

The Town of Hamden has offered summer day camp programs for over 20 years. The popularity of these programs has led to the formation of the "Counselor in Training Program" in Hamden.

CIT's are considered staff members, attend pre-camp staff training, and are assigned a work schedule and job duties for the program they will assist.

The strength of the program lies in our qualified, enthusiastic, caring and responsible camp staff. Well-motivated staff provide the skills and energy needed to ensure the success and enjoyment of each person at camp. Many former campers become CIT's and Counselors.

CIT's should come dressed in comfortable, appropriate clothing which include issued T-shirt, mid thigh shorts, and sneakers. If your camp goes swimming, girls are required to wear one piece bathing suit, boys, proper swim trunks, and bring a towel. Also, food will not be provided during the day, therefore snacks and lunch from home is required each day.

All enrolled CIT's will receive two T-Shirts, a performance evaluation, and a certificate of achievement at the end of camp.



Hamden Recreation Department
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518
Phone: 203-287-2579
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www.hamden.com

Counselor In Training Program Sponsored by



**Hamden
Recreation Dept.**

**2750 Dixwell Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
203-287-2579**

Pamphlet Designed & Created by Laura F. Luzzi

Who can be a CIT?

This program offers young people entering grade 9 and above the opportunity to work directly with Pre-K through sixth grade students. Applicant's may feel that they are too old to be a camper but not old enough or experienced enough to become a counselor. This is an apprenticeship program where participants learn by doing. Each CIT will gain valuable experience under the supervision of our professional staff members.

What does a CIT do?

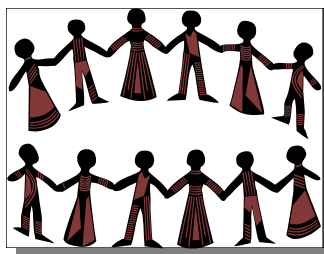
First year CIT's will participate in training sessions prior to the start of camp and during camp sessions. The training sessions will provided CIT's with hands on experience including instructions, observations, and activities that will focus on developing the skills necessary to become a great camp counselor.

CIT's will work along side an experienced camp counselor. Daily meetings and training sessions with a designee will help CIT's to further develop their camp counselor skills.



What are the Advantages of being a CIT?

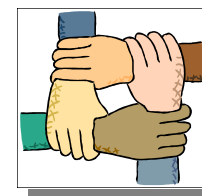
- Gain experience and have fun working with children
- Gain leadership & activity planning skills
- Gain valuable work experience
- Personal development
- Explore future career possibilities
- Fulfillment of community service hours
- Opportunity for future employment at camp as a paid counselor



What skills will I learn?

- Communicating with children with a special emphasis on listening and teaching positive behavior and values
- Handling undesired behavior and conflicts in a positive way
- Leading games and activities, teaching skill in sports, crafts and other areas
- Presenting in front of small and large groups
- Earning respect form others
- Working on a team
- Creativity and problem solving

This program is for young people who are highly motivated, ready to work and play hard, and who demonstrate additional responsibility in accepting the challenge of leadership. There are a limited number of spaces and an application is required. ***Not all who apply are accepted into the program.*** A qualified CIT applicant will realize he or she is a leader and a role model rather than a fellow camper.



Dates?

The Counselor in Training Program will run from the last week in June through the last week in July.

Application Process

1. 250 word essay entitled "Why I want to be a CIT and what I hope to gain from this experience." Essay should be neatly written or typed.
2. A Letter of Recommendation from a non-relative stating your suitability to this program, your appropriateness for working with children, your maturity, and level of responsibility.
3. Completed Registration Form.
4. Completed Reference Form.