

ZooCamp at Stone Zoo 2025

Position: Counselor-in-Training (CIT)

Classification: Volunteer within the Education Department

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

Commitment: At least 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.
- Commit to two mandatory trainings and a third, optional, opportunity in the spring.
 - o Mandatory Training: Sunday, May 18th from 9:00 am-2:00 pm
 - o Mandatory Training: Wednesday, June 4th from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
 - o Optional ZooCamp Open House: Wednesday June 11th from 4:00-6:00pm
- 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:

- A Zoo New England Family-Level membership for your family.
- Resume-building skills and opportunities for professional development.
- Community service hours for school, sports teams, church, 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.**
- 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@zooneewengland.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.) that is providing your letter of recommendation. 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.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 1: June 16-20 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 1: June 16-20 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 2: June 23-27 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 2: June 23-27 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 3: June 30- July 3 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 3: June 30- July 3 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 4: July 7-11 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 2: July 7-11 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 5: July 14-18 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 5: July 14-18 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 6: July 21-25 (6-7 year olds) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 6: July 21-25 (8-10 year olds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session 7: July 28-August 1 (6-7 year old) | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 8: August 4-8 (8-10 year olds) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Session 9: August 11-15 (8-10 year olds) |

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?

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: