

RAD Camp Counselor FAQ

Is there an age requirement to volunteer?

You must be 16 years old by the start of whichever camp session you choose to volunteer at.

I am not available for all the dates of camp or cannot stay overnight. Am I still able to volunteer part-time?

RAD Camp is an overnight camp where we pair our counselors 1:1 with a camper. In order to provide an amazing experience for our campers, we ask that our volunteer counselors be able to commit to the full session and remain on campus until it concludes.

Can I volunteer at multiple camp session?

Absolutely! We would LOVE to have you at all of our camp sessions, but you can also sign up for just one or two. We know volunteers get the most out of a summer when they do multiple sessions!

What might I be expected to do at camp?

At camp, our volunteers are paired 1:1 with a camper with a disability such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, Down syndrome, among others. In addition to having TONS of fun with your camper, you may be asked to provide support in various ways, including, but not limited to the following: assisting a camper with mobility, such as lifting and transferring campers in wheelchairs; assisting with restroom usage, such as bathing/cleaning, dressing, changing diapers; assisting with bedtime routines and supporting with sleep difficulties; providing emotional support; engaging in various activities, such as games, dancing, concerts – whatever your camper may be interested in! Volunteers go through training and there are plenty of veteran staff members to support with these things. For more information on counselor responsibilities, please visit our [**POLICIES**](#) page to view our volunteer agreement.

Got Questions? Email Camp@RADCamp.org Today!

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How do I know if I am a good fit for volunteering at RAD camp?

While we would love for everyone to experience the camp magic, we do ask that our volunteers understand that they may be asked to jump outside of their comfort zone, will be on their feet for extended periods of time, and could be asked to support in a variety of different ways to ensure the best experience for our campers. We ask that you are willing and able to support our campers and their needs, whether it is physically or emotionally. RAD Camp is a great fit for those with a big heart, lots of patience, a passion for the special needs communities or those specifically interested in education, special education, nursing, medical or health care, occupational, physical and/or speech therapy.

I don't have any experience working with people with disabilities. Will I receive any training or support at camp?

Absolutely! Prior to our campers arriving, our RAD staff will provide multiple training sessions, including disability awareness and behavior support, to prepare you for what to expect at camp and some strategies and supports to utilize throughout the week. At camp, there are directors, team leaders, staff, and nurses that are always available for support with anything and everything! If this is your first experience working with people with disabilities, we promise it will not be your last and are excited to welcome you to this wonderful community!

I have a disability and would like to volunteer at RAD Camp. Am I able to?

We ask that all of our volunteers be physically, mentally, and emotionally able to support our campers and if anything might prevent you from being able to complete some of the expectations listed above, then volunteering at our summer camps may not be the best fit for you. That doesn't mean you can't be involved with RAD! There are other ways that you can be involved at RAD, so please reach out for those opportunities!

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Where and when is camp held?

RAD Camp is held annually at Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, CA. This year, RAD Jr will be from June 18-22, 2025, RAD Camp, Session A from July 11-17, 2025 and RAD Camp, Session B from July 25- 31, 2025.

PLEASE NOTE: These are volunteer arrival dates, our campers will arrive the following day.

How do I apply to become a counselor?

Click [HERE](#) to access the online application and sign up today! Counselor applications are open from January 13 - April 1, 2025. For more information regarding the application process and any questions, please feel free to contact Camp@RADCamp.org.

Does it cost anything to volunteer as a counselor?

There is no cost associated with applying to become a new volunteer counselor! For those that are accepted, there is a \$50 processing and registration fee.

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