camp hours. I understand that RWPZ ZooCamp relies heavily on assistance from CITs and their tardiness or absence may affect the quality of zoo campers' experiences.

If my child is selected for a CIT position at Roger Williams Park ZooCamp, I agree to complete a confidential medical information form for my child and to return this form to the ZooCamp Director prior to my child beginning as a CIT. I understand that my child's acceptance into the CIT program is contingent upon the receipt of this form.

Signature (parent or guardian)

Date

Almost Done!

Before you mail your application, be sure you have included the following:

- CIT Application (2 pages)
- Typed ZooCamp Lesson Plan
- Your ZooCamp Availability
- Parent Permission Slip

Remember: Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Questions? Don't hesitate to call the ZooCamp Director at (401) 785-3510 x 352 or send an e-mail to jkarow@rwpzoo.org. We're here to help!

Don't forget! The deadline for completed applications is **February 1st, 2012.**

Please return completed applications to:
Jen Karow, Education Dept.
Roger Williams Park Zoo
1000 Elmwood Ave
Providence, RI 02907

What Now?

After we have received your completed application, you will be contacted for a preliminary interview with the ZooCamp Director. At your preliminary interview it will be decided whether or not you will advance to a working interview during Winter or Spring Camps. Applicants will be notified within two-weeks of their working interview if they have been accepted into the program. There are limited positions available and competition is often high. If you are not accepted this year we hope that you will apply again in following years.

Good Luck!