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Florida Keys SCUBA Trip Leader Summer Position

About Sea Turtle Camp

Sea Turtle Camp was founded to offer youth the opportunity to learn about marine biology through immersive, hands-on, feet-wet experiential education. Our mission is to cultivate a love and respect for the ocean by building confidence and developing character, while inspiring coastal conservation through safety, fun, and learning!

Sea Turtle Camp was created to immerse youth in the field of marine biology and empower them to be proactive and take ownership of their environment; we develop focused, responsible, independent individuals who know how to have fun while being stewards of the ocean. While we can't solve all the world's problems, we know that one person can make a difference, and a camp full of eager knowledge-hungry youth can make a huge difference.

One of our goals is to share our passion for life and teach young adults how to mold that into a selfless, hard working, team of individuals that can recognize problems and work towards solving them. Through our grass roots approach, we strive to show youth a wide variety of possibilities at a time in their life when they have many potential roads to follow. In so doing they will learn about the rewards of selfless giving in their community, gain exposure to other cultures, and experience different career paths.

Overview

The Trip Leader for Sea Turtle Camp must be a multi-talented individual with a strong desire to provide camper supervision, lead marine science instruction, and work as part of team. Our program attracts academically strong teens that complete an application process to attend. This position requires the candidate to work as part of a 2 or 3 person team (mainly autonomous) to inspire, instruct, and provide care to a group of 16 students pursuing their Open Water PADI Scuba Certification along with a SCUBA shop in the FL Keys. Applicant must have a passion for marine stewardship, teaching, and inspiring youth. Teamwork and dedication are important, and the applicant must provide feedback to all Sea Turtle Camp staff and vendors.

The Trip Leader will be responsible for daily instruction, facilitation of a variety of evening programs, logistical support, and daily van driving responsibilities. Logistics are a key element of our overnight trips and include equipment management and maintenance, evening program set-up and break-down, and other duties as assigned. This position will also assist with coordination of arrival and departure of campers. Last but not least, the Trip Leader must ensure that all staff and campers stay safe while having an awesome and life-enriching experience. This position reports to the Program Coordinator.

Skills & Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications

- ❖ BA or BS in marine biology, environmental science, education or related field (or currently pursuing)
- ❖ At least 21 years of age
- ❖ Must be in excellent physical condition
- ❖ Current certifications: Lifeguarding, CPR and First Aid; or will earn before start date
- ❖ Scuba certifications (at least Open Water) and at least 10 logged dives
- ❖ Experience in marine science, environmental education, summer camp or related fields

- ❖ Strong desire to change the world for the better through education and action
- ❖ Must be able to attend mandatory staff training via Skype and online sessions
- ❖ Willing to work long hours while maintaining energy and stamina
- ❖ Strong communication, decision making, logistical, and organizational skills
- ❖ Team player with a positive attitude, even when things are not going smoothly
- ❖ Loyalty, honesty, and a commitment to excellence
- ❖ Ability to remain focused in a fast paced, stressful, and fluid camp atmosphere
- ❖ Excellent critical thinking and problem solving skills
- ❖ NO conflicting summer commitments including travel, work, or other leave of absence
- ❖ Able to pass a government background check
- ❖ Clean driving record

Desired Skills

- ❖ Master's in marine biology, environmental science, education or related field
- ❖ Wilderness First Responder Certification
- ❖ Previous experience working in a camp setting
- ❖ At least 23 years of age
- ❖ Familiarity with Florida Keys and southeastern marine ecosystems and organisms
- ❖ Environmental education certification or teaching credential

Principal Responsibilities

During the summer months, we operate a one-week, overnight marine biology travel trips in the Florida Keys for 14-17 year olds. Working in collaboration with one-two other Sea Turtle Camp staff members, you will provide 24-hour supervision for campers both in the field and a night in their lodging.

Individual must maintain a strong skill set in the following areas: lesson development, organization, punctuality, problem solving, diving safety, as well as have a solid attention to detail. These skills are crucial in order for you to provide the best possible experience for each camper. Programs do require work on weekends and holidays.

Staff responsibilities are listed below but may not be limited to this list.

- ❖ Provide consistent support to co-leaders, by handling tasks and duties, aiding in delegating duties to staff, and focusing on campers' safety and schedule
- ❖ Assist with daily camp setup and breakdown responsibilities with your team
- ❖ Organize, supervise and participate in all camp activities
- ❖ Implement program curriculum
- ❖ Present and direct educational activities
- ❖ Facilitate sunrise/sunset beach walks with groups
- ❖ Maintain professional, open communication with staff and volunteers at various vendors
- ❖ Make quick decisions throughout the day based on weather and ocean conditions
- ❖ Attend all scheduled staff meetings with the Program Coordinator
- ❖ Participate in daily team meetings to go over any camper issues, logistics and schedule
- ❖ Perform all pre-session tasks, including but not limited to: reading camp binder, delegating responsibilities, and ensuring all supplies are prepared and accessible
- ❖ Perform all post-session tasks, including but not limited to: clean-up and inventory of supplies, staff debrief
- ❖ Provide proper behavior management of campers. Handle camper discipline issues and emergency situations that may arise
- ❖ Put camper needs before your own; get to know each camper, including their likes and dislikes, and make them feel welcome and accepted
- ❖ Serve as a positive role model for youth and display maturity, responsibility, flexibility, and sound judgment
- ❖ Oversee participants safety, medication administration, and dietary preferences
- ❖ Safely transport students in 15 passenger vans

- ❖ Conduct ongoing supply and equipment inventory
- ❖ Clean and organize lodging and vehicles at the end of camp session
- ❖ Communicate with campers and their parents. Be available to answer questions
- ❖ Practice open communication with your team and address any issues immediately
- ❖ Provide positive feedback and constructive criticism to co-workers when necessary
- ❖ Follow proper Emergency Procedures when necessary
- ❖ Clearly understand company goals, out high safety standards, and mission and continuously work to promote the organization and achieve its goals
- ❖ Be knowledgeable of Surf Camp, Inc. as a company, as well as our diversity of programs
- ❖ Maintain Sea Turtle Camp credit card and budget

Compensation

We offer industry-standard compensation commensurate with experience, and the inclusion of professional opportunities. In addition, the compensation package will include airfare, accommodations and meals during the travel trip. Training on our specific expectations, policies, and procedures will be provided.

Position Duration

Programs run, depending on the session from late June - early July. Candidates would need to attend mandatory Sea Turtle Camp training; typically via phone or Skype, but in person if possible.

Contact

To learn more about positions with Sea Turtle Camp, please contact our Program Coordinator at travel@seaturtlecamp.com. Please include a resume.