

## ZooCamp at Stone Zoo 2024

**Position:** Counselor-in-Training (CIT)

**Classification:** Volunteer within the Education Department

**Description:** CITs are volunteers ages 15-17 within our ZooCamp program.

**Commitment:** One week of summer ZooCamp

### **Summary of Responsibilities:**

CITs are volunteer participants, aged 15-17, who help with our summer ZooCamp program. They are supervised by ZooCamp staff and are responsible for assisting in maintaining a fun, safe, and educational environment for campers. CITs are expected to model good behaviors, assist campers to participate with camp crafts, games and activities, and encourage participation. CITs will practice their leadership skills, learn about conservation education and gain experience with classroom management, and working as part of a team, in a summer camp setting.

### **CITs will:**

- Assist other CITs, Camp Counselors, and the ZooCamp Director with all aspects of camp for ages 4-10.
- Assist in before and after care for campers.
- Learn how to lead different components of ZooCamp including games, crafts, and activities.
- Learn about the animals that call Stone Zoo home to better teach campers.
- Learn how to handle select ambassador animals at the discretion of the Education Department Staff.

### **Qualifications:**

- Must be a student aged 15-17. Grade/age verification may be required.
- Must have completed at least one session of ZooCamp at Stone Zoo or Franklin Park Zoo as a camper.
- Must commit to one full week of summer ZooCamp, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm, Monday – Friday.
- Must commit to three mandatory trainings in the spring.
  - o Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:30 pm-5:30 pm (parent/guardian attendance required)
  - o Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am-2:00 pm
  - o Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Arrive on time and stay for the entirety of their volunteer shift, with reliable transportation to and from the zoo.
- Enjoy interacting with children.
- An interest in conservation and zoos.
- A strong desire to uphold Zoo New England's messages, mission, and goals.
- Adhere to all ZooCamp and Zoo New England policies and procedures.

### **Benefits:**

- Free year-round admission to Franklin Park Zoo/Stone Zoo for yourself.
- Resume-building skills and opportunities for professional development.
- Community service hours for school, sports teams, etc.

### **How to Apply:**

- Teens must submit the completed application and Release Form that is signed by an adult.
- **Please note: Applications must be completed and submitted by the applicant themselves. If applications are completed by or sent in by the parent/guardian, we will not move forward with your application. Applicants are welcome to copy a parent/guardian on any and all emails, but we are working to build young professionals and hope that by curating their own applications and emails, we're able to start the process.**
- **\*New requirement for 2024 ZooCamp\*** Please send a letter of recommendation along with your application. This letter can be from a teacher, coach, mentor, etc. However, it cannot be from a family member. This person is your noted academic/professional reference in the application.
- Application materials can be sent by email to Lexi Rolfe at [SZcamp@zoonewengland.org](mailto:SZcamp@zoonewengland.org), or by mail to:

Stone Zoo

Attn: Education Department  
149 Pond Street

Stoneham, MA  
02180



## ZooCamp CIT Program Application

### Applicant Information

**Full Name:**

**Date of Birth:**

**Street Address:**

**Applicant's Cell Phone Number:**

**Applicant's Email Address:**

**Parent/Guardian Name:**

**Parent/Guardian Phone Number:**

**Parent/Guardian Email Address:**

**Please list the years you have attended ZooCamp:**

**Do you want your Parent/Guardian copied on emails being sent to you?**

### Education

	School Name	# Years Attended	Graduation Year
Middle School			
High School			

### Academic/Professional Reference

*Please list at least one academic or professional reference (this can be a teacher, coach, scout leader, family friend, etc.) By providing this reference you are authorizing Zoo New England to contact this individual regarding your suitability for our CIT program.*

**Full Name:**

**Years Known:**

**Relationship:**

**Company Name:**

**Phone Number:**

## Summer ZooCamp Availability

*Please rank the weeks you're interested in (1 being your first choice, etc.). You may rank as many weeks as you are available.*

- Session 1: June 17-21 (6-7 year olds)       Session 2: June 24-28 (6-7 year olds)
- Session 3: July 1-July 5 (6-7 year olds)       Session 4: July 8-12 (8-10 year olds)
- Session 5: July 15-19 (8-10 year olds)       Session 6: July 22-26 (8-10 year olds)
- Session 10: August 19-23 (3-4 year olds)\*HALF DAY       Session 10: August 19-23 (3-4 year olds)\*FULL DAY

**Please note: Week 10 is for 3-4 year old participants and are half day sessions (9:00am-12:00pm). If you are only interested in being a CIT for the half day session, please select that option. There is opportunity to stay for a full day and to work with our summer educators to interpret on Zoo grounds in the afternoon. If you are interested in that option, please select the full day option and answer the additional application question below.**

**Please explain why you would like to become a CIT at ZooCamp:**

**Please briefly describe any special skills you have that would be helpful as a CIT:**

**Do you have any experience working with children or other camp experience?**

**What makes you a good role model to campers?**

**Is there anything else you would like to tell us about why you would make a good CIT?**

**If you selected *Week 10, full day*, please explain why you'd like to work with our summer educators out on Zoo grounds to connect with guests. If you are not interested in the week 10 session, or you're not interested in the full day option, please do not answer this question.**

I declare that all of the information provided on this application is true and I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation may result in my termination from Zoo New England's volunteer program. I authorize Zoo New England's Education Department to look into these claims in this application. I understand that the CIT position is a volunteer position, and that no payment will be given in exchange for volunteer service.

**Applicant's Signature:**

**Date:**

**Parent/Guardian's Signature:**

**Date:**