

# YMCA • CAMP *Ocoee*



## CHARACTERISTICS OF A YMCA CAMP OCOEE STAFF MEMBER



**Christian  
Values**

**Outdoor  
Wilderness**

**Role  
Models**



*Experience the Ocoee Spirit!*

YMCA Camp Ocoee • 423-338-5588 • [www.campocoe.com](http://www.campocoe.com)  
111 YMCA Drive - Ocoee - TN 37361



# Welcome to YMCA Camp Ocoee!

Being on staff at YMCA Camp Ocoee is sacred because we have the opportunity to make a tremendous impact on the lives of hundreds of children who visit us. Not only that, but we get to spend most of the time outdoors, in the beauty of southeast Tennessee, developing lasting friendships, learning important life skills and we get paid to play and have fun.

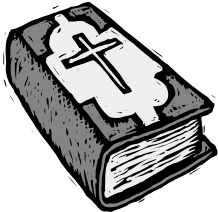
The following information helps to better understand the programs and role of our staff at YMCA Camp Ocoee.

## Staff Expectations

Along with the particular expectations illustrated on individual job descriptions (whether a cabin counselor, an admin director, a group camping host or a support staff) there are certain things that we expect all YMCA Camp Ocoee staff to adhere to, including:

- To be modeling servants for our campers and guests – their overall experience and needs must come before our own
- To model Christian principles and values in EVERYTHING we do – even in front of each other when no campers or guests are around
- To follow the leadership and direction of camp administrators without grumbling
- To adhere to the camp rules and guidelines at all times
- To put 100% of our effort into doing our jobs
- To be honest and respectful with one another even if there is a grievance or misunderstanding (Matthew 18: 15-16)
- To be consistent in working with our campers and guests every day, every week
- To work as one unit – a team of many for one purpose
- To commit to and actively illustrate the camp's vision and purpose
- To Have Fun and grow!

## Christian Values & Emphasis



YMCA Camp Ocoee's mission follows the YMCA movement's mission in putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all. Campers of all faiths and cultural backgrounds attend camp. To meet the goals of our mission, Camp Ocoee has a unique and important tradition of emphasizing the Christian aspect of a camper's experience. Campers are engaged in daily, Biblical-based devotions. With that said, YMCA Camp Ocoee is not a church-affiliated camp, therefore we do not engage in matters of Christian doctrine or philosophy.

The most important thing for our staff is to daily model Christian values and principles at all times at camp.

### 1 Peter 4:7-11 – Staff Slogan

"...be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the very words of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

### "I'm Third" - Camp Slogan

(Philippians 2:3-8, Galatians 6:2, Luke 9:57-62, James 4:1-3, John 13:2-17)

I'm Third is a slogan treasured at YMCA Camp Ocoee. It means to put our focus on God 1<sup>st</sup>, others 2<sup>nd</sup> and our selves 3<sup>rd</sup>. By doing this, we devote ourselves to lifting up others, and therefore spreading the love of Jesus with everyone around us. This type of hospitality and humility is vital in our camp culture.

See following page for more information ⇨

## Characteristics of YMCA Camp Ocoee Staff Member

### YMCA Involvement

Camp Ocoee, from the beginning, has been under the direction and leadership of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), specifically under the YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga. As part of the YMCA movement, *Camp Ocoee's mission is to utilize camp as a tool to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build the spirit, mind and body of all camp guests.*



### Activities, Skill Development & Fun

There are several activities that we teach campers during their visit at camp. The staff aims to help improve the skills of particular activity areas in which the campers participate, therefore campers will often attend multiple class periods in the same activity.

Here are many of the activities we provide at YMCA Camp Ocoee:

- High Ropes Course
- Climbing Wall
- Paintball
- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Funyaks
- Mountain Biking
- Swimming
- Arts & Crafts
- Ceramics & Pottery
- Radio Station
- Drama
- Dance
- Field & Team Sports
- Archery
- Riflery
- Fishing
- Water Skiing
- Backpacking
- Outdoor Living Skills
- Nature Study
- Bible Study
- Newspaper
- Video Production

Just like we provide Christian values in all aspects and areas of camp, we also strive to provide an atmosphere of **extreme fun**. Putting fun into our program activities and the time spent with cabins is essential.

### Successful Staff

Successful staff members need to have the following characteristics:

- be faithful to Christ and to God's Word
- outgoing
- full of energy
- values driven
- light hearted
- passion to make a difference
- silly at times of fun, collected and controlled at times of reflection
- good listener
- adventurous
- servant driven
- outdoor enthusiast
- responsible
- FUN!



**When all of these characteristics are met, 100 % of the campers will walk away with a meaningful experience!**

See following page for more information ⇨

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### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

YMCA Camp Ocoee today facilitates several services and programs not only for kids, but for people of all ages. And camp happens throughout the year, not only in the summer. But mainly, camp can be broken down into the following key areas.

#### **Summer Camp**

##### *Ranger Camp*



Ranger camp is Ocoee's traditional, summer residential camp program for youth ages 7-15. In the morning, campers choose from a long list of exciting individual program activities, focusing on skill development, fun and personal achievement.

Campers stay in cabins with like age and same gender children. Together in the afternoon, they participate in cabin centered activities that focus on group achievement, teamwork and relationship building. Campers come for one or two week sessions.

##### *Teen Leadership Academy*



Our Teen Leadership Academy is a series of camps (in various levels) that give teenagers (ages 16-18, depending on the program) the opportunity to learn incredible Christian leadership skills while enjoying the incredible scenery and great fun of Camp Ocoee. Our TLA is structured in a series of levels. Our Leaders in Service (rising 9-10 graders), Counselor in Training [CIT] (rising 11-12 graders) and Ambassadors (rising 12 grade and up) are geared on helping to give teens advanced training on how camp functions, on the skills and experience needed for future camp staff (anywhere) and on methods to greatly effect the communities around them at home. In addition, our SERVE missions camp offers teens (9-12 graders) an opportunity to give back to those in need by participating in a missions camp.

#### **Year Round**

##### *Retreats & Group Camps*



YMCA Camp Ocoee organizes and facilitates several retreats each year both at camp's main site and also at the Wasson Lodge and Johnson Retreat Center. These retreats offer people of all ages experiences for meaningful reflection, fellowship and fun. The retreats offer activities, programs and services intended to help individuals develop and strengthen Christian life values. Some of them include the Adventure Guides & Princesses, Ocoee High School Christian Values Retreat, Time Out for Moms, Alternative Spring Break, Ignite Couples Retreat and YMCA Family Camps and reunions.

## Characteristics of YMCA Camp Ocoee Staff Member

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If you would like to apply for a position on our staff family,  
please visit our website and  
fill out our **ONLINE APPLICATION** at:

**[www.campocoee.com](http://www.campocoee.com)**

For more information, please contact:

YMCA Camp Ocoee  
111 YMCA Drive  
Ocoee, TN 37361

Tel: 423-338-5588

Email: [info@campocoee.com](mailto:info@campocoee.com)



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