



Campership Mentor

Volunteer Position Description

Overview of the Role: A Campership Mentor is a trusted adult who supports a camper and their family throughout the A Thousand Summers Campership Program. Mentors are typically youth-serving professionals, such as teachers, coaches, or youth leaders, who know the camper and refer them to the program.

Mentors guide families through the ATS Campership Application process, summer camp application, help campers prepare for the camp experience, and assist with post-camp follow-up. They also encourage camper participation in programs like Compass and Capstone. Mentors often maintain a relationship with the camper over multiple years, playing a vital role in ensuring the camper is set up for success.

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 nature-based summer camps across the U.S. to youth from underserved backgrounds. Campers also participate in an online 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
- Completion of ATS training upon acceptance
- Commitment to full program camper support, including timely communication
- Ability to pass a background check

Responsibilities:

1. Guiding families through the camp application process, including reminders about important deadlines (health forms, travel confirmations, payments, etc.)
2. Conducting regular check-ins with campers and families to:
 - a. Support camper emotional preparation for camp (e.g., homesickness, overnight trips, packing, schedules)
 - b. Address questions or concerns from families
 - c. Encouraging camper participation in spring virtual Compass Sessions

Supports from ATS

1. Training Meeting: Virtual training with ATS staff to walk through the timeline, expectations, and answer questions
2. Monthly Emails: Ongoing communication with key dates, action items, and helpful tips
3. Volunteer Resources
 - a. Camp preparation tools (packing lists, gear tips, camp schedules, FAQs)
 - b. Guidance on preparing campers for common challenges like homesickness or peer dynamics
 - c. Responsive ATS staff contacts for questions or concerns throughout the year

Campership Mentor Timeline & Commitments (2025–2026)

Date / Timeframe	Activity / Commitment
Fall 2025	- Support campers and families through ATS campership application process - Submit a Mentor Statement
October 2025	- Required: Attend virtual Volunteer Training meeting - Tuesday, October 28, 2025 from 5-6pm MST
January - June 2026	- Support families with camp enrollment, required paperwork, packing and travel logistics - Support camper attendance of Compass sessions - Check in regularly and remind parents of upcoming due dates
After Summer 2026	- Support post-camp follow up - Encourage campers to reapply for following summer