

What is an LIT?

An LIT is a person who is making the transition from camper to staff member. They are no longer typical “Campers,” nor are they yet “Staff;” LITs are entirely their own category. These people are either 16 years old or entering their junior year in high school. Because LITs are not staff, no LIT is ever left alone in charge of campers.

In the four-week program provided for them, LITs will gain experience through hands-on training with staff and campers in their cabins, as well as by using prior camping knowledge. Areas to be covered may include:

1. Understanding the role of a staff member through the reading of the staff manual and shadowing their assigned counselor.
2. Visiting other teen camp programs.
3. Leading the camp in an all-camp evening activity while also demonstrating the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.
4. Preparing and facilitating a cabin activity.

These young adults will leave camp ready to be strong leaders as counselors and/or volunteer staff in the following year.

In the past, LITs have been offered the chance to stay on as volunteers in our summer camp program. We have set up our camp staffing in hopes that we do not have to call upon any LITs to stay beyond their four-week commitment. If an LIT is given the opportunity to volunteer, they will be expected to take on the duties of a staff member - helping in cabins and with our camp program – and will have the same responsibilities and privileges. This will only happen in certain situations, and only if we identify LITs who demonstrate outstanding leadership, are highly skilled, and fully represent the values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. Though they will not be paid staff members, volunteers are considered 100% staff and receive a staff uniform. Not all LITs are offered the chance to become volunteers; however, this does not reflect directly on their performance in the LIT program.

Suggested LIT Workshop Schedule (subject to change)

7:30 Flag Raising
7:45 Breakfast
8:15 Cabin Kapers
9:10 First Half of Workshop
11:10 Cabin/Unit Acts - Assigned
12:15 Lunch
1:00 Siesta
1:50 Bell Rings
2:00 Second Half of Workshop
4:00 General Swim
5:55 Flag Lowering
6:00 Dinner (continued)

7:15 Evening Program
9:00 LIT Meeting / Debrief
10:00 LIT Devotions
11:30 Lights Out

The following is a partial list of LIT expectations and privileges.

Expectations:

- LITs will be housed in camper cabins during the four weeks of their program. There will be 2 staff members living in the cabin with them.
- LIT quiet hours begin the same time as the lights out time for their assigned Unit.
- Curfew for LITs is 11:30pm during the LIT program.
- LITs will not be in each other's unit or cabin without permission of the Unit Director or the cabin's Counselor.
- LITs will be responsible for organizing an Evening Program during the second half of their program.
- After being trained in our aquatic program, LITs will learn our Tag Call procedure.
- LITs may visit other YMCA camps during their time.
- LITs will help with Sign-ons and with Check-In and Check-Out days.
- LITs may spend time with the Group Camping Director and other staff in various departments.
- When the Leadership Director is off, LITs report to the Program Directors.
- Volunteer placements will be announced at the end of their stay. LITs will be given time to contact their parents to make any necessary arrangements. Any LITs not placed will need to be sure they have a ride home at the end of the session.

Privileges:

- LITs will have the opportunity to lead one portion of the Candlelight ceremony ending their program.
- LITs are welcome to hang out in the dining hall at night, provided the counselors they are shadowing are not on duty in the cabin.
- LITs will be called up as their own group during Keylog.
- LITs will have a day off camp. Transportation will be provided and the Leadership Director will accompany those who choose to and are allowed to attend.
- LITs may be allowed to participate in the G-Swim look-out rotations.
- LITs will be allowed to lead at least one Devotion and one Cabin Act.
- LITs will assist in Coaching Periods in their time at camp.