



Information for Students and Parents Camp Glen Brook CIT Program

Thank you for your inquiry about Glen Brook's CIT program. Our Counselor-in-Training program is a six and a half week intensive leadership-training program for students who have completed 9th or 10th grade and are at least 14 years old. The program begins at the start of Staff Week (one week before campers arrive) and runs for the full camp season.

CITs learn about camp counseling and education, assist in classes, help counselors care for campers, do many daily camp chores in the kitchen, dining room, grounds, barns, etc., and help organize some of the special activities. The CIT director supervises CIT's. The primary goals of the program are to help participants recognize themselves as leaders, teachers, and positive role models, and to understand what goes into making camp an unforgettable experience for the young people in our care.

CITs must enjoy working with children, embrace and work with the fun and challenges of intense community living, be willing to take initiative and work hard, be willing to give up many personal freedoms and comforts, display outstanding character, and be enthusiastic, creative, self-directed leaders.

CITs are chosen based on their application, experience, skills and/or certifications, recommendations, and sometimes an informal personal or phone interview. Most of our CITs are former campers, but it is not a strict requirement if an applicant brings other strengths. The program can accommodate twelve students, some who are returning for a second year. The task of selecting only a few out of a large number of applications is difficult. Realistically we may be only able to accept six new candidates a summer even though we "graduate" well over 30 campers each summer plus other highly qualified applicants. We choose our CITs based on their promise as future outstanding counselors.

Most camps charge full or reduced tuition for their CIT program, however Glen Brook has traditionally not done this. We provide a small weekly amount of pocket money so that CITs may use it on their da off or put some away in savings. Please be clear that this is a leadership-training program; a CIT is not an employee. This is not a summer job to earn money for college. Rather, we feel that this is an important opportunity to understand what it means to be responsible, self-motivated leaders, an essential quality for future successes in college or careers. And of course, we hope that they will choose to be counselors at Glen Brook.

Please read the enclosed page of expectations, rules, and understandings. We understand that as a CIT you live in that sometimes-awkward world between adulthood and childhood, camper and staff, and that you give up a lot of freedom to live in a community such as camp. However, please keep in mind that even the director has a long list of rules to follow. Believe it or not, a new level of freedom and

creativity can arise out of such a highly structured life as everyone operates under the same set of rules, demanding respect for one another.

If this program interests you, please return the enclosed application as soon as possible. Also, please take some time to read over the reference forms, sign the confidentiality waiver if you choose to do so, and give them along with the self addressed stamped envelopes to three people who know you well (e.g. teacher, employer, etc.). Please do not use family members as references. We will be making our first round of acceptances in late January.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call at 603-876-3342 or e-mail us at glenbrook@glenbrook.org.

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