



# Camp Coach

## Volunteer Position Description

**Overview of the Role:** Camp Coaches are volunteers who guide 1–5 campers and their families through the pre-camp, in-camp, and post-camp process. They help ensure campers feel emotionally ready and logically prepared for their summer camp experience, and serve as a key communication bridge between families and A Thousand Summers. Camp Coaches become experts on their assigned camp, in order to prepare campers for their specific camp experience.

**About ATS:** A Thousand Summers removes barriers to life-changing summer camp experiences for families who can't afford them, partnering with high quality camps to support underserved youth nationwide.

**Campership Program Description:** A Thousand Summers' Campership Program offers multi-year scholarships to immersive, nature-based summer camps across the U.S., covering all costs—tuition, travel, gear, and camp store—so youth from underserved backgrounds can fully participate. Campers also participate in a social-emotional learning program to prepare them for camp.

**Volunteer Time Commitment Required:** Approximately 5 hours per month supporting between 1-5 Campers and their families from Fall 2025- Summer 2026. This position is entirely virtual.

### Volunteer Requirements:

- Completed ATS Volunteer Application
- Experience in youth development, teaching, or mentoring
- Camp experience - either having attended an overnight camp, or having sent their children to camp
- Completion of ATS training upon acceptance
- Commitment to full program camper support, including timely communication
- Ability to pass a background check and provide non-family references
- Summer camp experience required (either as camper/staff/parent of campers)

### Responsibilities:

- Provide ongoing support to campers and families throughout the year
- Guide families through the camp application process, including reminders for deadlines (health forms, fees, travel confirmations, etc.)
- Encourage camper participation in Compass Sessions
- Conduct regular check-ins with families and campers to:
  - Discuss camper feelings about camp
  - Prepare campers for homesickness and camp logistics (overnight trips, schedules, packing, etc.)
  - Reassure parents and address any concerns

### Supports from ATS

- Training Call with ATS staff to review timeline, expectations, and answer questions
- Monthly Emails with key dates, reminders, and helpful tips
- Volunteer Handbook including:
  - Camp prep resources (packing lists, equipment guidance, FAQs)
  - Guidance on supporting campers through common challenges (e.g., homesickness, peer conflict)
- Responsive staff to contact if issues arise
- Template for post-camp reflection meetings with campers

### Camp Coach Timeline & Commitments (2025–2026)

Date	Activity / Commitment
<b>September – October 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Receive Campership Program information</li><li>- Get assigned to camper(s)</li><li>- <b>Required:</b> Attend virtual Volunteer Training meeting - Tuesday, October 28, 2025 from 5-6pm MST</li></ul>
<b>By January 1, 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Contact families</b> to introduce yourself and share your contact information</li></ul>
<b>January 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attend <b>Camp Coach Training Meeting 2</b> (training on enrollment, forms, transportation)</li></ul>
<b>January – May 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Meet monthly with camper(s) and families</li><li>- Remind them of deadlines and offer support</li></ul>
<b>May 3, 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attend <b>Virtual Coach Feedback Meeting</b> (1 hour)</li></ul>
<b>During Summer 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Write a <b>letter to your camper(s)</b> while they're at camp</li></ul>
<b>After Summer 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Host a virtual <b>Post-Camp Meeting</b> with camper(s) to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reflect on camp experience</li><li>• Discuss post-camp requirements</li><li>• Talk about next summer</li></ul></li></ul>