



## Ann Arbor YMCA Camp Al-Gon-Quian Junior Staff Application – 2019

*For applicants who have completed one summer of the Counselor-In-Training Program*

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Dear Junior Staff Applicant and Parent,

Thank you for your interest in returning to Camp Al-Gon-Quian to work another summer! I hope you had a great time and learned a lot as a CIT last year. I also hope the school year has provided you with further opportunities to grow. The purpose of this letter is to help you understand the Junior Staff application process and job description.

Applicants who have completed one year of the CIT program and who have finished at least the 11<sup>th</sup> grade may apply for a Junior Staff position at Camp AGQ. Junior Staff members serve as cabin and activity counselors at AGQ and work for half of the summer. Their daily tasks and responsibilities are almost the same as full-summer staff members, except they have fewer supervisory responsibilities since most are under the age of 18.

Once hired into the position, Junior Staff members may select whether they would like to work as volunteer or be paid. The stipend for J-Staff members is \$165/week (plus a \$10/week stipend for lifeguards). It is your personal preference, but your preference will not affect the hiring process. You will make that choice after hiring decisions are made. Junior Staff members work at camp for three sessions. J-Staff Session A is from June 22 through July 27 (five weeks), which encompasses camper Sessions 1-3. J-Staff Session B is from July 28 through August 25 (four weeks), which encompasses camper Sessions 4-6. J-Staff Session B has the option to work family camp.

Junior Staff members receive a day of training before camp starts (date, time and location TBA). Once at camp, they will work alongside of full-summer staff members. The other two big differences are that J-Staff report to their own program directors and have time off with other J-Staff members rather than with the full-summer staff. The program focuses on giving J-Staff an experience as close to regular staff experience as possible, but still providing close guidance and constant feedback. This program is oftentimes a bridge to full-summer employment in the future but does not guarantee future YMCA employment.

The application link is online and can be accessed by going to the employment page of the AGQ website or by clicking the following link:

<https://annarborymca.campintouch.com/ui/forms/application/staff/App>

The application consists of an information form and essay portion. Applicants who completed the CIT application in 2018 will have their information and references

carried over. Please use the same email address you used in your previous application to access your existing account.

\*If you would like to collect new references you must contact the AGQ office to get more information.

Complete applications are due on **Monday, January 14th, 2019**. After applications are received, candidates will be contacted shortly after the deadline to set up an interview. Final decisions will be sent to staff members in late February. If an applicant does not live in the Ann Arbor area, we will set up an interview via phone or Skype.

### **Here are some FAQs about becoming a Junior Staff member at Camp AGQ:**

#### Why work at camp?

Working with youth in a resident camp setting is one of the most challenging experiences you may ever have. It requires a level of commitment and energy far beyond other kinds of summer employment, even other positions that involve working with children. The rewards, however, are as great as the challenges. The opportunities camp provides for deeply affecting the life of a child are extraordinary. I'm sure many of you remember the effect your counselors had on you as a camper; whether they introduced you to new music or taught you the true meanings of the pillars. You can continue this tradition and have the same impact on youth yourself as a counselor at AGQ.

#### Who are these positions for?

Summer positions at YMCA Camp Al-Gon-Quian are for hard working, enthusiastic people who enjoy fun and camaraderie. It is for dedicated individuals who have a sincere desire to work with children and have a positive impact on their lives. The work is demanding of your time, energy and emotions and requires a great deal of self-motivation, patience and creativity.

Only qualified individuals who demonstrate a deep sense of commitment and character, and can be strong, positive influences in the camper's lives are selected to be Camp Al-Gon-Quian staff. We're looking for responsible and caring individuals to bring their skills to our summer staff community. Our number one priority is finding summer staff who will be positive role models for our campers. We are also looking for charisma, maturity and activity skills that can support and add to our program. To ensure the safety of all of our youth, we have all staff applicants (prior to hiring) undergo a thorough background check. Staff members are, without question, the key to happy and healthy campers and a successful summer at camp.

#### Information about our staff

Al-Gon-Quian employs about 55 summer staff, about 16 Junior Staff and about 40 CITS.

**First Responder Trainings:** During the month of May and the first two weeks of June, YMCA trainings, including CPR, first aid, lifeguarding and others, take place at the Ann Arbor YMCA. The camp-specific trainings that are offered are free of charge to J-Staff members. All J-Staff members must achieve either ASHI (YMCA)

or Red Cross CPR and First Aid training before the start of their employment. Staff members who are unable to attend the YMCA trainings must find and pay for their own trainings.

Thank you for applying to work at Camp Al-Gon-Quian for Summer 2019! Remember the competition is very high for these coveted spots, and hiring will be based on your application, interview, performance last summer and your three references. There will be many applicants for few spots—please take this process seriously and professionally. If you have any questions about the process, the J-Staff experience or camp in general, please do not hesitate to contact me anytime via email ([camping@annarborymca.org](mailto:camping@annarborymca.org)) or by calling my office directly (734.661.8051).

Sincerely,

Katie Milne  
Director of Camp Al-Gon-Quian