

STACC YOUTH MINISTRIES

Student & Parent Handbook



STACC

Service Training at Camp Conquest



Camp Conquest

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To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for
the building up of the body of Christ,
Ephesians 4:12

What is STACC Youth Ministries?

STACC Youth Ministries is a servant leadership program for teens, ages 15-17, involving hands on training in the camp setting. STACC Youth Ministries includes any teen, under age 18 or hasn't graduated high school, who has participated in the STACC core program or is on the Jr. Staff team. Participation in these summer programs provides year round opportunities to serve in the community, at churches, and in camp ministry. The goal of this program, is for the teen, to discover how God has uniquely equipped him/her and to engage those skills in the local church and in their community. The program goal, for camp, is to pass on the philosophy of ministry to the next group of future volunteers and leaders. This philosophy is an extension of our core values and the 'why we do what we do' aspect of the programming.



Two Facets of STACC

STACC Core Program

The Core Program requires 3 weeks in the summer. It is a challenging and fun camp training program divided into three parts. Green Week will help each STACC participant make the transition from camper to counselor. We learn how God has uniquely gifted each individual to serve others and introduce the 'Why' of camp ministry. The next two weeks are the apprentice program. In this portion of the program, STACC members will serve one week as a CIT (counselor in training) and one week on CREW (support staff). We accept only 6 males and 6 females into our program each year.

Jr Staff

Graduates of our core program join the Jr. Staff at Camp Conquest. Until they graduate from high school and turn 18 years old, our Jr. Staff serve alongside adult volunteers and staff as together we share the love of Christ with campers. Jr. Staff receive additional training each year that they return to camp.

Timeline for Applying to Core Program

January	Online STACC applications are available.
March - Mid-April	Interviews of STACC Applicants and parent(s) at camp.
March 31	Deadline for STACC applications (sooner is appreciated)
End April	STACC positions filled & announced
June-July	Core Program runs for 3 weeks (see website for dates)
July	STACC Graduation Brunch- Saturday (day after our last week of camp ends)
July/August	Return at Jr. Staff
August	Lifeguard Training available for interested candidates



Core Program Application Process

In order to serve at Camp Conquest, a student needs to complete the online STACC application/registration. All STACC applicants must have a relationship with Jesus Christ and be able to articulate, at a basic level, the meaning of that relationship with others. STACC applicants must be 15 years old by June 15th.

The Camper Registration

The online STACC application/Health Form are also considered the STACC camper registration. Parent signatures are required in several places on the Application/Health Form. The cost of the Core Program can be found on the website. The participants each receive a \$200 scholarship toward their fee. A deposit must be returned within 10 days of notification of acceptance. Balance will be due 2 weeks before check in.

The Application

Each applicant must fill out a pre-interview form within the online STACC application. As part of this application, each STACC applicant must affirm the Charis Commitment to Common Identity and the Missionary Job Description (both available on our website). The applicant does not have to be involved at a Charis Fellowship church, but as a core value, we honor our Charis Fellowship heritage.

The Evaluation Forms

Each Applicant must list 2 adult references, from your church (and **not related** to you), who will fill out an Evaluation form. We prefer that one of them is filled out by a youth pastor/leader. We distribute the evaluation forms to your references via email. Evaluations must be returned before the interview date is set. It is good to touch base with your references, making sure they received the evaluation and have returned it.

The Interview

All STACC applicants go through an interview at camp. A parent is required to attend. During the interview, additional details and requirements of the program will be explained. The application and the interview are a process for determining who will fill the limited spots available. We consider this beneficial as a life experience for the applicant.



Core Program Summer Schedule

Members are required to be at camp for three weeks.

Week One ("Green" Week) STACC members check in on Sunday. They have one week, engaged in training together, in their own separate camper program. They receive training in all areas of camp ministry, including how-to's in areas of maintenance, program, and camp counselor. In addition, they gain experience in recognizing gifts, sharing their testimony, and leading 'up'. This transition week gives us an opportunity to grow as a team and enter the following weeks with the tools to be successful in achieving our ministry goals and outcomes.



Weeks Two and Three One week is spent as a CIT (counselor in training) and participating in the complete camper experience as an assistant to the counselors.

One week is spent on the CREW engaging in facility maintenance, assisting in the kitchen, setting up program activities, and learning other behind the scenes functions of camp.



During this two-week experience, the STACC team members meet daily for instruction and encouragement from the STACC leadership. They have the opportunity to share with each other the lessons learned through individual ministry and devotions, as well as, a chance to fellowship and enjoy being together. It is important to note that STACC teens will not have the same privileges as counselors. They have their own unique set of privileges.



Weekends On the in-between weekends, STACC members are required to stay at camp. There will be time to rest, do laundry, and take a swim. We will also have time to reflect on the lessons of the past week and set up expectations for the week to come.

STACC Graduation A STACC graduate has been exposed to the camp culture and has gained an understanding of 'Why' we do what we do at Camp Conquest. The staff, summer leadership, and counselors submit evaluations during weeks 2 and 3 to help determine if the individual is ready for that responsibility and recommend them for graduation. A ceremony on the final Saturday at 9:30 am will include brunch for the staff and parents. STACC graduates are then considered Jr. Staff.



Jr Staff

The next step for a STACC graduate is in the day camp program, crew, or kitchen as Jr. Staff. This allows them to continue in a progression of training toward being a counselor, activity leader, and eventually summer staff. Jr. Staff is anyone, under 18 or who has not graduated high school, that participates in camp programs as a volunteer.

Graduates of our core program join the Jr. Staff at Camp Conquest. Our Jr. Staff will serve alongside adult volunteers and staff as together we share the love of Christ with campers. Jr. Staff receive additional training each year they return to camp.

Jr Staff use the volunteer application to apply to help with summer programs or weekend events. They are required to attend staff training before the summer.

STACC Youth Ministries participates in service opportunities in our community and with other ministry partners. These opportunities are an excellent way to stay engaged with your friends from summer camp while making an impact in the world around us.

