



COUNSELOR IN TRAINING PROGRAM 2024

Prospective Counselor in Training Participants,

We are so excited that you are considering applying for the Counselor in Training (CIT) program with Greensboro Parks and Recreation. We are looking for teens who have a passion for working with children, are creative, and want to be active and engaged when they are volunteering. We offer opportunities at eight recreation centers and Camp Joy, all of which offer unique opportunities to be part of our team.

As a CIT, we have high expectations from you. We expect CITs to actively engage with our campers and staff, help implement activities and games, and take initiative to make our camps better. In return, we will provide you with an amazing opportunity to develop your leadership and teamwork skills that will help you in school and in life, as well as skills that will help you get a job, hopefully with us as a camp counselor when you graduate high school.

Please make sure that you have an email address that you check often, as we may be sending information to you throughout the summer.

We are looking forward to a great summer and hope that you will be a part of it. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us.

Parents and Guardians,

We look at the CIT program as a career development opportunity for teens and because of that, we ask that you allow them to take the lead in this process. They may need your assistance in the online registration/payment process, but please after that, allow them to be the one to contact us with questions, respond with t-shirt sizes, etc. While we understand that you are only trying to be helpful and many of them are super busy, how they interact with us in the application process is an indicator of how they will handle this opportunity and engage with our campers and staff and therefore be successful in the program.

Sincerely,

Alex Zaleski, Volunteer Coordinator
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Greensboro
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Office: 336-373-7507
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I pick the location I should apply for?

While we understand that you may want to be with your friends, you need to select a camp location that works for you and your family who will be providing you transportation.

How old do you have to be to apply?

The CIT program is open to rising sophomores through rising seniors in high school. We are seeking CITs who are mature, dependable, and can be self-starters.

Am I guaranteed a spot as a CIT when I enroll in webtrac/online by selecting my location and paying the program fee?

We make every effort to accept as many CITs as possible that meet our application requirements and show a true desire to be a CIT. After registering online, you will be asked to answer a few questions that will let us know your interest in volunteering as a CIT. Please note: attendance at the training prior to camp is mandatory and failure to do so will result in removal from the program with no refund.

What does the \$40 fee cover?

The \$40 covers the cost of CIT t-shirts, entrance into field trips, training materials, and other administrative costs. Payment is due at the time of online registration. Fee assistance is available upon request but must be done **before** registration. CITs are eligible to receive free lunch each day at recreation centers. In order to receive lunch, parents must contact Alex Zaleski by phone or email.

What happens after I register on webtrac/online?

After you select your location, pay the \$40 fee and answer the interest questions, our staff will receive an email stating that you have applied for the CIT program. You will receive an email within 1 to 2 business days of registering with a link for an online questionnaire so we can get to know you a little better. There will be one link for parents and one for teens. After teens and parents have completed the online information forms, Alex will reach out with confirmation. If you have any questions during the process, please reach out via phone or email.

Can I get service learning credit for school?

Yes, but you have to be involved in the process. You have to track your hours (sign-in/out) every day at your location and keep track of them. We will keep record of them, but will rely on you to verify them when requested. At the end of the summer, we will send you an email with your total number of hours that we will approve in your school's system. If you use x2Vol, please enter Alexandra.Zaleski@greensboro-nc.gov as the contact email.

What will I do all day?

There is nothing typical about a day at camp! Every day provides new challenges, exciting activities and opportunities to connect with our campers. Building a personal connection to campers, while also maintaining boundaries is a huge part of your role. Some of the things CITs are asked to do is set up and clean-up activities, read and do small group activities, play games, supervise campers while on the playground, attend field trips, sing silly songs while waiting in line at the water fountain and create fun handshakes with the campers. CITs will also help serve breakfast and lunch and pitch in wherever is needed. While we strongly encourage CITs to be present with our campers, we are also adamant that CITs are never to be left alone with campers, not only for their safety, but for yours.



Can I have my cell phone with me during the day?

Yes and no. We certainly understand the importance of cell phones, but when you are actively engaging and supervising our campers, you may not use or even check your phones. They must be put away except during your lunch or break time. The same rule applies to our staff. In the event of an emergency, parents or guardians may call the front desk at your location.

What time do I need to be there?

Our Recreation Center camps start at 7:30am and end at 6:00pm Monday – Friday. We ask that CITs arrive no later than 9 am and stay until at least 4 pm, to allow time to return from field trips and help wrap up the day. It is best to have a consistent schedule so that our camp staff know when to expect you.