



## CALVIN CREST COUNSELOR APPLICATION

Thank you for your desire to serve as a counselor at Calvin Crest! As the person having the most interaction with our campers, you are a vital part of the ministry here. Our summer programs at Calvin Crest are designed to support and encourage the ministry of local churches and families. Our goal is for both counselors and campers to be strengthened in their relationship with Jesus and to learn to be a member of His body, the Church. Know that you are participating in an integral church ministry which takes place year-round, not only for just one week each summer.

### HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete and return a 2017 Summer Registration Medical Form (or go online to register)
2. Complete and return the Counselor Application (also available through online registration)
3. Submit completed Personal Reference Form

### WHAT WE EXPECT FROM YOU:

- A desire to serve.
- A growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
- A willingness to put your campers' needs above your own.
- Support for staff and program through full participation in camp activities.
- Attendance at counselor meetings, including an orientation meeting the first day of the session.

### REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must:

- Enjoy working with youth.
- Have a growing relationship with Jesus.
- Be committed to the ministry of a local church.
- PLEASE NOTE the following minimum age/grade requirements for counselors:
  - Sherwood Forest (4<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup> grade campers): 16+ years old or has completed sophomore year of high school
  - Middle School (6<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> grade campers): 16+ years old or has completed sophomore year in high school
  - High School (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade campers): 19+ years old or has completed one year of college
  - Week in the Forest (adults with developmental disabilities): 17+ years old or has completed junior year of high school
- **Check-in for Counselors is from 2:00-4:00pm on Sunday, with a mandatory counselor meeting at 5p**

Please return completed application by:

Mail  
Calvin Crest  
Attn: Registration  
45800 Calvin Crest Road  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

Email  
[calvinreg@calvincrest.com](mailto:calvinreg@calvincrest.com)

Fax  
(559) 683-7118

Or go online to [www.calvincrest.com](http://www.calvincrest.com) to apply!



## **Counselor Guidelines**

Thank you for your desire to partner with us in ministry! At Calvin Crest, we collaborate with churches and leaders and give you the tools you need to assist young people in coming into relationship with Jesus in an emotionally, physically, and spiritually safe environment. During the application process, please do not hesitate to ask us if you have any questions about the camp, the program, or what is or isn't appropriate as a counselor. This is a brief summary of some of the things we expect from you as a counselor at Calvin Crest.

**As you work with campers this week, it is our expectation that:**

- **You would know them**
  - By learning faces and names, participating in activities with them, leading cabin discussion times, and spending time with each of your campers.
  - TIP: Set up one-on-ones during free-time in a public place like at the pool, lawn or craft condo area. Calvin Crest's policy is that a camper and counselor should never be alone together to help protect both the camper and counselor.
- **They would know and trust you**
  - Be available to your campers, and a good listener. Accept campers for their uniqueness. Be positive and be yourself, but remember to act as a leader - not another camper!
- **They would increase their relationship with Jesus in areas of trust, faith, and knowledge**
  - For all to feel welcome, included and accepted we need to be purposeful about creating an environment of spiritual safety. This type of environment encourages questions, exploration, thought, understanding, openness, growth, sharing, interaction, and inclusion.
  - Never make up an answer. If you don't know, let the camper know that you're excited to find out the answer together. (And then find out the answer - there are many resources available to you!)
- **We would be safe**
  - Know where your campers are at all times - you are always responsible for them. Sit with your campers at meals and campfires. Join them on hikes and during games.
  - Campers and counselors are not to leave Calvin Crest grounds without prior permission. In the case of an emergency, we need to be able to account for all staff, campers, and counselors.
  - Weapons of all kinds, drugs, and alcohol are prohibited. If you are of legal smoking age, the designated smoking area is in the main parking lot by the luggage platform when campers are not present. Please do not smoke or use lighters/matches in the forest.
- **We would have fun**
  - Model acceptable camp behavior. Speak in a way that builds others up (avoid sarcasm and jokes that embarrass others). Pranks of any kind are unacceptable.
  - Encourage campers to try new things and conquer their fears. Enjoy activities, games, and events alongside them.
  - Tell stories that make campers think and laugh - scary stories and crude humor are not appropriate.



## Counselor Application

Applicant Name (First & Last)	Birthday / /	Age
Address	Gender (circle) Male / Female	Grade in Fall 2017 (if applicable)
City	State	Zip
Applicant Phone Number	Applicant Email	
Please list the camp session(s) you are applying for: (see Registration Form for session codes)		
Are you counseling for a particular church? (circle) YES / NO	If YES, please list the name and city of the church:	
Have you served as a CCA at Calvin Crest before? (circle) YES / NO	If YES, please list the year(s) and session(s) served:	
If NO, have you ever served in a similar role at another camp? (circle) YES / NO If yes, please list camp name:		
Have you ever been convicted of a felony with a minor? (circle) YES / NO	Do you smoke? (circle) YES / NO	

## Personal Questions and Statement of Faith

Briefly explain why you would like to be a counselor at Calvin Crest:
What do you think are characteristics of an effective counselor?
What previous experience do you have working with the age group for which you are applying?
For more than 60 years, Calvin Crest has been partnering with churches to make life-long disciples of Jesus Christ. Are you a disciple of Jesus Christ, and do you agree to join us in fulfilling this mission?
During a week of camp, you may have the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. In your own words, briefly explain the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Personal Reference

A completed Personal Reference Form is required for volunteer service. The Personal Reference Form should be given to your Pastor or Youth Director or any other Christian teacher, church elder, or employer not related to you.	
Reference Name (First & Last)	Position/Vocation
Reference Phone	Reference Email

**Church Affiliation**

Church Name	City
Church Phone	Church Leader Name
What services or programs do you attend, if any?	How often do you attend?
Have you held any form of leadership? (circle) YES / NO	
If YES, please describe your leadership responsibilities:	

**Please Read and Sign Below**

<b>I UNDERSTAND</b> that as a counselor at Calvin Crest, I will be under the direct supervision of the staff person(s) assigned. <b>I WILL ACCOMPLISH</b> my particular daily assignment and participate fully in program. <b>I HAVE READ AND WILL ABIDE BY</b> the Counselor Guidelines. <b>I WILL ASSUME</b> responsibility for my personal appearance and actions and realize that if my work or behavior is unsatisfactory, I may be dismissed from the program.		
Applicant Signature	Applicant Name (Print)	Date

*Thank you for your application!*

Also required is a **Summer Registration Medical Form**.

Your counselor acceptance will be confirmed via email.

Please call (559) 683-4450 for any questions.



## Counselor Personal Reference Form

### This section to be completed by Applicant

Applicant Name (First & Last)	Date
Please list the camp session(s) you are applying for: (see Registration Form for session codes)	
I WAIVE my right to see the response on this reference.	
Applicant Signature	

### This section to be complete by Personal Reference (please attach additional sheet if more room is needed)

The above named person has applied to be counselor at Calvin Crest and will be responsible for caring for youth. As the person having the most one-on-one interaction with our campers, the counselor is a vital part of the camping ministry at Calvin Crest. This responsibility will be advantageous only if the applicant is qualified in terms of possessing an aptitude for working with youth, leadership potential, and Christian character. We recognize that everyone has strengths and limitations. It is important to know a person's limitations as well as their strengths. Please give as objective a reference as possible so we can best determine where the applicant can be most effective. Your willingness to complete this reference form is greatly appreciated. Your frank, honest, and prompt evaluation will help protect the future interest of the applicant and of our camping ministry.	
How long have you known the applicant?	In what capacity have you been associated with the applicant?
What do you consider your relationship with the applicant to be? (circle one) Close and personal – 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 – Casual acquaintance	
What is your general impression of the applicant?	
Have you observed the applicant live out an evident Christian faith?	
Do you consider the applicant qualified and a desirable candidate to care for the age group applied for? Why or why not?	
Are there any tendencies or traits that you feel might reduce the applicant's effectiveness in caring for youth? If YES, please list.	
Would you want this person to counsel your own children? (circle) YES / NO	Why or why not?

Name (First & Last)	Position/Vocation
Address	City State Zip
Phone	Email
Signature	

**Please return this form by email, fax, or mailing address listed below.**