

Junior Counselor Program Information & Application

Due: March 6, 2015

Are you interested in:

- Exploring the marine environment
- Learning how to present marine science to kids
- Gaining experience with marine science careers
- Sharing experiences in a multicultural environment
- Gaining leadership skills
- Working with youth ages 10 – 18

Description:

Project Oceanology's Ocean Diversity Institute, utilizes marine science to develop leadership and life skills for youth ages 10 – 18. As a Junior Counselor, you will work with Project Oceanology Ocean Diversity Institute Instructors and Interns to help campers explore the marine environment while learning about tolerance and understanding in a diverse community.

Participants in the Junior Counselor Program will **assist** Ocean Diversity Institute Instructors and Interns with the following duties: camper check-in, teaching, supervision during recreation and meal times, camp preparation, and clean-up. In addition, Junior Counselors serve as positive role models for younger campers, and help create a supportive camp community. Junior Counselors fulfill a key role in providing extra support to homesick campers and others who require more individualized attention. **Junior Counselors will never be expected to fulfill solo supervisory roles for other campers.**

Participants in the Junior Counselor Program will focus on personal growth and development while gaining leadership and life skills, as well as learning about environmental education curriculum development. As a Junior Counselor, you will:

- develop and apply leadership skills
- acquire and practice communication skills
- understand and incorporate age appropriate learning and behavior techniques among campers
- explore marine careers by working side-by-side with marine scientists

Dates of Employment:

The Junior Counselor Program will have two sessions during the summer of 2015. Four applicants will be selected for each session (two boys/two girls). Applicants must be from the state of Connecticut and will be required to attend 8-hours of training. Dates and times of the training are still to be determined but are planned to be during the spring of 2015. Participants will be required to attend all four weeks of their session.

Participants will be required to return home each Friday afternoon at the end of each week of Ocean Diversity Institute and return Sunday afternoon to assist with Camper check-in.

Project Oceanology

1084 Shennecossett Road Groton CT 06340
P. 860-445-9007 F. 860-449-8008 www.oceanology.org

Timeline:

Applications and Letters of Reference due to Project Oceanology – March 6, 2015

Interviews schedule and conducted – March/April 2015

Acceptance letters mailed to notify candidates – April 2015

Junior Counselor Training Sessions – May/June 2015

Junior Counselor Sessions – **June 21 – July 17, 2015** or **July 19 – August 14, 2015**

Qualifications/Eligibility Requirements:

Successful applicants will have experience working with children. Applicants will have demonstrated maturity, energy, enthusiasm, effective communication skills and an interest in the environment. In order to be eligible, applicants are required to:

- be enrolled in a Connecticut high school (at least 15 years old as of June 15, 2015) and
- have attended a previous session of OceanCamp or Ocean Diversity Institute
- submit to a drug screen and background check
- commit to attending entire 4 week session
- be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.5 or above)
- have a strong interest in marine science
- have a strong interest in working with youth
- CPR and First Aid are recommended but not required

Application Process:

Project Oceanology coordinates the selection process to ensure that a similar, fair and equitable process is followed. Applications must arrive at Project Oceanology no later than **March 6, 2015**.

In order to be considered, the following application materials are required:

1. Application cover and signature pages
2. Responses to Essay questions
3. Two completed Letters of Reference from the following individuals:
 - a. Teacher/Educator
 - b. Community member or adult mentor

* Letter of Reference Form is attached to application packet.

* Completed Letters of Reference may be sent directly to Project Oceanology or included with the application in a sealed envelope. Relatives are not eligible to write Letters of Reference.

Interview Process:

Due to the large volume of resumes we receive, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Interviews will last approximately 15 minutes, and may take place in person or over the phone. Parents must be available during the interview process for information and dialogue.

Selection and approval process:

After interviews and due deliberation, the selection committee will select the participants. All candidates will be notified by the end of **April 2015**.

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Compensation:

Compensation for the Junior Counselor Program is a stipend of \$200/week along with room & board during camp session (except Friday PM to Sunday AM).

Contact Information:

Send applications and questions about Project Oceanology's Junior Counselor Program to:

Kirsten Tomlinson
Marine Science Residential Camp Director
1084 Shennecossett Rd.
Groton, CT 06340
860-445-9007 x3008
ktomlinson@oceanology.org

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Junior Counselor Application

Applications due by March 6, 2015

Completed application packets must include the following:

1. Application cover and signature pages
2. Essay questions
3. Two Letters of Reference from the following individuals
 - a. Teacher/Educator
 - b. Community member or adult mentor

* Letter of Reference Form is attached to application packet.

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Follow these instructions in response to the Essay Questions:

1. Attach sheets of paper in response to the questions numbered below.
2. Put your name and a page number at the top of each page you use.
3. Number and write the question above your response.
4. Provide up to a half page response to each essay question (not to exceed 300 words).
5. Please use 12 pt. font, single-spaced.

Essay Questions:

1. What is your experience in working with children?
2. What is your experience with marine science?
3. What was the most important lesson you learned from your previous experience with Ocean Camp or Ocean Diversity Institute?
4. What skills and knowledge can you bring to the program?
5. What skills and knowledge do you expect to gain from the program?

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Application Cover Page
Applications due by March 6, 2015

Personal Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Grade Completed in Spring 2015 _____ GPA _____ School _____

Do you require transportation to Ocean Diversity Institute? _____

Which camp session are you applying for? June 21 – July 17, 2015 or July 19 – August 14, 2015

First Choice: _____ Second Choice: _____

Letters of Reference:

1. Name of Teacher/Educator providing reference _____
2. Name of Community member or adult mentor providing reference _____

Why are you interested in Project Oceanology's Junior Counselor Program?

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Please rate yourself in the following areas:

	Have an interest in learning	Have experience with	Have taught to others	Can teach to others
Developing Communication Skills				
Developing Leadership Skills				
Developing Problem Solving Skills				
Discussing Multiculturalism				
Working With Others				
Teaching/Presentation Techniques				
Leading Games				
Marine Science Education				
Researching Marine Science Issues & Careers				
Using Technology				

Required Signatures:

I have read and understand the “2015 Junior Counselor Program Information”. If selected as a Junior Counselor, I understand that my continued appointment as a Junior Counselor is dependent upon making every reasonable attempt to follow through with all responsibilities and expectations associated with this appointment. Furthermore, I understand that in the event that I am unable to successfully fulfill my Junior Counselor responsibilities, that I may be relieved of all my responsibilities and dismissed from Ocean Camp or Ocean Diversity Institute.

Applicant _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

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Letter of Reference Cover Page

Applications due by March 6, 2015

Project Oceanology Ocean Diversity Institute staff would like to thank you, in advance, for your time and effort in writing a letter of reference on behalf of the applicant. We believe that it is a valuable part of the application process to obtain input from individuals associated with the applicant. Please complete the 'Letter of Reference Form' and send with your letter of recommendation.

Project Oceanology must receive completed Letters of Reference no later than **March 6, 2015**. Please be honest and straightforward in your comments. Specific examples are appreciated. You are under NO obligation to provide a copy of your letter of recommendation to the applicant.

Please keep in mind that the applicant is applying to be a member of the Project Oceanology Junior Counselor Program whose purpose is to utilize marine science to develop leadership, citizenship and life skills. As a Junior Counselor, the applicant would assist Project Oceanology Instructors and Ocean Diversity Institute Interns during camp activities; facilitating campers' exploration of the marine environment.

Description:

When writing your letter, also consider the applicant's skills, work habits, leadership, extracurricular involvement, communication style and ability to work in groups.

Mail to:

Project Oceanology
Attn: Junior Counselor Program Application
1084 Shennecossett Road
Groton, CT 06340

Thank you,

Kirsten Tomlinson
Marine Science Residential Camp Director
1084 Shennecossett Rd.
Groton, CT 06340
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Applications due by **March 6, 2015**

Project Oceanology
Attn: Junior Counselor Program Application
1084 Shennecossett Road
Groton, CT 06340

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Applications due by **March 6, 2015**

- Reference Name: _____
- Reference Signature: _____
- Date: _____