



Horizons Apprentice Program

The Horizons Apprentice Program is a counselor-in-training program for 8th and 9th grade graduates. While we hope many graduates of the Apprentice Program choose to return as camp counselors in future summers, the program is designed to give participants tools to use beyond camp, enabling them to become confident, resilient, and responsible young leaders in their communities, in college, and in future employment.

Apprentices participate in a wide variety of programming, which fall into four main categories:

- **Theoretical Training:** Apprentices are introduced to success counseling, risk assessment, and basic educational theory.
- **Skills Training:** Apprentices hone hard skills such as wilderness techniques for fire/shelter building and learning/teaching canoe strokes. They also work on their soft skills such as communication, self-awareness, and team building.
- **Leadership Development:** Apprentices have opportunities to bring their training into action, planning and facilitating activities for campers while receiving guidance from experienced staff.
- **Community Projects:** Apprentices lead projects that benefit our entire camp community. In 2021, Apprentices used their creativity to create signage and redecorate a campus building. Taking responsibility for the project from start to finish, they designed and implemented a plan that involved sanding, painting, and adding a few extra finishing touches.

It goes without saying that being an Apprentice is a ton of fun as well! There is space to be playful adolescents and enjoy another summer as part of the Horizons community. New opportunities such as an overnight or two tie into the underlying theme of self-sufficiency and personal growth.

The Apprentice Program intentionally spans two years. 8th grade graduates attend a two-week session and 9th grade graduates attend a four-week session. This allows 9th graders the ability to delve more deeply into their learning and practice their skills.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Horizons Director Stuart Fairbairn: stuart_fairbairn@alohafoundation.org.