

Deerfoot Lodge Guide Program

The Guide program is an eight-week program at Deerfoot Lodge designed to produce growth in servant-leadership and godly living. It is a wilderness discipleship program that teaches and encourages us to be men who walk with Jesus. It is for those who truly aspire to the Guide objectives and meet the criteria as described below. The basic parts of the application process include a written application, an evaluation form by a Deerfoot counselor or Section Chief, three other reference forms, and interviews.

Guide Program Objectives. The Guide program is designed to develop the following qualities in the lives of participants.

1. **Spiritual development.** Guides will...
 - Develop a bigger picture of God
 - Grow in Spiritual Disciplines
 - Become increasingly like Christ
2. **Relational development.** Guides will...
 - Develop authentic relationships that promote accountability
 - Become a catalyst toward the growth of others
 - Engage in both sides of the disciple/mentor relationship
3. **Character (personal) development.** Guides will...
 - Endure hardship and learn perseverance
 - Manage risk and develop good judgment and wisdom
 - Gain self-confidence and develop healthy life habits
 - Steward resources wisely
4. **Missional development.** Guides will...
 - Share God's heart for the world
 - Live with Christ-like character in the family, the local Church and broader community
 - Impact the world for Christ and His Kingdom

Guide Participant Qualifications. Guides are expected to come to camp already possessing the below qualifications. The program is not designed as a 'turn around' for boys who are seriously struggling in these or other areas. The selection process is designed to carefully evaluate an applicant's readiness for the Guide Program.

- Be 17 or 18 years old by June 22, 2019.
- Complete all parts of the Application Process before the deadline (application deadline is Tuesday, January 15, 2019).
- Evidence of successful Deerfoot experience including program participation, hikes and awards. (Strong Deerfoot experience is normally expected of Guides, but exceptions may be made under certain circumstances).
- Evidence of sincere Christian faith and walk -- including at camp, at church, at school, and in the family.
- High physical stamina (The following are presented as a baseline. Participants who do not meet these standards will struggle with the physical challenges in the program).
 - Evidence of strong hiking experience & readiness. Voyager trip is preferable, but not mandatory. Experience hiking in the High Peaks as an Indian camper is strongly recommended.
 - Able to run two miles in 18:00 minutes or less. Capable of running longer distances, up to 10 miles.
 - Able to do a set of 30 pushups.
 - Able to fast for up to 72 hours.
- A commitment to the full eight-week program (June 22, 2019 - August 17, 2019). Exceptions will be made only in the event of conflicting class schedules.
- A humble and teachable spirit that is willing to submit to leadership.

Program Elements

The Guide Program summer schedule is unique each year, but participants should anticipate the following program elements:

- Deerfoot staff training.
- Certifications in CPR, First Aid and Life Guarding.
- Daily Physical workouts.
- Extended backpacking trips.
- Service projects both inside and outside camp.
- Experience as an Asst. Counselor or staff person.
- Practice of spiritual disciplines including fasting and solitude.
- Service at Deerfoot Blue Ridge, assisting with program and scouting trips.

Guides are expected to live at the same standards and exhibit the same qualities as that of DL staff. Guides are expected to serve as volunteer staff.

The Guide Application Process

1. Please pray about whether you think this is the right step for you. Get input from those who know you well and understand what Deerfoot is all about.
2. Complete the **Guide Application** (Click on 'Forms & Links' under the heading 'About Deerfoot' at our website www.deerfoot.org).
3. Your application will require you to provide references. Your references should come from three adults who know you well. Do not use family members as a reference. While the application will send an automatic email request to them, it is the applicants responsibility to follow up with these references and ensure they complete the form.
4. Your application must be complete and submitted by Tuesday, January 15, 2019.
5. Interviews and selections will be made by the end of February.

