

# Year Long Intern Program Description

Young Life's Windy Gap  
Weaverville, NC



## Purpose:

Windy Gap's intern program combines the real-life elements of work at a Young Life camp, bible study and the support of a Christian community. The program is designed for people who are deeply committed to Christ and desire to join our camp staff in providing an environment where volunteers and campers can experience Christ. The goal for the year is for interns to grow in an intimate, abiding relationship with Jesus Christ, to work hard to support the ministry at Windy Gap, and to gain a solid understanding of Young Life and Young Life camp staff.

## Intern Qualifications:

1. This program is for men and women who increasingly believe that God is calling them toward full-time Young Life camp staff, are teachable and have displayed qualities of faithfulness in their lives, are seeking God's leading and have a sincere hunger to grow in an intimate, abiding relationship with Jesus.
2. College graduates or age equivalent (21 years old). (Unfortunately we cannot accommodate married couples due to housing limitations.)
3. Candidates must be willing to make the following **program and lifestyle commitments**.
  - To stay for the entire year unless exceptions are made prior to arrival.
  - To attend, participate, and be on time to all required fellowship meetings, discussion groups, worship and prayer times, meetings with leaders, and any other meetings that may occasionally be designated as required.
  - To complete all homework assignments each week and come to intern times prepared to participate.
  - To be willing to spend one-on-one time with the intern coordinators throughout the year and submit to their authority.
  - To work willingly, cheerfully and to the best of ability at whatever job assigned. To be at work each scheduled day unless legitimately sick, to be on time, and to submit to the authority and regulations of departmental supervisors.
  - To be committed to raising the required financial support.
  - As an important part of the focus on an intense year of pursuing Christ, we would like to create an environment free from as many distractions of the everyday world day as possible. We will be challenging interns to "lay down" some things for this season.
  - Interns will refrain from using any tobacco, alcohol, or drugs for the entire year.
  - Although there will be many Godly men and women who could potentially be the perfect mate for you, we are asking you to not pursue any new romantic relationships for the year, inside of the camp community. Exclusive, romantic relationships can be very difficult to manage and even divisive in such a close community.
  - Interns are expected to participate in one of the local church communities on a regular basis.
  - Interns are expected to volunteer with a local organization on a regular basis.

## Windy Gap's Commitment:

- The camp staff will make this year both challenging and rewarding. There will be much asked and much given to each other as we serve Christ through camp.

- We will plan and facilitate a fellowship time which is intended to challenge your journey with Jesus. There will be Bible study, worship, prayer, scripture memorization, small and large group sharing, all while living in a close community with other interns and working alongside other camp staff.
- The camp staff will train and equip interns to carry out the various responsibilities of many different jobs at camp. It is our desire that interns have a complete understanding of what a permanent camp staff position would entail.

## Program Focus Areas:

### Discipleship:

*I Corinthians 2:2 "For I am determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified"*

The discipleship program exists to help interns in the journey of developing an intimate walk with God the Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit, by learning how to live their entire life as Jesus lived. It is recognized that every individual is at a different place in their journey and that the responsibility for cultivating a relationship with God rests largely with the individual, not with the program. This program will provide interns the tools for cultivating that relationship primarily through learning to practice the disciplines that Jesus modeled. The intern community will meet regularly for study, worship, prayer and fellowship.

### Work:

*Col. 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"*

Among staff at a Young Life camp, it is believed that one's diligent labor is directly connected to the Gospel message that guests will hear. By doing work in an excellent fashion, staff contribute to the total camp experience of the guests. Part of the purpose of the intern program is to introduce interns to the real-life work of being on Young Life camp staff. Interns will be exposed to most aspects of the camp operation by rotating through various departments during the school season months of the program. These departments may include Guest Services, Housekeeping, Food Services, Retail, Administration and Maintenance.

### Community:

*Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many."*

The housing will be with other interns of the same gender and interns will be learning what it means to live in close community. This community is a part of a greater camp staff community that is laying down their lives to serve each other and our guests. Living in community is both a great blessing and a challenge. We are forced to be real with each other and deal with those areas of our lives that may need some attention.

### Career:

*Matt. 9:36-38 "...the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few..."*

The Lord is looking for people who will be lights in the world in both ministry and secular positions. There will be time spent with each intern looking at their specific gifts and talents and help them discover how and where they fit into the Great Commission. Help will also be available for interns explore possible careers within and outside of Young Life.

### Service:

*Philippians 2:17 "But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you."*

We will expect interns to volunteer at least one hour per week in community service. These choices are numerous, from reading with students to working at the thrift store. We will provide several ideas to help you decide where to serve.

## Fellowship of the Believers:

Modeled after the church meetings in Acts 2:42, weekly times together will be committed to bible study and prayer. All interns are expected to be fully engaged in these weekly fellowships and that every individual would contribute to the community and not simply be a "consumer." Interns are expected to complete assignments with a heart and mind that is hungry to know more of God, not just to complete them on time.

**Housing/Meals/Transportation:**

Housing is provided for all interns. There is limited privacy and there are high standards and expectations for keeping your living quarters clean. Pets cannot be accommodated on camp.

There is one furnished kitchen in the main floor common area for all interns. Meals are provided with work crew when guests are on camp. During the school year, lunch is served once a week. All other meals are at the intern's expense and responsibility, including shopping for groceries.

Since interns live and work at Windy Gap, bringing a car is not absolutely necessary but it is highly recommended. Wireless internet access is available in the intern housing.

**Work Schedule:**

During the school year, interns will work a 5-day workweek with two days off, not necessarily consecutive. Each intern will be assigned to one area for the summer season of camp. During the summer months, interns will work a 6-day workweek due to the volume of non-stop camping. Young Life provides 12 paid holidays and new employees accrue vacation at a rate of ten days per year, to be used with supervisor's approval and in accordance with the black-out date calendar. Please do not plan or expect vacation or holidays to be used during summer camp.

**Salary and Fundraising:**

Each intern will be paid \$1,374 per month and will have \$200 deducted for room and board per month. They will receive full health benefits (medical, dental, vision) and will have the privilege of raising \$7500 for the year, which is approximately 1/2 of the total benefit and compensation package. The reasons are two-fold: 1.) most Young Life staff raise money and this will teach you the skills required to be in ministry; and, 2.) the \$7500 raised helps make this program possible, including a service mission trip. This fundraised money is not in addition to the salary. If Young Life health benefits are not needed and interns can provide proof that they are already insured, then they will only need to raise \$6500 for the year.

**Application Process:**

There are several Young Life camps with year long intern programs – each with a slightly different profile. Please read and understand all camp program descriptions before you decide your order of preference for applying. Complete the intern application being sure to indicate your ranking choices of camps in the order that you would like to be considered. Please refer to our website for due dates and information on when we will begin the hiring process. We will not begin to review your application until the application and completed recommendations from one Young Life staff person and one other person have been received.

Download the Application and Recommendation Forms at:

<http://windygap.younglife.org>

Send your completed application to:

Windy Gap  
ATTN: Emie Salem  
120 Coles Cove Rd.  
Weaverville, NC 28787

Or e-mail to: [esalem@wg.younglife.org](mailto:esalem@wg.younglife.org)

Please feel free to contact us with any questions [windygap@wg.younglife.org](mailto:windygap@wg.younglife.org) or 828-645-7187.