



Camp Program Aide A Teen Leadership & Mentoring Program

To be a Camp Program Aide (CPA) at Camp Amity Acres, a girl must have completed 7th grade (entering 8th grade in fall 2020) and complete the Camp Program Aide Leadership Experience.

Camp Program Aide - Leadership Experience (June 29 - July 10, 2020) (Camp will be closed July 3)

Camp Program Aides (CPAs) are a unique blend of camper and helper. They are under the mentorship and supervision of an adult staff member who serves as their mentor and each day brings new opportunities for her to build confidence and develop her leadership skills and style.

The CPA program begins with a 2 week long Leadership Experience program where girls learn the basics of leadership, communication, outdoor skills, and how to mentor younger campers - all skills that will continue to benefit her throughout her life. Her two weeks in the CPA Leadership Experience program give her 35 hours of mentorship and service filled with fun and sun for her to enjoy and make new friends within the circle of other camp program aides. **Girls must attend all days of training for successful completion of the program.**

Girls will complete the basic leadership development course along with the outdoor skills needed for camping and assisting in a day camp setting. Girls who complete the program can serve as the outdoor trained person at a troop or group camping trip (with adult supervision).

Camp program aides are not part of the staff and cannot be considered staff. They are campers gaining practical experience while participating in this program. Each CPA is evaluated and coached through her mentorship to help her be successful in improving her leadership skills and making their commitment enjoyable and worthwhile.

Each summer, we hope to continue to provide at least a two-week opportunity for Camp Program Aides to provide service and continue their learning experience as they are mentored by staff. Evaluations are completed during this two-week commitment and are



used to help determine who will be given the opportunity to continue to help at camp. They are also used as a reference when a CPA wishes to apply for a staff position at Amity Acres Day Camp.

At the end of this program, she will earn her Girl Scout Program Aide pin.

Camp Program Aides are not guaranteed a staff position upon completion of the program when they reach the age of 15. A Camp Program Aide with a great evaluation is more likely to be chosen as staff; however, other considerations are taken into account including the number of available positions.

Camp Program Aide - Mentorship (All Weeks)

The next step in the CPA leadership program is the CPA Mentorship. Following successful completion of her two weeks in the CPA Leadership Experience program, girls may be invited to return for an additional two-week mentorship. She will serve alongside a unit counselor assisting in the daily activities of the unit, putting her leadership skills to the test and continuing to gain valuable experience. This portion of the CPA program is by invitation only - based on evaluations from the CPA Leadership Experience.

Once invited to the CPA Mentorship, girls may go to the Employment section of our website (www.amityacresdaycamp.com) and request which weeks they would like to volunteer for their Mentorship. Placement is at the discretion of the Camp Director and no requests should be considered final until approved by the Camp Director. Week availability is based on the ratio of staff to campers which varies by week.

These programs are considered a specialty camp and girls are given unique opportunities and an intense curriculum to work through. They will gain valuable life skills while having fun; however, due to the schedule, they may not have the opportunity to participate in normal camp activities similar to the teen unit.

Following a girl's first two week mentorship, she will earn the Girl Scout CIT I award pin.

Camp Program Aide - Specialization (July 20 - July 24, 2020)



After completing the CPA Leadership Experience in any year, girls have the opportunity to build their confidence and leadership skills in one specialty area of camp - archery, boating, or ropes. Girls will spend their week learning the skills necessary to run that specialty area, insuring the safety of all staff and campers there. They will shadow the staff member in charge and may be asked to help lead various activities.

Following a girl's successful completion of the CPA Specialization, she will earn the Girl Scout CIT II award pin.

What you should bring to these programs:

- Water bottle
- Lunch
- Bathing suit & towel
- Camp clothes & full change of clothes (especially socks)
- Sneakers
- Sunscreen
- Bug repellent
- Hat/visor
- Pen/pencil
- Willingness to learn

Girl Scouts helps girls grow strong!