

Counselor-in-Training Application

Open to youth ages 16 - 17



Thank you for your interest in the Counselor in Training (CIT) program at YMCA Camp Carter. Our goal is for all CITs to achieve, build relationships and always feel like they belong.

Our Counselor in Training program focuses on developing strong leaders through discussion, observation and supervised child interaction. This is a program for 16 and 17 year olds who are serious about working with children and improving their leadership skills. CITs learn the value of teamwork, community service and decision making through activities and mentoring. The most important part of the CIT program is the hands on experience they will have working with campers, while being guided by the CIT Coordinator.

Candidates are required to fill out a CIT application. Once the application is received, an interview will be scheduled. Once you become a CIT, you are no longer just a camper. From the moment you accept this responsibility we expect you to be a positive role model at camp, at the YMCA and in public, as you are a representative of YMCA Camp Carter and the YMCA. CITs will work with the CIT coordinator on team building, problem solving, role modeling and supervision, all while building a strong foundation as a future counselor. Part of the experience will be working within the assigned tribe; this will give you the opportunity to help younger campers achieve, build relationships and have a sense of belonging.

Acceptance into the program will be based on your completed application, letters of recommendation and your interview.

Instructions/Process:

1. The CIT program is **ONLY** open to youth who are 16-17 years old.
2. Youth wishing to participate in the CIT program must complete this application.
3. Give the 3 reference forms (attached) to 3 people who know you well and are not related to you. Include an envelope you've already stamped and addressed to the camp address below—or ask them to scan it and email it to camper@ymcafw.org Attn: CIT References
4. Turn in or mail your application to the camp address below. Your references may come separately.
5. Once the application and all 3 references are turned into the Program Operations Director, your application will be reviewed and if chosen you will be contacted to schedule an INTERVIEW.
6. The next step you will get a letter stating whether you have been accepted into the CIT program.

7. If you are accepted, you must register. Please do not register until you hear whether you are accepted.

For questions and additional information, contact the Program Operations Director at camper@ymcafw.org or 817-738-9241.

Return completed applications to:
Stephanie Williams, Program Operations Director
YMCA Camp Carter
6200 Sand Springs Rd.
Fort Worth, TX. 76114
OR

Email completed applications/references to camper@ymcafw.org

Be advised that CIT is a SELECTIVE PROGRAM. Applicants are chosen for their potential as a CIT and future staff - not for the number of summers spent as a camper. **Applicants should wait until they receive notice of acceptance before they register for the CIT program.**

YMCA CAMP CARTER

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Name _____ Date _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

School: _____ Age: _____ Grade in the Fall: _____

Parents Name: _____ and _____

Experience in organizations & clubs:

Name of Club	# years	Leadership positions held
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Camp Experience:

Name of Camp:	# years
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____

Other Positions of Responsibility / leadership

Name of organizations/group /activity	# years	Leadership positions held
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Check one (x) the activities that interest you and check twice (xx) those activities which you have taught or lead. !

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ Archery | _____ Equestrian | _____ Nature |
| _____ Arts & Crafts | _____ Fishing | _____ Outdoor Cooking |
| _____ Athletics | _____ Group Games | _____ Outdoor Living Skills |
| _____ Canoeing/Kayaking | _____ Group singing | _____ Riflery/Skeet |
| _____ Dance | _____ High Ropes/Climbing | _____ Swimming |
| _____ Drama/Acting/Skits | _____ Hiking | _____ Tye Dye |
| _____ Drawing/Painting | _____ Low Ropes/Teambuilding | _____ Other (please specify below) |

Other: _____

Please name two of your strengths: _____

Please name two of your areas of improvement: _____

Please tell us something you are much better at then you used to be: _____

Please tell us about a time (a real life example) where you were a role model to someone else: _____

Describe an achievement you are proud of and why it made you feel this way? _____

How would you handle it if a camper came to you and said "I don't like camp because I have no friends here"? _____

If you have been to a summer camp before (any camp), what was your favorite camp memory? _____

If you were stranded on a dessert Island, what 3 things would I want to have with me? _____

If you were a breakfast cereal what would I be and why? _____

Please list the name of three references (not relatives) and have them submit the attached forms:

- | | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 1. _____ | Phone Number: _____ |
| 2. _____ | Phone Number: _____ |
| 3. _____ | Phone Number: _____ |

YMCA CAMP CARTER
Counselor-In-Training Application
CODE OF CONDUCT

The Counselor-In-Training program is designed to identify and develop young people to possibly become counselors in the YMCA Day Camp program. Each CIT has the responsibility to uphold high standards of behavior and conduct while participating in this program. As a CIT, each young person is looked at as a positive role model by our campers. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to assist CITs in knowing their responsibilities.

1. I will be courteous at all times when working with other CITs, camp staff, campers, and all other YMCA employees.
2. I will listen and follow directions given to me by the camp staff and other YMCA employees.
3. I will ask for assistance when I need it.
4. I will not put myself or any other camper at risk.
5. I will have fun in ways that are safe to camp, others, and myself.
6. I will take my leadership training seriously. Through my actions, I can have a positive impact on young lives.
7. I will follow all YMCA rules at all times.
8. I will accomplish all duties that are given to me and then report back to my counselor. I will not neglect my duties.
9. I acknowledge and accept the following violations, if committed, are subject to progressive counseling and/or dismissal from camp as directed by the YMCA staff.
 - a. Use of profanity
 - b. Blatant disobedience
 - c. Possession or use of alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs
 - d. Violent behavior, such as hitting, fighting, etc.
 - e. Public display of affection
 - f. Behavior placing other campers at risk
 - g. Talking, texting or using my cell phone while in my leadership training
10. Progressive counseling will consist of the following procedures unless the severity or repetition of incident requires other action concerning suspension and/or expulsion:
 1. Counselor or Camp Director will call parent to inform of behavior
 2. Camp staff (Camp Director/Counselor/Program Director) will meet with parent regarding behavior.
 3. Child will be suspended from camp and subject to review by the Program Director and will result in a second meeting with parents and staff (to include Program Director)
 4. Parents will meet with Program Director regarding the expulsion from camp.

CIT Applicant Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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Important:

Our camp is conducted with the YMCA mission in mind, which is as follows:

"To put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all."

A leadership role at a YMCA camp is a serious obligation. A strong responsibility to each child is expected. As a CIT, you are expected to live up to the expectations of the program, which follows:

- Responsibility for your own actions as well as those of your assigned group.
- To present yourself as a good role model for children.
- To respect each member of the YMCA Camp Carter community, staff, campers, and fellow CIT's.
- To take your position at YMCA Camp Carter seriously and perform to the best of your ability.

***All CIT applicants must complete an application and go through an interview process before being accepted into the program.**

For more information, contact Stephanie Williams, Program Operations Director
at YMCA Camp Carter, 817-738-9241.

Statement of purpose for CIT applicant.

I have read and answered the questions above and feel that my participation as a CIT will enhance the program for staff, campers and other CITs. I will do my best to help others achieve, build relationships and have a sense of belonging. If I am accepted into the program, I understand the YMCA and/or YMCA Camp Carter can ask me to leave the CIT program at any time. I understand that participating in the CIT program does not guarantee me future employment with YMCA Camp Carter or the YMCA of Metro Fort Worth.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

I certify that I have read the above paragraph and my child has my full approval to participate in the CIT program. I understand my child may not be accepted into this program. I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree with all of the above information and that I voluntarily sign this application.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

YMCA CAMP CARTER

C.I.T. (Counselor-In-Training) REFERENCE FORM

To CIT Program Applicant:

1. Enter your name on the line below.
2. Give this form to your reference with a **Stamped Envelope** addressed to :
 Stephanie Williams
 Program Operations Director
 YMCA Camp Carter
 6200 Sand Springs Rd.
 Fort Worth, TX. 76114

To the Person Completing this Form:

The applicant below wishes to be a C.I.T (Counselor-In-Training) at YMCA Camp Carter and asks that you help us by checking under the heading that most describes them, their character and leadership. Feel Free to make additional notes on the back of the form. The reference will be kept confidential and your prompt and helpful response is appreciated. Thank you!

APPLICANT NAME: _____

Is the applicant: (rate 1 – 5 - 5 being the highest)

1. An Excellent role-model for kids to emulate?
2. Reliable
3. Flexible with schedule changes
4. Able to adapt to change
5. Loyal
6. Able to complete assigned work
7. Follow through and attention to detail
8. Independent
9. Takes pride in personal appearance?
10. Has reputation of Honesty/integrity?

N/A	1	2	3	4	5

Please answer the following questions:

How would YMCA Camp Carter benefit from having this individual as a CIT?

If you were a parent or guardian, would you be happy to have this person as your Child's caregiver? _____

YMCA Camp Carter staff greatly appreciates your time and effort. Selecting a truly good role model for children is no easy task! Your assistance in our program will make our difficult selection process easier, enabling us to choose the best candidates for the program. Thank you!

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Phone: _____

Organization/Company: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please list on the back any additional comments. Information about the candidate's interests, experience, skills in working with children will be helpful.

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