

Camp Participation Information

What is a Summer Camp?

A summer camp is a supervised program for children and teenagers conducted during the summer months. Children and adolescents who attend camp ("campers") participate in a variety of activities, many of which are unique to this non-school period.

The term "summer camp" derives from the tradition of holding these programs at campsites.

Summer camps provide not only an educational and enjoyable experience for the young people who attend them as well as providing new opportunities for the development of social relationships in a supervised setting, all of which are helpful to their parents, many of whom may be unable to spend sufficient time supervising their children during the whole summer due to their work schedules.

Why Work at a US Summer Camp?

Working at a US summer camp can be one of the most rewarding, exciting, and memorable experiences of your life! Enjoy the many benefits of camp employment.

- Valuable Work Experience
- Safe and Secure Working Environment
- Cultural Exchange
- Networking
- Great Fun
- Travel Opportunities
- Earn Money
- Potential to Earn Internship Credits

Want to hear more?

Valuable Work Experience – Planning on pursuing a career in childcare? Teaching?

Psychology? Culinary Arts? Office Management? Working at a summer camp can provide you with the ideal environment to put your skills to the test and to gain hands-on experience to build your resume in almost all service fields. You will work alongside experienced professionals who will guide you and support you through the program so as you are promoting growth and confidence in campers, you are growing in your own skills and abilities. *Some state that you receive better skills and experience in working at a summer camp than in summer internships.*

Safe and Secure Working Environment – Summer camp provides a family-like atmosphere in a safe and secure environment. No need to sort out details or to coordinate where you will stay and how you will eat. It is taken care of for you. All meals and accommodation are included as part of your compensation.

Cultural Exchange – Most U.S. summer camps employ not only Americans but also welcome staff from all over the world. This diversity provides the ideal opportunity to share information and experiences relating to the culture and history and appreciation of countries across the globe. International staff and campers learn more about America while Americans benefit from understanding the world from a broader perspective. Imagine expanding your Facebook friends to individuals from all over the world! In many cases, meeting international friends has provided the impetus to explore international travel.

Networking – In the age of greater communication access, working at a summer camp opens up endless possibilities. You will meet people from all over the U.S. and in many cases, the world. It is a great opportunity to establish and develop an international network of friends and contacts.

Fun – Camp is not only good for your resume but also provides the opportunity to experience the excitement of living and working in a new environment, in a new country. Most camps are located in beautiful locations on or near lakes and have extensive facilities that staff can enjoy during their time off. While your position at camp is important and your role must be taken seriously, camps also encourage staff to have fun, to play, and to be silly sometimes.

Maximize your Opportunity to Travel – Not only are you living and working in a beautiful location in the U.S., but most camp contracts are between 9-11 weeks, offering students time off before returning to school to travel. Many staff members become close friends during their time spent at camp and plan post-camp time to travel together to visit popular U.S. sites. International staff on the J1 camp counselor and summer work travel visas are permitted and encouraged to travel around the U.S. for up to 30 days after their last day of work. (Summer work travel students must return to their home country within 30 days or before the latest permitted program date specified by the Department of State for their home country.)

Earn Money – Summer camp compensation includes lodging and meals...so there are no living expenses! Salaries vary depending on skill, experience, and certification.

Potential to Earn Internship Credits – Many Universities accept summer camp employment as credit hours towards required internships, depending on the field of study. Most camps will assist in satisfying the terms of the credit requirements. Contact your program or academic advisor to see if this is an option.

Options for F1 Students – Summer camp employment may be accepted as part of the [OPT and CPT program](#).

Requirements to participate in a summer camp

Camp Counselors/staff must be:

- * Sufficiently proficient in the English language to supervise and interact with American youth;
- * A foreign post-secondary student, youth worker, teacher, or individual with specialized skills;
- * At least 18 years old (in some cases 16 and over).
- * Valid passport
- * Two passport-sized photo

- * Copy of previous J1 or any other visas
- * Updated resume
- * Police Record
- * References
- * Additional documents may be required upon request

Benefits:

Financial value: Participants receive pay and benefits commensurate with those offered to their American counterparts at the camps.

Types of Summer Camps

Types of Camps for Kids

Summer camp is a great option when parents want their child/ren to do something fun and exciting over the summer. They're an excellent way to enrich kids' lives while growing and learning outside of school.

If you're searching for a camp to work for, you've probably noticed the many options available. In this guide, we'll break down the different types of camps you can attend based on your interests.

Different Types of Camps

Before you determine which camp to attend, it's essential to know the two main types of camps that are typically available during the summer — day and sleep-away camps.

*Day camps are programs with operation hours similar to schools. Parents typically drop off their kids in the morning and then pick them up in the afternoon or evening. At day camps, campers can participate in many different activities and make new friends.

*Sleep-away camps also let campers engage in fun opportunities and meet new people. Instead of going home each day, campers will stay overnight, giving them more chances to participate in activities, build relationships, gain confidence and independence, and enhance their skills. Kids will benefit from attending a sleep-away camp and return home as a new person.

Types of Summer Camps

Now that you know about day and sleep-away camps, you can determine the type of camp to attend.

Many camps have themes or concentrations to help campers learn more about their interests and develop their skills.

1. Traditional Summer Camps

Traditional summer camps offer various activities to give campers new experiences. Many camps feature activities involving the outdoors, creative arts, performing arts, and more. They help expand campers' knowledge of a wide range of interests and encourage kids to be more well-rounded. If a child enjoys learning new things and staying active, a traditional summer camp could be a great option. This kind of camp we all remember, with canoeing and campfires, outdoor living, and kids gathering to make memories to last a lifetime.

2. Academic or Technology Summer Camps

If you have a passion for technology, an academic or technology summer camp will help you learn more about your interests and start building connections for the future.

Academic and technology camps typically specialize in programs with themes, such as:

* STEM (What does STEM mean? STEM is a common abbreviation for four closely connected areas of study: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

* Robotics

* Architecture

* Gaming

*Fashion

*Space

*Aviation

*Engineering

When attending a camp tailored to the child's interest, they can begin determining what they want to do with their future. Academic and technology camps provide significant educational enrichment for children to help them improve their skills and focus on their goals.

3. Travel and Expedition Camps

If you love exploring outside, travel and expedition camps are the perfect way to challenge you with new opportunities. Depending on the location, many travel and expedition camps include activities in different outdoor domains, like kayaking, biking, backpacking, and more. You will go on adventures and create unforgettable memories as you travel outdoors. Your lessons and experiences during camp will help you feel confident and empowered to continue exploring.

4. Arts and Performance Camps

Arts and performance camps are wonderful ways to help you express yourself and embrace creativity. If you love dancing or writing, an arts or performance camp can be the perfect way to hone your craft and engage in what you love with fellow artists during the summer.

Many types of camps are available for creative campers, including:

* Musical theater

* Dance

* Singing

* Acting

* Art

* Music

* Writing

* Circus

Summer camp can be a creative outlet for you. You will improve your skills and discover new talents while making friends and memories. Arts and performance camps will also help campers explore outside of their comfort zones.

5. Sports Camps

When they live, sleep, and breathe sports, attending a sports camp during the summer can help to improve their game and take them to the next level. Sports camps typically offer similar routines to traditional camps with a focus on several athletics or a particular sport. Kids who attend sports camps will learn new skills and tricks to improve their performance for the next

season. They could also potentially network with colleges, and professional recruiters and even meet real-life professional players.

6. Girls' Camps

An all-girls environment provides strong role models and encourages girls to become whoever they want to be.

7. Boys' Camps

Camps just for boys offer curriculum and extracurricular activities targeted to boys' interests.

8. Family Camps

Family camps help families enjoy nature together.

9. Special Needs Camps

Specialized Camps Focusing on specific needs, these camps bring together kids and adults who are all "in the same boat."

- * Asperger's Syndrome Camps

- * Autism Camps

- * Camps for the Blind

- * Cancer Camps

- * Diabetes Camps

- * Disability Camps

- * ESL (English as a Second Language) Summer Camps

- * Special Needs Camps

- * Camps for Troubled Teens (Boot Camps: For juveniles in trouble with the law, Boot camps are special summer camps focusing on discipline. Boot camps operate year-round, but special summer boot camps may focus more on nature and outdoor skills. To work at a boot camp, you may need special training or clearances. Remember that the children with whom you'll be working will often be troublemakers and disobedient, and your goal will be to create a positive change in attitude.

- * Weight Loss Camps

10. Religious Camps

Faith-based camps encourage spiritual development during the summer months.

11. Fitness Camps

Everyone's heard of fat camps – and they do exist. The more politically correct term, however, is fitness camp or health camp. At these camps, physical activity and healthy foods are of the utmost importance, and workers must be physically fit to be role models for the campers. The nursing staff at fitness camps usually includes a nutritionist and experts in the health field can find seasonal jobs at these kinds of camps. Also, if you are a member of the kitchen staff, you may have to go through special training to learn how to cook in the healthiest way possible.

12. Scouting Camps

Boy Scout and Girl Scout camps are among the most popular types of camps for children.

Counselors and administration at scout camps usually were scouts themselves as children, and activities revolving around self-reliance, outdoor skills, and honor are specifically a part of scouting camps. At most scouting summer camps, the campers work towards earning badges, so employees at these camps will be in charge of making sure specific requirements are met. Special events like flag ceremonies may also be an integral part of scouting camps.

13. Adult Summer Camps

Not all camps are for children! In some cases, summer camps may run adult programs for grown-ups wishing to get away. In many cases, these adult camps fall into two varieties; the first is weekend camps that are two or three days long and usually cater to a specific interest and the second is self-help camps that are programs designed for rehabilitating adults, like drug users or alcoholics.

14. Camps for Underprivileged Children

Many organizations provide a summer camp program for youth from challenged backgrounds and living conditions. Through scholarship programs, community donations, fundraising, and social services, these camps can offer an experience that many young people may never get the opportunity to experience.

15. Conference And Retreat Centers

Some camps have year-round operations that are not always focused on traditional “summer camp” offerings. For some, their summers are run in the style of a typical residential camp, with other programming running through the “off-seasons”, and for others, they run their unique programming for the entire year. A few examples of these unique programs include team and leadership development, corporate retreats, rental accommodations, outdoor education, and weddings.

Why our program?

We specialize in recruiting specialist staff for regular and premium summer camps across the USA, UK, and Canada. We are currently recruiting for summer camps in the US.

Our sub-team has personally visited over 100 different summer camps so we know to place you at the perfect camp.

Our fees are completely transparent and we have the highest paying salary in our industry.

- * Placement at a regular and premium US summer camp

- * Earn a minimum of \$2,000

- * Food, accommodation, and medical insurance included

- * Life changing experience

- * No hidden costs

- * Travel after camp for up to 30 days after and sometimes 30 days before with the J1 visa

- * Aid your career or degree, learn key skills, and boost your CV

- * Personal 1-to-1 support during the whole process and whilst at camp.

What skills are we looking for?

We are looking for enthusiastic, experienced specialists and leaders to teach or coach their skill or sport. You can pretty much teach anything at camp but here are some examples of the kinds of expertise we are looking for:

- * Ball Sports

Basketball, Golf, Football, Tennis, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Baseball, Flag football, Soccer, Softball

- * Circus

Acrobatics, Silks, Unicycle, Juggling, Stilts, Trapeze Triple

* Outdoor Adventure

Instructor, Archery, Ropes, Astronomy, Scout/Guide, Caving, Backpacking, Nature, Outdoor cooking, Rock climbing, Climbing wall, Rappelling, Ropes adventure, Course, Trailblazing

* Performing Arts

Activity Director, Instruments, Dance, Drama, Music Producer, Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Sight-reading, Stage combat, Stage design & construction,

* Horse Riding

Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Stable Management, Trail Riding

* Arts & Crafts

Activity Director, Textiles, Ceramics, Jewellery, Woodwork, Batik, Candle making, Macrame & weaving, Paper mache, Puppetry, Pot throwing, Silk-screen, Stained glass, Newspaper, Painting & Drawing, Woodwork

* Media Arts

Photographer, Videographer, Game Design, Programming

* Water Sports

Swimming, Scuba Diving, Lifeguard, Sailing, kayaking, Fishing, Boating, Canoeing, Funyaking, Sailing, Snorkeling, Water-skiing, Boat driving, Instructor, Wakeboarding, Water polo, Windsurfing

* Athletics

Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Track & Field, Fencing, Archery, Karate, Newcomb

* Extreme Sports

Quad Biking, Mountain Biking, Skateboarding, BMX, Rafting

* Sports Fitness

Fitness Instructor, Boxing, Yoga, Martial Arts, Zumba, Weight training

* Tennis

Instruction, College play, Tournament play

* Specialist Staff/ Support Staff

Teachers, Christian/Jewish, Faith, Special Education, Nurse, Administrator, Driver, Kitchen, Laundry, Maintenance, Mother's helper, Office, Caretaker, Programming Staff, Head Dorm Counselor, Counselor

Application Process

We will help you every step of the way from the moment you first get in contact with us, through the application process and whilst you are at camp.

1. Summer camp information session.
2. Submit the application form, you will then either move on to step two or we may ask you a bit more information before moving on.
3. Have an interview with a Camp Director from one of the camps. If you pass your interview you will be given a second interview to update you on what is required, salary, etc... then a Contract stating your position, duration, salary, and job description you will be directed to complete an application with the Sponsor who will supply your insurance and visa documents.

4. Submit documents required by the Sponsor, pay a proof of intent fee, attend an interview, pay the balance of fees (this may be done in stages and not all at once) then await your application to be approved.
5. After approval and documents are received for the visa application, you will then submit your J1 visa application.
8. Attend the US embassy to obtain your J1 visa.
9. Attend a compulsory online pre-camp orientation with the team/camp.
10. Book your flight then PACK YOUR BAGS as you are off on an adventure of a lifetime!

Registration & Screening

Upon completion of the form and you are hired by a camp, you will be guaranteed first preference for placement at the camp via registration through Glee Fantastique Travel Agency Limited and forwarded to complete the Sponsor's application for sponsorship.

A Sponsor is a company designated by the USA that is qualified to assist a person with their cultural exchange program. The Sponsor provides medical, insurance card, visa documents (DS 2019, SEVIS receipt, and Insurance Coverage), etc... for you to be able to enter the USA.

We cannot guarantee that you will be eligible for sponsorship based on numerous personal factors. Only the sponsors will make such a determination based on your application and the documents provided. We will, however, send you another sponsor to apply to if you are unsuccessful with one. Your GUARANTEED position with the camp will still be valid until you get sponsorship.

There is a cost (that varies) for sponsorship and this fee can be paid in stages. Most refundable. Camp applications are open to the public but you are GUARANTEED first placement only by a direct Recruiter like Glee Fantastique Travel Agency Limited which includes personally signing you up for the program and submitting your information into our database that Recruiters are provided with to ensure that their applicants are not lost in the large pool of applicants applying each year and great consideration is given to our applicants to be placed in a camp.

Once you are registered into the camp's database, you will receive numerous emails regarding the camp program, other camp opportunities, a link to set up an appointment, and a sponsor referral.

Payments & Schedule

The payment schedule is as follows:

Registration fee of JMD \$2,500.00. This fee should be paid ALONG with the completion and submission of the application form.

The program fee is USD \$800:

The agency fee is USD \$350 (this is non-refundable to start the onboarding process) which includes:

- 1. Screening fee of \$30** for application submission and database entry addition.
- 2. Administrative/Placement fee of \$200**, paid once you are accepted by a camp for the position.
- 3. Visa Application Submission fee of \$70.** Visa applications may be done in groups to visit the embassy.
- 4. Flight booking of \$50** to book a flight to camp.

Fees are paid to:

Account information for bank account 1:

Account bank: National Commercial Bank
Account name: Glee Fantastique Travel Agency Limited
Account number: 611393768
Account type: Checking
Account currency: JMD
Account branch: Savanna La Mar

Account information for bank account 2:

Account bank: National Commercial Bank
Account name: Glee Fantastique Travel Agency Limited
Account number: 614818255
Account type: Savings
Account currency: USD
Account branch: Savanna La Mar

Please inquire about the currency rate to transfer to the JMD account.

Copies of the receipts should be sent via email to

kerryluemcintyre@gleefantastiquetravelagency.com or by WhatsApp at 1-876-471-5197 once paid.

Your official application will not be sent forward unless the registration and screening fee is made and recorded.

Sponsor fee & information:

Pricing Plans

So you're hoping to head out to summer camp in America?

If you're looking for an incredible, unforgettable summer, our camps provide free meals and accommodations. **You will receive a minimum stipend of USD \$2,000** and may be eligible to earn more depending on your age, skill set, and experience. Feel free to save this pocket money, spend it during the summer, or use it to travel and experience American culture for up to 30 days before* and after camp.

What You Pay

There are a few costs to be aware of...

Proof of Intent \$100*

Final Payment \$350*

Total Fee to Sponsor paid by you

What's Included

- Fees include visa paperwork (DS 2019), SEVIS receipt, a 24-hour helpline, and comprehensive medical insurance while in the United States. Please note, that this insurance does not cover pre-existing conditions or any applicants 65 years or older.
- At camp you will experience a huge amount of personal growth, making a positive impact on the lives of children, and working with awesome staff from all over the world.
- Food and accommodation are included for the duration of your employment at camp.
- You will receive some of the most in-depth training you will ever receive for a short-term job.
- Internet and time off to recuperate and communicate with loved ones back home are provided too!
- The ability to travel up to 30 days prior* to your first day of work in the US as well as 30 days to travel after your last day worked. That's 60 days of traveling around the United States, seeing all that it has to offer!

Please note: If you are hired by a camp and accepted by the Sponsor, your placement at a camp is GUARANTEED.

This fee is paid directly to the Sponsor responsible for insuring your stay. Payment details will be furnished when payment is ready. This is partially refundable.

Other costs to be absorbed by applicants are:

1. Visa application fee USD \$185
2. Flight \$- (undetermined)
3. Police Check USD \$30*

*varies by Sponsor

Visa Paperwork Explained

J-1 Cultural Exchange Visa

The visa itself will be a sticker on a page inside your passport. Keep your passport and your DS 2019 form together at all times. Your visa represents permission from the US Government to work legally in the US as a Support Staff or Counselor at a summer camp. After your program, you have 30 30-day grace period to travel within the USA before you are required to leave the country. You may only work as a Counselor, or as Support Staff at the camp for which you have a contract. You must arrive at your camp on the date designated on your camp contract.

DS-2019 Form

This form is issued by a US Department of State accredited visa sponsor. It certifies you as eligible to take part in the cultural exchange program and is a vital part of the application process for a J-1 Visa. This document must be kept safe with your passport and visa. Your passport and visa are no good without this form - so remember to take it with you!

Make sure to keep all of your important paperwork together in a safe place before departing for the United States. If your DS 2019 form gets lost or damaged, there will be a reprint charge. *(Note: it is not possible to re-print a DS-2019 form from a previous season.)*

SEVIS I-901 Receipt

SEVIS stands for Student and Exchange Visitor Information System. It is a system in which the US Department of State and Homeland Security keeps track of all participants in the J-1 Visa program. This form indicates that the SEVIS fee has been paid, and will be required for your J-1 Visa appointment at the US Embassy or Consulate. This fee is paid for you and you can obtain your information as to how to print out this receipt. This form must also be part of the important documents that you bring with you to the United States.

Customs Form

On the flight, you will be given a customs form. Make sure to have a pen in your hand luggage. All travelers to the USA are required to fill this out. At some airports, this is a digital form you will fill out in the customs hall. Ask your flight attendant before landing if you do not receive one. The immigration officer you meet upon your arrival will stamp it and return it to you. On leaving the baggage hall, after picking up your luggage, you will give this form to a customs officer.

I-94 Record

This is your official Arrival/Departure record from the United States Department of Homeland Security. This will need to be printed out once you have arrived at camp. This is a necessary document to apply for a Social Security Card and proves your legal visitor status in the United States. The form can be obtained by visiting the website listed below and entering the following information: Your full given name and last name (as shown on your passport), your date of birth, passport number, and passport Country of issuance.

Arrival At Camp

Upon arrival at camp, you will get:

1. A US bank Account for your salary
2. Social Security Number
3. 24-hour support