

Tips for Colleges and University Supervisors Regarding Academic Credit at Camp

Summer camp offers an environment rich with opportunity for students from a wide-variety of academic backgrounds to gain valuable experience.

Here are some tips and questions to help you create an optimal experience for your student and the host camp program.

What type of credit does the student want and/or need?

- A professional internship related to a career in camp or youth development?
- A structured internship related to another area?
 - health care, food service
 - counseling, behavior management
 - grounds landscaping and maintenance
 - program specific areas (environmental education, dance, fine arts, etc.).
- An independent study course?
 - readings to supplement hands-on experience?
 - in-depth exposure to a new content area?
- Documentation of contact hours?

Do you have materials that clearly state your expectations for the different types of credit?

- What are the on-site supervisor qualifications?
- How many hours/weeks need to be documented? Does that match camp expectations?
- In residential camp settings, how many hours per day count?
- How much contact is there between the on-site supervisor and the academic supervisor and the student?
- What is the balance between depth and variety of experiences? Does the student need to rotate through a variety of responsibilities? Does a management/supervisory position offer enough challenge to compensate for less exposure to different responsibility areas?
- What are the assignments for the credit and when are they due? How will communication flow?