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# Travel Camp Unit Leader

## Overview:

Surf Camp, Inc. is seeking an experienced and dedicated Unit Leader for our Travel Camp program, providing an unforgettable surf and cultural adventure to teens from around the world. The Travel Camp Unit Leader will lead surf instruction, facilitate cultural and educational activities, and ensure the safety and well-being of campers while exploring the unique coastal environments of California and Costa Rica.

This position requires a blend of leadership, surfing expertise, and passion for marine conservation. The Unit Leader will oversee the daily activities, provide guidance to staff, and create a positive, impactful experience for the campers. Surf instruction experience is not required, as candidates will undergo our comprehensive training program. This position works closely with the leadership team and reports directly to the Program Coordinator.

## What You'll Do:

### Leadership & Staff Management

- ❖ Provide 24-hour supervision of campers, ensuring their safety and a positive experience both in and out of the water.
- ❖ Mentor and lead a team of counselors, delegating tasks and responsibilities while focusing on camper safety, engagement, and the program schedule.
- ❖ Conduct daily team meetings to review camper progress, logistical updates, and any camper or activity-related issues.
- ❖ Offer constructive feedback and guidance to counselors, ensuring effective team collaboration.

### Program Management & Curriculum Implementation

- ❖ Oversee the implementation of the camp curriculum, ensuring it's engaging, educational, and aligned with Surf Camp's core values of Safety, Learning, and Fun.
- ❖ Lead surf lessons, marine science activities, and cultural excursions that foster learning about ocean ecosystems and local conservation practices.
- ❖ Develop and execute activities related to surf techniques, ocean safety, marine biology, and local cultural experiences.

### Logistics & Equipment Management

- ❖ Manage the daily logistics of the program, including camp setup, equipment maintenance, and supply management.
- ❖ Work with vendors and local partners to ensure campers have a rich, immersive experience during the trip.
- ❖ Safely transport campers in 15-passenger vans to and from various activities and excursions.

### Safety & Camper Care

- ❖ Ensure the physical, emotional, and social safety of campers throughout the program.
- ❖ Administer medication and monitor dietary preferences, ensuring each camper's unique needs are met.
- ❖ Manage camper behavior, providing mentorship and discipline when necessary, while maintaining a positive camp environment.
- ❖ Respond effectively to emergency situations and follow all safety procedures.

### Communication & Coordination

- ❖ Communicate professionally with campers, parents, staff, and partners, ensuring all parties are informed of the program's progress.
- ❖ Coordinate camper check-ins and departures, assisting with airport pick-ups and drop-offs as necessary.
- ❖ Ensure smooth communication and collaboration with the leadership team to address any logistical, safety, or camper-related concerns.

## **Responsibilities:**

- ❖ Lead and supervise all aspects of the Travel Camp program, ensuring the safety and well-being of campers.
- ❖ Oversee and manage the implementation of daily camp schedules, including surf lessons, educational activities, and excursions.
- ❖ Mentor and support a team of counselors, delegating tasks and responsibilities effectively.
- ❖ Collaborate with local partners and vendors to create enriching cultural experiences for the campers.
- ❖ Supervise the safety of campers both in the field and in accommodations.
- ❖ Manage camper behavior and discipline when necessary, ensuring a respectful, inclusive environment.
- ❖ Safely transport campers to and from activities and assist with camper check-in/check-out.
- ❖ Conduct daily team meetings, ensuring the program's goals are being met and that staff is informed and supported.
- ❖ Ensure the program stays within budget and that expenses are managed efficiently.
- ❖ Complete all necessary pre- and post-trip administrative tasks, including evaluations, paperwork, and equipment inventory.

## **Skills and Qualifications:**

### **Required:**

- ❖ At least 25 years of age with a BA or BS in Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Education, Recreation, or related field.
- ❖ A minimum of 3 years of surfing experience and a strong understanding of surfing fundamentals.
- ❖ Current certifications in Lifeguarding, CPR, and First Aid.
- ❖ Must be in excellent physical condition and able to pass a 500-yard open-ocean swim test.
- ❖ Proven experience in staff management and organizing campers for group activities.
- ❖ No conflicting summer commitments, including travel or other work obligations.
- ❖ Clean driving record and ability to pass a government background check.
- ❖ Valid passport for international travel.

### **Preferred:**

- ❖ Master's degree in Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Education, or related field.
- ❖ Wilderness First Responder certification or higher.
- ❖ Fluency in Spanish or another foreign language.
- ❖ Previous trip leading or summer camp leadership experience.
- ❖ Environmental education certification or teaching credentials.
- ❖ Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- ❖ A genuine passion for changing the world through education, action, and conservation.

## **Why Join Us?**

- ❖ Competitive stipend with pro-deal opportunities on outdoor gear and equipment.
- ❖ Accommodations and meals provided, valued at \$2,750, including flights to/from the program site.
- ❖ The opportunity to work in California or Costa Rica, offering cultural immersion and unique ecosystems.
- ❖ Make a difference by leading young adults in an unforgettable travel and surf experience.
- ❖ Opportunity to work alongside a dedicated team, passionate about marine conservation and education.

## **Position Duration:**

Programs run from early June to early August. Staff must attend mandatory pre-trip training in late May (specific dates TBD).

## **About Surf Camp, Inc.:**

Surf Camp, Inc. is a leader in the world of learn-to-surf and marine science adventure camps. Our mission is centered

on Safety, Learning, and Fun, offering transformative experiences that build confidence, develop character, and inspire a love for the ocean. We create life-changing summer camps for kids, teens, and adults, combining surfing, environmental stewardship, and cultural exchange.

**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."*