

## Frequently asked questions for Newton Community Education's CIT Program:

### **Our Goals for your CIT:**

We aim to give your teen the skills to become a strong and confident leader while having fun and making new friendships. We aim to promote a greater degree of independence as we meet the individual needs of our campers. And, hopefully in the coming years our CITs will want to become great counselors for us!

### **What is our CIT program?**

Counselors in Training is for teens who have aged out of some of our camp programs and who are not old enough to be a counselor. CITs will learn by doing under the guidance of experienced counselors as well as under the supervision of skilled mentors and trained professionals.

### **What makes our CIT camp different/special?**

Our CIT program offers rising 8th, 9th and 10th graders the opportunity to gain much needed life skills over the summer, while they learn what it means to be a good counselor, and contribute to the camp community in a fun and supportive environment.

### **How much time will CITs have with campers vs in training and doing activities?**

CITs will get work experience with campers in the morning and have fun CIT activities in the afternoons.

### **How old are the campers my CIT will be working with?**

CITs will be assisting in rooms with campers of a mixed age range, grades k-5.

### **What are some of the training topics and skills CITs learn?**

- How to take risks in a safe, friendly, and familiar environment
- Working with children in grades k-5 and what makes a great counselor
- CPR
- Camper safety
- Behavior management: group control, how to spot bullying or other troubling behavior
- Life's soft skills: problem-solving, communication, stress and time management

### **What kind of training will CITs get?**

- Leadership skills
- Behavior Management skills
- Social/conversational skills
- Social media etiquette & tips
- Group dynamics
- Activity planning
- Coping skills

**How will students be trained?**

Under the guidance of the CIT program coordinator, the adult instructors of the camp your child(ren) will be paired with and our counselors and staff, CITs will gain valuable experience learning through guest speakers, hands-on training, fun activities, group meetings and participation in camps.

**What's a typical day in the life of a CIT?**

Arrival/Check In/Orientation

CIT structured program with campers in the mornings

CIT lunch/hangout

CIT group training and afternoon activities

**What are some of the CIT group activities?**

Field trip to Crystal lake

Hike through Cabot Woods

Ice cream social

Ice breakers, games, friendly competitions, themed days

Tai chi

Picnic lunches

**What kinds of classes might my child be assigned to?**

[Check out our Summer Camp catalog listing for options.](#)

**How is it decided which class my child helps out in?**

We will do our best to assign CITs to camps that align with their passions, pairing them with instructors who have similar interests.

**Will there be an orientation?**

There will be an orientation session at the start of each session for CITs to meet, acclimate, learn some skills, and review roles and responsibilities before they begin in classrooms with campers.

**Will my child be hired as a Counselor after completing the CIT program?**

Participation in the CIT program will give your child great skills and experience that we hope will set them up for success as a counselor. While employment is not guaranteed, we strongly encourage CIT's who meet minimum age and grade requirements (at least 14 and entering 10th grade) to apply to be a counselor in future summers. Due to hiring and scheduling deadlines, CITs will not be considered for hire the same summer as their CIT program participation.