



High School Mentor Application Information

Attention: PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY

The mission of OSPREY Camp is to provide *Opportunities for Stewardship Promoting Respect for the Environment and Youth*. Through our outdoor education program, 5th & 6th grade students will attend OSPREY Camp for an entire school week with their teacher(s). The role of our High School Mentor is a vital component of our program. Through a **competitive and selective application process**, high school students are screened, selected, and trained to ensure they are top notch role models who can provide a positive and safe OSPREY Camp experience for our students.

OSPREY Camp is held at Camp Solomon Schechter just south of Olympia. Elementary students attending OSPREY Camp are from local school districts including; Tacoma, Federal Way, Tukwila, Burien, Edmonds, and private schools throughout the South Puget Sound region.

Our 5th & 6th graders, with the assistance of their Mentors and classroom teachers, study a variety of environmental concepts with interactive lessons and activities, and apply them to the natural world. Living onsite at OSPREY Camp provides a supportive environment for character growth and development of life and social skills. Along with the direct supervision and support of our OSPREY Camp Staff, Mentors will provide hands-on care and supervision, 24 hours a day during a week of camp.

The influence our Mentors have on our elementary students is profound, thus the moral character of the High School Mentor must be of the highest quality. Our students look to their Mentors for guidance and direction. The success achieved by our 5th & 6th graders is in direct proportion to the enthusiasm shared, dedication shown, and positive attitude maintained by the High School Mentor. If selected to attend a week of Camp, our Mentors will obtain and receive documentation of 105 community service hours after successful completion of our Mentor Training weekend *and* a week of OSPREY Camp.

Mentor Training Weekend: To ensure our Mentors are thoroughly prepared, high school students are required to attend our Mentor Training Weekend: an overnight, two-day training workshop. Mentor Training Weekend will be held at OSPREY Camp on **Saturday, April 14th – Sunday, April 15th, 2018**. Mentor Training Weekend provides high school students the opportunity to gain hands-on knowledge in our natural science areas, learn and implement exemplary leadership skills, participate in camp program activities, and to better understand the active role our Mentors play in the overall success of our students and the OSPREY Camp program. You cannot attend a week of OSPREY Camp without attending Mentor Training Weekend.

Mentor Testimonial: “I sing louder, laugh louder, lead better, smile larger and really feel like I am the BEST version of myself. I have OSPREY Camp to thank for that!” ~ *Lake Washington High School Mentor*. Volunteering as an OSPREY Camp Mentor is a life changing opportunity. Our High School Mentors leave Camp inspired and with a newfound sense of pride and confidence. We are looking for Mentors who are willing to give the very best of themselves to provide our 5th & 6th grade students with the experience of a lifetime.



OSPREY Camp
Karra Jackson, Director
kjackson@campschechter.org



APPLICATION PROCESS – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

1. The **FIRST** step in the Mentor application process is to submit a detailed application.
2. If you are selected during the first-round application process, and invited to attend Mentor Training Weekend, attending Mentor Training Weekend is the **NEXT STEP** in the application process **ONLY**. This does **NOT GUARANTEE** you will be selected and invited to attend a week of OSPREY Camp as a Mentor.
3. Our **FINAL** Mentor selection process is based on the *overall summary* of the following areas:
 - a. A competitive Mentor application
 - b. Attending *and* participating, to the **FULLEST** extent, throughout Mentor Training Weekend
 - c. Our brief Mentor interview during Mentor Training Weekend
 - d. Our OSPREY Camp Staff interactions, observations, and evaluations of Mentors during Mentor Training Weekend **AND/OR** previous experiences and evaluations of Mentors during their time spent at OSPREY Camp
 - e. The highly respected and detailed Mentor evaluations provided by our Instructional Staff throughout Mentor Training Weekend

The FINAL selection of Mentors to attend a week of OSPREY Camp will be determined by the OSPREY Camp Director and is **NOT** negotiable.

It is also important for you to consider the demands this commitment will have on your time and any schoolwork/projects/exams that are your responsibility to complete prior to attending OSPREY Camp or upon your return to school. We are counting on our selected Mentors to fulfill their Mentor obligations. Please **ensure you understand this information thoroughly** before submitting your application.

Please complete the following Mentor Application and return it **NO LATER** than **March 12th, 2018**. You may scan or take clear picture(s) of your ENTIRE application and submit it via email. **Please send to Karra Jackson, OSPREY Camp Director, at kjackson@campschechter.org**. If you have any questions, please contact Karra Jackson via email.

Mentors selected to attend Mentor Training Weekend will be notified beginning **March 21st, 2018**. You will receive a permission slip, background check authorization, and additional information at that time.



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OSPREY Camp 2018: Mentor Application

Name_____	School_____	Grade_____
Gender (circle one): M / F	Age_____	GPA_____
Address _____		

City_____	State____	Zip_____
Email_____	Phone_____	

Briefly describe any camp experience you have: (Example: OSPREY Camp Mentor, attended OSPREY Camp as a 5th/6th grader, mentor/counselor at a different outdoor education/summer/church camp, etc.)

Describe any mentoring/leadership/volunteer positions you currently hold within your school and/or community.

Our Mentor application and selection process is incredibly competitive! Why do you want to be an OSPREY Camp Mentor? What positive attributes will you bring to our 5th & 6th grade students?

OSPREY Camp 2018: Mentor Application

The dates for our 3 weeks of OSPREY Camp are listed below. **You MUST rank your week preference in order from #1 thru #3 (#1 being your first choice).** Please understand we cannot guarantee your week of preference. However, we will take your request into high consideration when assigning Mentors to a week of camp.

- ____ May 7th – May 10th, 2018 *Tukwila School District (Foster students have top priority)
- ____ May 14th – May 18th, 2018 *Maplewood, St. Frances Cabrini, and St. Vincent de Paul
- ____ May 22nd – May 25th, 2018 *Rainier Prep



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It is vital that quality high school students provide leadership to our 5th & 6th grade students. Each applicant is required to have a faculty recommendation from their high school. The signature of this faculty member indicates **only** that this high school student possesses the characteristics to be a positive role model for our students.

I recommend _____ for participation in OSPREY Camp.

Signature of Faculty Recommendation _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Position _____

I have thoroughly read the above information. I understand submitting my Mentor application does **NOT GUARANTEE** I will be selected to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp. I understand attending Mentor Training Weekend does **NOT GUARANTEE** I will be selected as a Mentor for a week of camp. I understand having experience as an OSPREY Camp Mentor does **NOT GUARANTEE** I will be selected as a Mentor for a week of camp. I understand I may be placed on a **'Wait List'** and asked to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp at the last minute; I will plan accordingly. And, I understand the OSPREY Camp Director will have the **final say** in selecting Mentors.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please return this application to Karra Jackson, OSPREY Camp Director, via email (kjackson@campschechter.org) no later than March 12th, 2018.



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