



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 logistically 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 3-5 hours per month supporting between 1-5 Campers and their families from the fall to the end of the following summer. 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

1. Training Meetings: 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. Comprehensive asynchronous trainings available on website
 - b. Camp preparation tools (packing lists, gear tips, camp schedules, FAQs)
 - c. Guidance on preparing campers for common challenges like homesickness or peer dynamics
 - d. Responsive ATS staff contacts for questions or concerns throughout the year

Camp Coach Timeline

Date	Volunteer Duties	Meetings
September – October	- Receive assigned to camper(s) - Contact families to introduce yourself - Support with ATS campership application process - Familiarize yourself with assigned camp as needed	- Volunteer Training Meeting #1 on <u>Monday, October 26th at 5pm MT</u>
January – June	- 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	- Volunteer Training Meeting #2 on <u>Monday, January 11 at 5pm MT</u> - Final Compass Session on <u>Sunday, May 23rd, 2027 at 1pm MT</u>
During Summer	- Write a letter to your camper(s) while they're at camp - Support with packing and travel logistics	
After Summer	- Support campers and families in completing post-camp requirements from ATS - Complete volunteer post-camp survey - Encourage campers to reapply for following summer	