



Zoo Camp 2022

Counselor-in-Training Program

The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program is designed for students entering 9th through 12th grade. The role of a CIT is to assist counselors with groups of Zoo Campers. CITs will be an extra set of eyes, ears, and hands to help with crafts, games and other activities. CITs are expected to show a positive attitude towards camp, the campers, the staff and the St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park. CITs are held to the same rules and regulations as campers; since CITs are role models for younger campers, anyone showing a lack of maturity, cooperation or positive attitude will be asked to leave. This is NOT a position that assists zoo keepers. After camp has ended for the season, each CIT will receive a letter outlining the number of hours they served as a CIT. Any additional paperwork required by schools in order to receive credit for service hours must be completed by the CIT and then submitted to the Curator of Education for a signature.

The fee for the CIT program is \$50 for the first camp session and \$25 for each additional camp session, which covers the camp t-shirt, snacks, and other associated costs. Two camp shirts will be provided to each CIT and is to be worn daily. Additional t-shirts may be purchased. A camp session runs from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. CITs must bring a bag lunch.

Please note that positions are extremely limited and candidates will be selected based on the strength of their application. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2022, by 5:00pm. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Requests to be grouped with other CITs will not be considered. Applicants will be contacted no later than May 20th, 2021 regarding their status. After notice of acceptance, payment for all sessions must be made within one week or position will be filled by another applicant. There will be a mandatory orientation on June 3rd, 2022. Orientation details will be provided after acceptance letters have been sent out.



Zoo Camp 2022 Counselor-in-Training Program

How Do I Apply for the Counselor in Training Program?

Deadline for applications is April 30, 2022 by 5:00pm and must be in hand at this time. Applications that arrive in the mail after this date will not be considered. Please plan accordingly. All pieces of the application must be submitted together. Any pieces arriving separately will not be considered. Applicants must complete and submit the following paperwork to be considered for the Counselor-In-Training program:

Counselor-in-Training Application (3 pages)

Fill out all requested information

Teacher Recommendation

Must be from a current classroom teacher. If homeschooled, have a non-related adult, such as a coach or family friend fill out. Have recommender place letter in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal.

Recommendation Letter

Must be from a non-related adult, such as a teacher, coach or family friend. Have recommender place letter in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal.

Teacher Recommendation and Recommendation Letter must be from two different individuals.

Things to remember:

- Answer the short essay questions in complete sentences.
- Do not submit extra materials such as pictures or additional recommendation letters.
- Requests to be grouped with other CITs and/or campers will not be considered.
- CIT positions are extremely limited. Selection is based on the strength of the application and the applicant's ability to follow instructions. Not every applicant receives a spot in the program.

Applications can be mailed to:

Education Department
St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park
999 Anastasia Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Zoo Camp 2022 Counselor-in-Training Application



Please **handwrite** all answers in blue or black ink. **Application is to be completed by the applicant.** All pieces of the application must be submitted together; any pieces arriving separately will not be considered. Deadline is April 30, 2022.

Demographic Information

Name _____ DOB _____

Current Grade _____ Current School _____

Home Phone _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guardian Name _____ Email _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

In the event of an emergency the parent/guardian will be contacted first. Please provide a second contact.

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Did you ever attend Zoo Camp at the St Augustine Alligator Farm? Yes No

Have you applied for the CIT program before? Yes No Year(s)? _____

Have you ever participated in the CIT program before? Yes No Year(s)? _____

How did you hear about the CIT program? _____

Waiver

I understand that the educational programs are provided by the St Augustine Alligator Farm, and I understand the inherent dangers involved with my child's participation in these programs, including the risk of personal injury and/or damage to my child and/or my property while participating in these programs. I further understand and acknowledge that the participants in such programs are not covered under insurance of St Augustine Alligator Farm and that St Augustine Alligator Farm would not allow my child's participation in these programs absent my signing this release. I authorize and grant permission for a representative of St Augustine Alligator Farm to obtain emergency medical care from any licensed physician or hospital and/or medical clinic should my child become ill or injured while participating in educational activities away from home or at other times when neither parent nor guardian is available to grant authorization for emergency treatment. I therefore freely and voluntarily execute this release with such knowledge, assume the risk of personal injury and/or property loss arising from or in any way connected with my child's participation in any educational programs offered by the St Augustine Alligator Farm. I hereby release and discharge St Augustine Alligator Farm and any and all agents of St Augustine Alligator Farm from any liability, claim, cause of action, demand or damages from injury or damages of any kind to my child or my property as a result of my child's participation in the educational programs of St Augustine Alligator Farm. I grant permission and understand that photos and other images taken during this event could be used in print advertisement and other forms of media. I further waive, release, absolve and agree to indemnify and hold St Augustine Alligator Farm harmless as a result of my child's participation in any educational programs sponsored by St Augustine Alligator Farm. I understand that should my child become a disruptive force during the educational program that the instructor may choose to release him/her from the program.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Short Essay Questions (If more room is needed, please handwrite on your own paper.)

1. If you could study and create a conservation plan for one species in Florida, what would it be and why?

2. If you could only live by the ocean or in the mountains, what would you choose and why?

3. Name three positive traits about yourself and explain how they would be beneficial as a CIT.

4. Why do you want to be a CIT at the St Augustine Alligator Farm? Be specific!

5. What would you like to achieve by participating in the CIT program?

6. In your own opinion, what is the greatest aspect of the St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park?

7. How do you think zoos and aquariums contribute to the bigger picture of wildlife conservation?

8. Please select the sessions for which you are applying. You will be accepted for a maximum of three sessions. It is highly recommended that you apply for all sessions for which you are available.

✓	Week #	Dates	Times
	1	June 6 - 10	9:00am - 4:00pm
	2	June 13 - 17	9:00am - 4:00pm
	3	June 20 - 24	9:00am - 4:00pm
	4	June 27 - July 1	9:00am - 4:00pm
	5	July 4 - 8	9:00am - 4:00pm
	6	July 11 - 15	9:00am - 4:00pm
	7	July 18 - 22	9:00am - 4:00pm
	8	July 25 - 29	9:00am - 4:00pm
	9	August 1 - 5	9:00am - 4:00pm

Zoo Camp 2022 Teacher Recommendation



Directions: Teacher Recommendation must be from a current classroom teacher. If homeschooled, please have a non-related adult, such as a coach or a family friend complete. **Teacher should place the letter in an envelope, seal the envelope, sign over seal and return to applicant.**

Name of Applicant _____

Name of Recommender _____ Subject _____

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Very Good

Using the scale found above, please rate the following items:

Maturity	1	2	3	4	5
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5
Work Ethic	1	2	3	4	5
Self Confidence	1	2	3	4	5
Initiative/Independence	1	2	3	4	5
Overall	1	2	3	4	5

What are the first three words that come to mind to describe this student?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please write any additional comments about the student.

Signature _____ Date _____

Zoo Camp 2022 Recommendation Letter



Directions: Recommendation must be from a non-related adult such as a teacher, coach or family friend. Recommender does not have to use this form if they prefer to write the letter on their own stationary, but all information requested should be included. **Recommender should place the letter in an envelope, seal the envelope, sign over seal and return to applicant.**

Name of Applicant _____

Name of Recommender _____

Relationship to applicant _____ Years Known _____

Signature _____ Date _____