

Summer 2017 Application Packet

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Hey there, Applicant!

We're glad you opened up this packet—you are about to embark upon a **bright, multi-colored** adventure. We're excited for you to begin your application and cannot wait to meet you! Before you start filling the spaces with your words and ideas, though, please take a few moments to read these pages. They'll tell you some important information about Camp and the application process.

Each summer we hire 61 Stanford students to create a diverse and cohesive staff that is the heart, soul, and motor of Camp. If you are looking for a challenging environment, where you can give yourself wholly to work and play, then you are likely to thrive at Sierra Camp. Developing programs for kids, conversing with adults, leading hikes, bussing tables, writing skits, and making beds—you're there giving your all. **There is no "ideal" staffer; we have no mold to fit. The unique contributions and background of each individual staffer make the magic of Sierra Camp.** We sincerely hope this application process allows you to express the talents, perspectives, and experience that you would bring to this staff.

All applications are due by 5:00pm on Friday, January 20th. Applications can be turned in at the front desk of the Frances C. Arrillaga Alumni Center or via e-mail to Nate Lohn at nlohn@stanford.edu. The Alumni Center is open from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. When you drop off your application, be sure to sign up for an interview in the binder provided. First-round interviews begin Monday, January 23rd and end Friday, February 10th.

Here is how the selection process works: all first-round applicants are interviewed by two members of the Interview Committee. About eighty first-round applicants are chosen to go on to the second-round interview pool, joining former staffers (usually 30-40) who are reapplying. Final selections are made after the second-round interviews, which are conducted by Assistant Camp Director Amanda Martinez and Staff Director Nate Lohn. Former staff and new applicants are given equal consideration in the second round of interviews for the 61 available assignments. Decisions will be made in mid-March.

The **optional** character reference form is also due on January 20th. You can request a reference from a present or former employer/supervisor, Stanford faculty member, or former Sierra Camp Staffer who knows you well. While **a reference is not required**, it can give us further insight into your character and personal skill set. The person completing the form should send it directly to Nate Lohn at nlohn@stanford.edu.

Again, we look forward to getting to know you through both your application and your interview! If you have any questions, please contact Staff Director Nate Lohn by e-mail, in person at the Alumni Center, or via telephone at (650) 721-1570. Also feel free to contact any member of the Interview Committee. We're always looking for an excuse to talk about Camp!

Good luck and have fun!

The Interview Committee:

Nate Lohn, nlohn@stanford.edu

Amanda Martinez, amandamartinez@stanford.edu

Anne Bertram, abertram@stanford.edu

Austin Jones, austinhj@stanford.edu

Lauren Seabrooks, lauren8@stanford.edu

Martine Johannessen, martinej@stanford.edu

Mark Ibañez, mibanez@stanford.edu

Tommy Meaney, tmeaney@stanford.edu



Job Descriptions

Kids' Group Counselors: Camp provides organized children's activities every day. Each Kids' Group Counselor helps design a weekly program that's exciting and entertaining for children and counselors. Activities should combine education and entertainment and may include hikes, games, arts and crafts, boating, storytelling, campfires, and anything else you can dream up. Prior experience working with kids is helpful but not required. Creativity, flexibility, enthusiasm, and the ability to work well in a group are essential. For more information about kids' groups, please contact Staff Director Nate Lohn at nlohn@stanford.edu.

MUNCHKINS (4 counselors) Ages 3-4 These tiny tykes are adorable but unpredictable. They can be playful and imaginative, but also require cuddling and flexibility when left without Mom or Dad. Munchkin counselors are storytellers, crayon artists, and facilitators of exploration who are patient and love little ones.

SNOOPERS (5 counselors) Ages 5-6 Snoopers are known for being active and wonderfully imaginative. These kids live for stories, wacky games, and entertaining counselors who want to be wild and spontaneous (just like the Snoops) in their programming. While these kids are of school age, they still require close supervision.

MENEHUNES (5 counselors) Ages 7-8 Here's a quote from a famous cheer: "Menehunes! We're so loony!" These kids are energetic and curious about the natural surroundings, and have an easier time being separated from their parents than they do from their counselors. If you prefer a certain amount of wholesome insanity in your daily life, the Hunes could be for you.

YAHOOOS (5 counselors) Ages 9-10 These youngsters have a seemingly endless supply of energy and are quick to make their presence known around camp with loud and crazy chants. Yahoos love hearing stories, figuring stuff out, and learning cool things, but most of all, they enjoy having counselors who are willing to listen and converse with them.

MIDOREES (5 counselors) Ages 11-12 Midorees are an awesome balance of hyper kid and budding adult. They still enjoy the silly side of things, but are old enough to begin doing more challenging activities. They sometimes pretend to know it all, but don't be deceived. They are impressionable and truly value learning from and with their counselors. And you can bet they'll make it their mission to find out what counselor you're "dating."

SUAVES (4 counselors) Ages 13-14 Suaves are, if nothing else, super cool and social. They love getting to know each other and their counselors, but the challenge is to get them to develop deeper friendships and encourage them to try new things. Read a teen mag or two to brush up on your pop culture and get ready to be a role model. Each week includes an overnight hike.

TEENS (4 counselors) Ages 15-18 Teens love having down-to-earth counselors that can entertain and really get to know them as young adults. From weekly overnight hikes to creative and engaging daily activities, the Teens are a blast and expect to be challenged on a daily basis. Whatever the situation, get ready to maintain college-age maturity while still being that "cool" counselor.

Special Program Instructors: In general, these positions require instructors to develop and implement their own programs. While all staff members interact with children daily, leaders of these programs tailor their activities towards adults. Some of these jobs involve fewer program hours and can be combined to fit your interests.

ART INSTRUCTOR (1) Art instruction is intended for adults and includes lots of interesting conversation. The Art Instructor should be competent in a variety of traditional media, but equally important qualities are a desire to take creative ownership of the program and an excitement for teaching and engaging others.

BOAT DOCK COORDINATOR (1) The Boat Dock Coordinator is responsible for general maintenance of the Boat Dock and its vessels. Initiative, ability to take ownership over a place, an eye for safety, and excitement about learning/refining skills like sewing, fiberglassing, and fixing are more important than extensive experience.

CRAFTS INSTRUCTOR (1) Adult guests like interacting with you as much as learning the crafts you teach. Crafts in the past have included stained glass, batik, basket weaving, and earring making. We encourage innovation--make it your own!

FOUNTAIN SPECIALISTS (4) The Fountain Specialists work front and center in our Camp store where guests of all ages come to purchase apparel, SSC goodies, or grab a milkshake. While many staff will have fountain shifts, the Fountain Specialists are looked upon for guidance in operating the cash register, facilitating purchases, and overall customer satisfaction. The fountain is the perfect place to constantly interact with guests and staff!

HIKING LEADERS (2) The Hiking Leaders organize and lead three adult hikes each week, and help guests plan and organize their own excursions in nearby Desolation Wilderness. These leaders will go the extra mile to make guests' outdoor adventures unique, like carrying a watermelon to snack on at the top of Mount Tallac. Backcountry safety and wilderness skills are essential.

IMPROV INSTRUCTOR (1) Got a flair for the dramatic? The Improv Instructor leads Improv workshops throughout the week for guests of all ages, and also plays a major role in leading the weekly Improv show. Patience, an ability to work with both kids and adults, and a knack for thinking on your feet are a must!

KIDS' NATURALIST (1) Love learning about the environment and working with kids? The Kids' Naturalist will work with kids' group leaders to develop educational environmental programming that utilizes Camp's beautiful location. They will spend 2-3 hours per week with each kids' group.

KITCHEN CREW (6) Ah, the kitchen...by far the most intense and vibrant space at Camp. Walking into the kitchen, you can feel the love, the passion, and the energy it takes to create 1,000 meals a day. More important than culinary expertise is a positive attitude, a willingness to bring the heat, and a great playlist.

MUSIC/THEATER DIRECTOR (1) The Music/Theater Director directs the weekly a cappella performance for adult guests, sings at the campfire and with the little tots, performs with other staffers at the Friday barbecue, and plans fun music and theater education for kids' groups. Patience, spunk, and a love for teaching are crucial.

NATURALIST (1) Weekly duties include leading an educational nature hike and other activities for adults. Past Naturalists have focused their programming on wildflowers, local geology, bugs and insects, fire ecology, lake health, and eutrophication. Add your expertise to the list!

OFFICE ASSISTANTS (2) The office is the control center of Camp. The Office Assistants help write the daily information letter on what's happening at Camp, answer phones, oversee guest check-in, create a friendly office environment, are Mac literate, and remain chipper interacting with guests indoors at an outdoor-oriented camp.

PHOTOGRAPHERS (2) Camp's two Photographers capture weekly events using digital SLRs, as well as take family portraits, provide photo clinics, organize sales, and create an original slide show at the end of each week. An outgoing and positive attitude is essential, as well as diligence and commitment to follow through on long-term projects. Photography experience is a plus but not required. The Photographers capture everything, particularly smiles and laughter on the lake.

ROCK CLIMBING INSTRUCTOR (1) This instructor is a climbing enthusiast who teaches guests of all ages safe climbing techniques on our rock wall, as well as on a nearby natural rock wall.

ROWING INSTRUCTORS Watching the sun rise over the lake at the Rowing Dock, these instructors help guests start their day with a lovely morning row. Familiarity with rowing sculls and experience is preferred, but we're willing to teach!

SAILING INSTRUCTOR (1) This instructor teaches a variety of sailing clinics to adults and older children using Camp's Lasers, Lidos, Bic Opens, and Hobie Cats. Knowledge of sailboat maintenance is preferred; a positive attitude, patience, and assertiveness in teaching guests in shifty winds are required.

TENNIS INSTRUCTOR (1) Having won Wimbledon is not as important as a love to teach. The tennis instructor runs clinics and tournaments for adults and kids, is enthusiastic, positive, a skilled ball-feeder, and can pull out a drill at any moment.

VOLLEYBALL INSTRUCTOR (1) Spending many hours in the sand, this instructor leads several clinics open to all skill levels, focusing on putting the fun in fundamentals. The highlights of each week are the guest volleyball tournament and the staff-guest match; both are long-standing Camp traditions.

SKI DOCK INSTRUCTORS (5) Do you have the patience that it takes to teach waterskiing and wakeboarding? Instructors help guests of all ages and skill levels to enjoy these sports and perfect their technique. How well you slalom is less important than careful attention to safety and to how well you communicate with people--you'll interact directly with many families each day. Boat driving experience is preferred.

YOGA INSTRUCTOR (1) From a serene deck overlooking Fallen Leaf Lake, this instructor guides guests of all levels in discovering yoga. Technical certification is not necessary, but the instructor should enjoy early mornings, have knowledge of several disciplines, and have the ability to instruct up to ten weekly hour-long sessions.

MOUNTAIN/ROAD BIKE INSTRUCTOR (1) What is more fun than whipping down the trails or road, feeling the wind against your face while surrounded by classic Sierra mountain scenery? Many of our guests live for this and bring their own bikes to camp. Mountain/road biking experience is a plus. The desire to make this program creative, fun, and unique is necessary.

NEW AND COMBINED PROGRAMS SSC is an outdoor classroom where alumni and their families engage in the interests of our staffers. As the teacher, what new programs would you host? Past programs have included fly fishing, rowing clinics, astronomy/ stargazing, book discussions, dance classes, design thinking brainstorming, and creative writing workshops. Create your own position, and come tell us about it; we're always looking for innovation! In the past staffers have also split their weekly hours between multiple positions, such as spending time as the improv instructor as well as leading crafts.



Summer Staff
2017 Application

All information will be treated as confidential. Please type or print clearly using the space provided.

Name: _____
Last First Preferred Name Pronoun

Local Mailing Address: _____
Street/Box City State Zip

Permanent Address: _____
Street/Box City State Zip

Campus Residence: _____ Phone/Cell: _____

Class Year: _____ Hometown: _____

Major: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Using the job titles given, list **up to five** jobs (in order of preference) and skill sets, if applicable, for which you'd like to be considered. List new program ideas, or ideas for new positions here as well.

<u>Job</u>	<u>Relevant Skills and Reasons for Applying</u>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Please fill this box with any other jobs you would have interest in working (optional):

List and briefly describe the jobs, extracurricular activities, or experiences you have spent significant time on over the past several years. Please give the dates worked, duties performed, and the name and phone number of your supervisor (if applicable).

3. Whether you are clearing dishes, scrubbing toilets or consoling a crying child, camp is hard work. Please tell us about a time you motivated yourself to work through a difficult task.

4. Please respond to **one** of the following questions.

- a. What form does magic take in your life?
- b. You can't stop smiling. What did you just do?

5. Camp is full of guests and staffers with many different opinions and perspectives. Tell us about a time when your personal beliefs were challenged. How did you respond?

Did you know turtles can breathe out of their butts? YES / NO (circle one)

Just thought you should know if not...

And finally, we must ask for your autograph and some informational details...and while this is technically for legal purposes, you should know that we plan to keep your signature on file, so that when you are famous, we can say “we knew you when...” and auction your autograph on Ebay.

Existence of a criminal record is not an automatic bar to employment. Consideration will be given to the nature of the position being sought, specific offense, your age at the time of the offense, the period of time which has elapsed since the commission of the offense, and any extenuating circumstances. (Arrests without conviction need not be reported.)

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (other than a traffic violation or convictions for marijuana offenses in violation of Health and Safety code sections 11357 (b) or (c), 11360 (c), 11364, 11365, or 11550 that are more than two years old)?

___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please give date, place of conviction and explain circumstances:

I authorize thorough investigation of my prior employment, educational background, criminal record, and where applicable to position, credit check and/or driving record. I agree to cooperate in such an investigation, to execute any consent forms required in connection with those investigations and release from all liability and responsibility all persons or entities requesting or supplying such information. I understand that employment is conditional based on investigation results.

I certify that statements made on the application, on a resume, attachments hereto, or other supplementary materials provided by me are full and complete statements of the facts. I understand that false, misleading or omitted information can result in refusal of employment or termination in cases where erroneous information is discovered after employment has begun. I understand that if I am offered employment and accept, this employment application form becomes part of the terms and conditions of employment. I understand that employment is contingent on supplying of documents for Employment Eligibility Verification.

Applicant’s signature _____ Date _____

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations for interviews may direct their requests to the hiring department at the time an interview is scheduled.

Whew!

Thank you for completing this application - you’re a rockstar! We’ll see you soon. Oh, oh yes, one more thing...

**Show
&
Tell**

Please come to your interview prepared for 2 minutes of Show & Tell. This is your time – we have no expectations. You can bring in an object, give a performance, tell a story, demonstrate a skill, or surprise us with something completely different.

Relax, be yourself, we’re easy to please!

