



Dear Potential Applicant:

We appreciate your interest in a summer staff position at Stronghold Summer Camp. Along with this letter you will find a summer camp brochure, a position description, and a Stronghold Camp Summer Staff application. We hope that you prayerfully consider applying for one or more of the positions or pass this information on to others you know that may be interested and qualified.

**Stronghold Summer Camp** is the summer camp ministry of Blackhawk Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (USA). Stronghold has been a Christian conference center since 1963 and is located in the beautiful Rock River Valley. Stronghold has a swimming pool, riverfront property to launch canoes, High Ropes and Initiatives courses, and acres of wooded trails. Stronghold Summer Camp was established in 1963 and has a long history of ministry to children and youth. The program has impacted thousands of people and produced many life-changing experiences at Stronghold. We are looking forward to another great summer!

Since the quality of our staff is most important, it is critical that we find talented and energetic leaders to continue the growth of this ministry. The camp brochure in this envelope will explain the basics of the summer camp program and what each camp is like. If you want a fun and meaningful summer experience, consider applying for a position on the Stronghold Summer Ministry team.

If you are interested, please fill out the enclosed application form and send it in as soon as possible. When we receive your application, we will contact your references and begin the interview process. Please take care to choose adults who know you well and will be able to answer questions about your character as well as your talents and abilities. Please do not list family members or peers. We look forward to hearing from you!

Peace and God Bless,

Ryan Anderson  
Summer Camp Director

P.S. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at [ryan@strongholdcenter.org](mailto:ryan@strongholdcenter.org), or call me at 815-732-6111 ext. 609.



# **Summer Employment Application**

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

Positions applying for: (circle all interested in)

Resident Summer Camp Counselor    Travelling Day Camp Counselor    Resident Lifeguard    Communications Assistant    Health Officer    Art & Crafts Director    Assistant Summer Camps Director

Dates Available: \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_    Are you 18 years old or older?    Yes    No

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Main)  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Main)

If a college or graduate level student, please fill out the address section below in addition to "Permanent Address".

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell/school)  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
(School)

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?    Yes    No    (If yes, please attach an explanation)

**Education**

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Graduating Year \_\_\_\_\_

College Attending (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Career Goals \_\_\_\_\_

Major Studies (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Present Class or Graduating Year (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Past Employment:** (start with present or last employer)

| Employer | Phone | Dates | Type of work | Reason for leaving |
|----------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------------|
|          |       |       |              |                    |
|          |       |       |              |                    |
|          |       |       |              |                    |

## Previous Camp and Conference Experience:

| Camper or Staff? | Name of Camp | Location | Dates/year | Highlight |
|------------------|--------------|----------|------------|-----------|
|                  |              |          |            |           |
|                  |              |          |            |           |
|                  |              |          |            |           |

### Church Background

Name of home Church (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ (City)

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Other religious groups or involvement \_\_\_\_\_

In what areas of the church have you served? Leadership roles? \_\_\_\_\_

Please place a "1" in front of all skills you are comfortable leading or teaching others; "2" by those in which you can assist in teaching; "3" for those you would like to learn; and "0" by ones you are not comfortable taking part in.

| Faith Development   | Nature Skills  | Outdoor Living Skills   | The Arts   | Recreation   |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leading Bible Studies<br><input type="checkbox"/> Faith Related Discussions<br><input type="checkbox"/> Devotions<br><input type="checkbox"/> Worship Planning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Worship Leadership<br><input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship<br><input type="checkbox"/> Theology | <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry<br><input type="checkbox"/> Plant I.D.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Weather<br><input type="checkbox"/> Ecology<br><input type="checkbox"/> Birds/Animals<br><input type="checkbox"/> Rocks/Minerals<br><input type="checkbox"/> Insects<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tracking<br><input type="checkbox"/> Astronomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Cooking<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tent Camping<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leave No Trace Camping<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lashing/Knots<br><input type="checkbox"/> Map/Compass<br><input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Ropes Courses | <input type="checkbox"/> Choral reading<br><input type="checkbox"/> Singing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Guitar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Instruments<br>(instrument) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drama/Skits<br><input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Crafts<br><input type="checkbox"/> Photography<br><input type="checkbox"/> Nature Crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Large group games<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small group games<br><input type="checkbox"/> Water games<br><input type="checkbox"/> Swimming<br><input type="checkbox"/> Initiatives/Team<br>building activities<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sports<br>(sport) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance<br><input type="checkbox"/> Construction |

In the following boxes place the name of your 3 strongest skills. Use the space after the box to explain you skills and experience in that skill. You may use the list or additional skills relevant to a summer job at Stronghold.

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## Experience and Certifications

Please rank these age groups 1-4 based on your experience and comfort leading this age group. 1 is the most comfortable

\_\_\_\_\_ Early Elementary (K-3)    \_\_\_\_\_ Late Elementary (3-6)    \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. High's (6-8)    \_\_\_\_\_ Sr. Highs (9-12)

Please check any of the area listed below which you will have current certification and proof of certification

\_\_\_\_\_ Challenge Course    \_\_\_\_\_ Lifeguard    \_\_\_\_\_ WSI    \_\_\_\_\_ EMT    \_\_\_\_\_ WFA/WFR    Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Current CPR Certification? \_\_\_\_\_ When does it expire? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Current First Aid Certification? \_\_\_\_\_ When does it expire? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please Respond to the following** (use additional pages if needed)

- 1) Talk about your personal Christian faith. How do you put your faith into daily living practices?
- 2) Why do you wish to serve at Stronghold? What contributions can you make?
- 3) You will be a leader in a summer staff role. What is your style of leadership and what makes a good leader?
- 4) How would you seek to build Christian Community with a group of campers?

Rate yourself (Good, Okay, Poor) in these following areas

|                                  |   |                         |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| G O P Getting along with others  | G O P Ability to take instruction                             | G O P Ability to Lead   |
| G O P Promptness                 | G O P Enthusiasm  | G O P Ability to Follow |
| G O P Ability to take Criticism  | G O P Dealing with Heat/Rain                                  | G O P Creativity        |
| G O P Ability to be a Role Model | G O P Willingness to go above and beyond your job description |                         |

**References:** List the names of three people with complete addresses that could give a personal reference for you.

Please try to use a minister, youth leaders, teachers, employers, camp directors (not family, friends or fellow students)

| Name     | Phone Number | Email address | Relationship to you |
|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. _____ |              |               |                     |
| 2. _____ |              |               |                     |
| 3. _____ |              |               |                     |

I give Stronghold permission to contact the references and employers that I have listed, and understand that a criminal history background check will be conducted before being hired. I certify that all information provided on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I release all such references from any liability for furnishing such evaluations. I waive any right I may have to inspect references provided on my behalf. I understand that misleading, untrue, or omitted information may lead to dismissal regardless of the time of discovery by Stronghold.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please return application to:

**Stronghold Summer Camp**  
**ATTN: Ryan Anderson**  
**PO Box 199**  
**Oregon, IL 61061**

For questions or more information please contact the Stronghold Special Programs Director at (815)732-6111 ext. 609 or [summercampinfo@strongholdcenter.org](mailto:summercampinfo@strongholdcenter.org)