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# Unit Leader

## Overview

Surf Camp, Inc. is looking for an energetic, service-oriented Unit Leader to join our Carolina Ocean Odyssey overnight camp. This position provides a unique opportunity to inspire and educate campers, ages 10-12, while immersing them in the world of ocean safety, surfing, and marine science. As a Unit Leader, you will play a pivotal role in delivering a life-changing ocean experience, fostering environmental stewardship, and creating a supportive, educational environment for both campers and staff.

This role requires a highly organized, detail-oriented team player with strong leadership skills. You will oversee the implementation of daily activities, manage staff, and ensure that the program runs smoothly and safely. You will also provide 24-hour supervision for campers, ensuring their well-being and delivering a fun and impactful experience. This position reports to the Site Director and Program Coordinator.

## What You'll Do:

### Leadership & Supervision:

- ❖ Lead and manage a team of counselors, providing guidance, feedback, and support to ensure a safe, engaging environment for campers.
- ❖ Ensure 24-hour supervision of campers both in the bunk rooms and during activities.
- ❖ Mentor staff and address any performance issues, fostering a positive and collaborative camp culture.
- ❖ Make decisions quickly based on camper needs, weather, and wave conditions.

### Program & Curriculum Management:

- ❖ Implement and oversee the camp curriculum, ensuring that all activities are educational, engaging, and aligned with Surf Camp's core values of **Safety, Learning, and Fun**.
- ❖ Lead and supervise hands-on educational activities such as wave dynamics, ocean safety, surf etiquette, rip currents, barrier island ecology, and salt marsh functionality.
- ❖ Develop and implement activities that combine surf lessons with marine science education to deepen campers' connection to the ocean.

### Logistics & Equipment Management:

- ❖ Manage the daily setup and breakdown of camp activities, ensuring equipment is prepared, maintained, and ready for use.
- ❖ Oversee the organization and inventory of camp supplies and equipment, ensuring that everything is in working order.
- ❖ Safely transport campers to and from activities using 15-passenger vans.

### Camper Care & Safety:

- ❖ Ensure that all campers are safe and feel supported, both physically and emotionally, throughout the program.
- ❖ Oversee medication administration, dietary preferences, and special needs to ensure individual campers are properly cared for.
- ❖ Manage camper behavior and enforce camp policies to maintain a positive, respectful, and fun camp environment.

### Team Collaboration & Communication:

- ❖ Facilitate daily team meetings to discuss camper issues, schedule changes, and logistics.
- ❖ Maintain open communication with leadership and fellow staff to address any issues and ensure the program runs smoothly.
- ❖ Communicate professionally with campers' parents during check-in, check-out, and throughout the camp session, providing updates and addressing concerns.

## Responsibilities:

- ❖ Lead and supervise surf lessons, ensuring all campers understand and practice ocean safety, surf etiquette, and wave riding techniques.
- ❖ Supervise all camp activities, ensuring campers are safe, engaged, and learning throughout the day.
- ❖ Implement and supervise educational activities on marine science topics, making learning fun and interactive.
- ❖ Coordinate and ensure smooth camper arrival, check-in, and departure processes.
- ❖ Manage the setup and breakdown of camp activities and ensure equipment is organized and ready.
- ❖ Safely transport campers to off-site activities and excursions.
- ❖ Manage camper behavior, enforcing camp rules and providing appropriate discipline when necessary.
- ❖ Maintain a positive, inclusive atmosphere where campers feel safe, valued, and engaged.
- ❖ Complete all administrative tasks, including preparing supplies, reviewing camp binders, and conducting evaluations.

## Skills & Qualifications

### Requirements:

- ❖ At least **21 years of age** with a **BA or BS in Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Education, Recreation**, or related field (or equivalent experience).
- ❖ **3+ years** of ocean wave riding experience and a solid understanding of surfing fundamentals.
- ❖ Ability to pass a **500-yard open-ocean swim test**.
- ❖ **Lifeguarding, CPR, and First Aid** certifications (must be valid at the start of staff training).
- ❖ Must be in excellent physical condition and able to lift **50 lbs** unassisted.
- ❖ Proven experience in **marine science** or **environmental education**.
- ❖ Strong organizational, communication, decision-making, and logistical skills.
- ❖ Able to pass a government background check and have a clean driving record.
- ❖ No conflicting summer commitments, including travel, work, or other leave of absence.

### Preferred:

- ❖ Masters in marine biology, environmental science, education, or related field
- ❖ Wilderness First Responder Certification
- ❖ Surfing experience
- ❖ Familiarity with local marine ecosystems and organisms
- ❖ Previous experience working in a camp setting
- ❖ Environmental education certification or teaching credential

## Why Join Us?

- ❖ **Competitive stipend** and **pro-deal opportunities** on outdoor gear and equipment.
- ❖ **Accommodations and meals** provided, valued at **\$2,000**.
- ❖ Opportunity to **work in a beautiful ocean-view facility** on **Topsail Island, NC**.
- ❖ The chance to make a **real difference** in the lives of campers while fostering a love for the ocean and environmental conservation.
- ❖ Work alongside a passionate, professional team dedicated to safety, fun, and learning.

## Position Duration

Programs run from **early June to early August** on **Topsail Island, NC**. Mandatory staff training begins **in late May** (specific dates TBD).

## About Surf Camp, Inc.

Surf Camp, Inc. is a leader in **learn-to-surf** and **marine science** adventure camps, offering a diverse range of camps for kids, teens, and adults. Our brand is grounded in our core values of **Safety, Learning, and Fun**. We aim to build confidence, develop character, and inspire a lifelong love and respect for the ocean through surfing, marine education, and environmental stewardship.

## Mission Statement:

*"Our mission is to cultivate a love and respect for the ocean by building confidence, developing character, and inspiring stoke through safety, fun, and learning."*