

RYC Counselor Description

What *is* a counselor at RYC?

If you have not served as a camp counselor before, you may think that you have to be a youth pastor or school teacher. However, this is simply not true. Many of the best counselors come with merely a heart for our covenant youth and a desire to see them mature in the Lord. It will take patience, wisdom, enthusiasm, and much grace.

To be a counselor, you need to be growing in the Lord and a member in good standing at a reformed church. We expect our counselors to embrace the reformed faith as confessed in the Westminster standards and have a desire to see our youth grow in their knowledge and love of our Triune God. We also require participants to at least wait one year after they graduate from high school before serving as a RYC counselor.

What will the counselor *do* at RYC?

➤ **Shepherd by Interaction and Example**

- 1) Be with your students at all times. You are building relationships with them by being with them all the time.
- 2) Participate with your students in all activities. Use the activity times to spend time with your students.
- 3) Set a consistent example of Christian faith and discipleship. You may be the only example in a student's life of what it means to live like a Christian.

➤ **Shepherd by Teachable Moments**

- 1) Lead small group discussions with your students.
- 2) Meet with each of your students individually at least once during the week to determine where each student stands with Christ. Use this time to challenge them to take their relationship with the Lord seriously and to the next level.
- 3) Pray with and for your students daily.

➤ **Shepherd by Participation**

- 1) Maintain and participate with a positive attitude. When unexpected things happen, keep a good attitude. Lead by example; students' eyes are watching!
- 2) Be enthusiastic! Be an encourager to our youth!
- 3) Encourage fellow counselors in the Lord.
- 4) Have a servant's heart. Jump in and help out when you see a need.
- 5) Attend staff meetings and prayer times.
- 6) Be Flexible!! Things will go much smoother with this in mind.
- 7) Safety First!! Think army: there are three rules; safety, safety, safety.
- 8) Adhere to the conference guidelines and dress code. Again, lead by example.
- 9) Respect the campground wishes.
- 10) Run all pranks through the Camp Director. Though we want to have fun at camp, know that the Camp Director and assistants need to keep a level of respect so that their authority will be respected in time of need.

Have Fun!!!