



# Camp Stella Maris Cabin Staff

The camp environment is meant to be a safe place, a home away from home and a magical bubble far from the problems and stressors of the real world. Cabin staff are the frontline magic makers. They are the heroes and role models that campers talk about, remember, and aspire to be. Cabin staff earn \$300-\$400/week based on position, experience, and qualifications. (Includes room and board.)

## Junior vs Senior Counselor

**Junior Counselor (JC):** NEW to staff and under 19y.o. at start of summer. JCs can apply at 16y.o. if they have completed our CIT program and are currently a junior in high school.

**Senior Counselor (SC):** ANY RETURNING staff *or* NEW and at least 19y.o. at start of summer.

### RESIDENT (OVERNIGHT) CAMP COUNSELOR

Responsible for 10-14 overnight campers, aged 7-15 years. Sleep in camper cabin with co-counselor. Different campers, cabin and co-counselor assigned weekly. Weeks run Sunday through Friday night or Saturday morning (alternates weekly).

- Minimum age 17 • Live-in • Full Summer
- May be assigned a day camp week based on need
- JCs typically assigned 1 week on kitchen staff

### DAY CAMP COUNSELOR

Responsible for day campers aged 5-12 years. Monday to Friday 8:30-5:30 (with some early drop-off days starting at 7:15).

- Minimum age 16 • Live-in or Commuter
- Full Summer
- Live-in staff arrive and leave with resident staff (Sunday to Friday night or Saturday morning) and have assigned duties outside day camp hours
- Live-in JCs typically assigned 1 week on kitchen staff

### ON-CALL COUNSELOR

Camp counselor for a minimum of 4 of the 9 weeks (including training week). Assigned to resident (overnight) or day camp. Weeks assigned before start of summer, but possibility of additional weeks during summer based on need. (Not required to remain available outside assigned weeks.)

- Minimum age 17 • Live-in • Partial Summer
- JCs typically assigned 1 week on kitchen staff

### LIVE-IN KITCHEN STAFF

Work 1-2 meals per day. Involves basic food prep, set-up, serving, break-down and cleaning. Assigned counselor duties outside of meal shifts.

- Minimum age 16 • Live-in • Full Summer
- Potential for 1-2 weeks as a counselor (overnight or day), but not guaranteed (or required)

*International live-in kitchen staff cannot be assigned counselor weeks due to visa limitations.*

## REPLACEMENT STAFF

Prior CSM staff member that fills in for a week-long session as needed.

Do not attend staff training week.

- Prior CSM Staff • Live-in • May be assigned to a non-cabin role as needed (or desired)

# More About Cabin Staff

## RESIDENT (OVERNIGHT) COUNSELOR

There are 2-3 counselors per cabin and at least 2 of them sleep in the cabin with the campers. All counselors are given space in staff dorms to keep personal items and shower/change apart from the campers. Staff areas, such as the dorms, are the only place where counselors can keep and use electronics like laptops and phones. Camper sessions are 1 week in length and new sessions start every Sunday. Counselors' weeks begin with a series of meetings, starting at 12:30p, to get ready for camper arrival at 2p. Counselors' weeks end on either a Friday night (around 7:30p) or Saturday morning (around 11:30a). The time between camper sessions is counselor off-time and everyone leaves camp. (Accommodations can be made for international and long-distance counselors.) Days start at 7:10a with the playing of our morning show and curfew is at midnight. Besides being responsible for campers in their cabin, counselors also are assigned to a program area; Adventure, Arts & Nature, Ballfield, Spiritual or Waterfront. For a portion of the day, all the campers will travel to the different program areas and since counselors are responsible for the campers in their area, counselors get to interact with lots of campers besides their own cabin. The rest of the day consists of meals, downtime at the cabin, all-camp waterfront, all-camp ballfield, all-camp programs, and bedtime routines. Counselors eat breakfast with their campers, but lunch and dinner have two shifts, so counselors take turns enjoying a kid-free meal and supervising the cabin. The days are full and most of the time is spent with campers, but counselors are given about an hour off during area programming daily, typically given at least one all-camp ballfield off per week, and every night get 1 hour off between 10 and midnight. One night a week, counselors will be given the entire 2 hours off and can leave camp. If counselors work the entire summer, they earn two 20-hour personal days.

## DAY CAMP COUNSELOR

Day camp runs Monday-Friday with campers being dropped off starting at 8:45a and picked up by 5:15p. There is an early drop-off option that starts at 7:30a, so counselors will be assigned some earlier mornings. Commuter staff are welcome to come early for a free breakfast, lunch is included, and stay late for a free dinner, but can leave as soon as they are dismissed (around 5:30p). Live-in staff have off, and can leave, after day camp dismissal but need to be back on camp by 7:15p for evening programming. Typically, live-in day camp is done after the evening program, but may not leave camp (except for 1 night off) and can be assigned to other duties. Live-in staff arrive on Sunday NLT 1:00p and are released for the week with resident counselors (Friday night or Saturday morning). Live-in staff that work the entire summer are also given two 20-hour personal days. Day camp programming somewhat mirrors resident camp but runs a mostly autonomous schedule.

## ON-CALL COUNSELOR

Although they do not work the entire summer and are not allowed to be on camp when they are not working, a benefit of being an on-call counselor is that when they are working, they are in a counselor role (except for 1 week in the kitchen for JCs).

## LIVE-IN KITCHEN STAFF

Although most weeks on camp are not in a counselor role, benefits of being live-in kitchen is being part of the camp community all summer, getting a foot in the door, being seen working with kids and being on-camp and available immediately if a counselor is quickly needed. They are assigned a program area like resident counselors and work with kids outside of assigned kitchen shifts. Typically, they are done after the evening program, but may not leave camp (except for 1 night off) and can be assigned to other duties. Live-in kitchen staff that work the entire summer are also given two 20-hour personal days.