

Kooch-i-ching – Wilderness Camps

2023 Wilderness Trip Leader and Cabin Counselor

Position: Wilderness Trip Leader and Cabin Counselor

Status: Full Time, Seasonal (mid-May to mid-August)

Location: International Falls, Minnesota

Salary: TBD, room and board included

Websites: www.koochiching.org



Overview & Mission

Camp Kooch-i-ching for boys is a non-profit wilderness camp that has been in operation for nearly 100 years serving young men from across the United States. Our programs combine challenging canoe and backpacking trips with a wide range of in-camp classes, games and activities.

Kooch-i-ching's mission is to inspire the growth of young men through fun and challenging wilderness adventures that promote self-discovery, teamwork and service to others.

Core Values

Be Helpful, Be Strong, Be Kind, Be Brave, Be Joyful

Job Description & Opportunities

We are looking for staff who share our values and have a genuine interest in working with young men in a wilderness setting.

Our trip leaders will guide wilderness trips to remote parts of Canada via canoe and the Western United States on foot. In the role of trip leader, staff members help plan, prepare for and ensure the success of wilderness trips ranging in length from seven to 21 days.

In camp, they will live in cabins with campers, teach classes and supervise activities that are part of our in-camp program. They will guide campers through their daily routines and promote a cabin culture that is fun, safe and appropriate.

Responsibilities

- Ensure the safety of campers at all times
- Provide positive leadership during classes, activities, mealtimes and free time
- Provide positive leadership on trips; help campers gain skills, develop self-confidence and work as a team
- Lead or help teach classes; help campers work toward standards and goals
- Lead or help supervise activities and games throughout the day
- Adhere to all camp policies and safety protocols and ensure that campers do the same

Qualifications

- At least 18 years old
- Desire to work with children in a wilderness setting
- Organization skills, self-motivated attitude, ability to handle multiple responsibilities

- Ability to handle the pressures associated with working and living with children
- Ability to work long and irregular hours, especially on trips
- Ability to leave your phone and other devices in designated areas, to be used only in an emergency or during your time off
- Experience in at least one of our core activities: athletics, archery, arts and crafts, boatbuilding, climbing, low ropes course, riflery, sailing, watersports, woodcraft, and wilderness trips

Physical Requirements

- Ability to lift at least 50 pounds
- Ability to participate in strenuous activities such as hiking, paddling and portaging—often over challenging terrain and with heavy gear
- Ability to work for extended periods of time while standing, kneeling, paddling, etc.

Preferred Experience & Credentials

- Prior experience working with children
- Prior experience canoeing or backpacking
- Current Wilderness First Aid (WFA) or Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification*
- Whitewater training*
- Lifeguard certification*
- Other certifications: archery, climbing, low ropes course, riflery, sailing, boating

**Kooch-i-ching offers WFR, lifeguard certification, and whitewater courses prior to the start of the camp season.*

If you are interested in this position, please contact JR Verkamp at jrverkamp@koochiching.org