

FAQ's for Jr. Staff members

What do Jr. Staff members do?

By taking on the responsibility of becoming a Jr. Staff member you are no longer just “coming to camp” you will be here to serve the needs of the campers. We view your commitment to the Jr. Staff as a voluntary job and try to include many aspects of any “typical” job. You will have supervisors, duties and the opportunity to show that you have the responsibility to perform the task at hand. You will work closely with the adult Sr. Staff who will act as your supervisors and your duties will be split between your program area and your section.

You will be assigned to work in a program area each session (Waterfront, Archery, Corral, Arts&Crafts, etc...). In your program area you will assist the Sr. Staff in teaching a skill (sailing, riding, dance, etc...) and during free periods you will assist in camper supervision, handing out equipment, and equipment maintenance.

You will also be assigned to a living section each session. In your section you will assist the Sr. Staff in camper supervision. You will be working with a group of campers and making sure that they are taking care of their personal hygiene, assisting them at meals, planning group activities for the section and helping with the maintenance of your living area. Jr. Staff members are not allowed to discipline campers but are strongly urged to assist Sr. Staff members in decision making during conflict resolution.

Jr. Staff also help plan and take part in special events, all camp activities and campfires.

You will also get time off every day so that you can take advantage of some of the great activities while you are here at Anokijig.

Can I change my scheduled camp sessions?

Probably, but don't wait too long. There are limited openings for staff in each session and some are already full or getting close to it. If you need to drop a session, let us know as early as possible so that we can arrange coverage.

What time do I need to be at camp on Sunday?

On Sundays, all staff members need to be in Western Lodge by 11:00am for the staff meeting – it's not a bad idea to arrive a half hour or so early so you have time to move into your section (there is not much time after the meeting to do this).

When can I leave on Saturday?

We try to have the Saturday staff meeting over by 11:00am but it sometimes goes a little long (11:30 is probably a safe time to plan on). Plan to stay until 3:00pm if you are assigned to the Saturday cleaning-crew

Can I leave early?

We discourage this for several reasons. First and foremost, we are required to maintain a certain ratio of staff to campers which could be affected if too many staff members leave early. More important to you, after the campers leave on Saturday we hold a staff meeting to re-cap the week - this is really your only opportunity to discuss what worked well, what didn't, and suggest any changes. If for some reason you absolutely must leave early, you will need to seek permission from the Program Director (Darin Holden) so that he can arrange coverage.

Can I stay over the weekends between camp sessions?

Yes, staff members are always welcome to stay over between sessions. Meals will be provided and you will have an opportunity to relax. We will try to get you into town if you need to pick anything up (depending upon the availability of a vehicle and driver). At some time during your stay as a Jr. Staff member, you will probably be assigned to help with the carryovers (campers staying from week to week) or to help with the cleaning crew (staff working carryover will receive a full day off during the week, cleaning crew will receive ½ day).

Can I leave camp to attend a [fill in the blank]?

We understand that you may have a family gathering, sporting event, or other unavoidable commitment (concerts and parties do not qualify) and we will do everything possible to arrange for you to attend. We need to know about these things as early as possible so that we can arrange coverage. You could also work as a carryover staff or help with the cleaning crew to get time off during the week (we will plan the carryover and cleaning-crew schedules during Staff Training so try to know what days you will need off).

What do we do at Staff Training?

Staff Training is where you will learn how to be an Anokijig staff member instead of a camper; this will be the only opportunity we will get to pass on all of the information you will need in order to be an effective and safe member of the staff team. You will learn how to provide safe effective camper supervision, how to work in the program areas and what to do in emergencies. We use this time to work out lesson plans for the skill areas, plan special events, schedule carryover
(over)

weekends and cleaning crews. There will also be practice sessions where you will have the opportunity to try out the skills you have learned. Be sure to bring a swimming suit because there will be activities and lessons that take place in the swimming area (all staff members must take part in waterfront emergency training unless they are physically unable to participate in swimming activities).

What program area will I be working in?

During Staff Training you will have the opportunity to let us know what area(s) you are interested in and you will be able to get some practice experience in one or more of the program areas. At the Sunday meeting for each camp session you will find out which program area you will be working in for that week. You may work several different program area while you are at camp – remember, the more areas you know how to work the more useful you are as a staff member.

What section will I be living in?

During Staff Training you will have the opportunity to let us know what age group of campers you are most comfortable working with. At the Sunday meeting for each camp session you will find out which section you are assigned to. We do need to make sure that we have adequate coverage for all of the sections so will probably be in different sections each session you are here.

Can I be in the same section as my friends?

Maybe but don't count on it. You will need to show us that you are capable of doing your job with the distraction of having your friends around (this begins at Staff Training). Even if you are not living together, you will have plenty of opportunity to spend time with your friends – in fact, one of the reasons we usually separate friends is so that they will have a better chance to schedule time-off together.

Can I get a ride on the Camp Bus?

Maybe. The buses we run are usually full with just the campers and you will need to be here earlier on Sundays and stay later on Saturdays anyway so you will probably need to find your own rides. There are some options though - we need staff to act as chaperones on the buses so we may be able to use you in that capacity or we can usually get you on the bus when it is running empty if you are willing to come to camp Saturday afternoon and leave Sunday morning. Let us know at Staff Training if you think that you need a ride on the bus for your camp sessions. There will not be bus transportation available for Staff Training however there will be a bus running on Friday June 6th if you are willing to help out with the volunteer weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

Can I drive myself to camp?

Yes but you need to get prior permission from the camp management to have a car at camp. Once your car is here you will not be allowed to drive it until you leave to go home (the only exception would be your day off and only with the permission of your parents or guardian). Parking is very tight at Camp Anokijig so we would like to encourage you to get a ride to camp.

Can I leave camp on my day off / can I leave camp with other staff members?

Yes but you will have to get permission from your parents or guardian and they will need to talk to a member of the camp management. You will need to tell them where you are going, who will be driving and when you will return to camp. You will have to get this permission every time you leave camp for any reason except for a camp authorized trip (letters of permission or "blanket" permission statements will not work). Camp Anokijig will not be responsible for anything that happens outside of its premises unless it occurs during a camp authorized trip.

What do I need to bring to camp?

See the Packing List.

Will I have a chance to get my clothes washed?

Staff laundry is done on Wednesday nights - several staff members will do it at a local laundry. You will need a separate container (laundry bag, pillow case, etc...) for each load you want washed (if you want to separate your colors from your whites, you will need 2 bags) each container must be clearly marked with your name. Each load costs approximately \$4.00 to wash and dry which will be deducted from your Trading Post account (if you don't have a Trading Post account, we can't do your laundry).

Can I bring my cell-phone / i-pod / computer / 72" plasma TV / etc...?

Yes but the campers are not allowed to bring these things so you will have to be discreet. You will need to keep them out of the camper's sight and will only be allowed to use them on your time-off and only in specified areas - any breaking of these policies will result in the device being confiscated and held until you leave. Camp Anokijig does not assume responsibility for the loss or damage of any personal items so you will need to find a way to keep them secure (there is no room in the camp offices).

If you have any other questions, please e-mail [Claude Gonzales at clauddeg@anokijig.net](mailto:clauddeg@anokijig.net) or contact him through the camp office at: (920) 893-0782