

Gretna Glen Camp and Retreat Center Summer 2026 Summer Staff Positions

Resident Counselor

For over 60 years, Summer Camp at Gretna Glen has been built on the dedication and joy of caring people who invest their time, energy, faith, and fun into the lives of our campers. Our paid Summer Staff Resident Counselors play a key role in creating an impactful, adventurous, and faith-filled camp experience.

Counselors serve campers ages 6–18, most coming from within two hours of Gretna Glen. The heart of this role is to model the Christian walk for campers — leading daily Bible discovery time with your co-counselor and guiding campers through a week of growth, laughter, and community. Overnight counselors spend their days leading activities, joining in meals, encouraging teamwork, and helping campers develop age-appropriate independence.

Resident Counselors start the week on Sunday at 1:00 p.m., and stay through Friday evening until all tasks are completed typically by 9pm. Most overnight programs this summer will stay in either our 7 Cabins, Wesley Lodge, or Raab Retreat Lodge. We feature resident programs that range from Sun.-Fri., Sun.-Thurs., or Sun.-Wed. Resident Counselors are hired for Sunday-Friday work weeks.

Come spend a rewarding summer inspiring campers, deepening your faith, learning new skills, and exploring the outdoors!

Direct Supervisor: Program Manager

Day Camp Counselor

At Gretna Glen, our Day Camp Counselors play a vital role in creating a fun, faith-filled, and memorable experience for campers ages 5–13. Under the guidance of our Day Camp Coordinators, counselors spend their days leading a group of campers through games, songs, crafts, Bible discovery time, and all the exciting adventures Day Camp has to offer.

Each week of Day Camp features a unique theme, giving counselors the chance to bring creativity, energy, and enthusiasm to every day. Counselors are active participants alongside their campers — encouraging growth, building friendships, and sharing in the joy of God's creation.

Come spend your summer exploring faith, having fun outdoors, and making a lasting impact in the lives of campers!

This is typically a commuting position, but residency is an option if strongly needed.

Direct Supervisor: Day Camp Coordinator or Program Manager

Program Team

Program Staff take care of overseeing and leading different specialized activities around camp. Many of these activities include archery, high ropes, STEM activities, nature programs, low ropes team building, boating, and assisting the Summer Program Coordinator with games and projects. This role requires someone who is willing to learn in a fast paced environment, and hop quickly from one thing to the next and make the camp magic happen for campers of every age. Program staff will be given training to help them grow their camp skills to the next level.

Training season for these positions will begin in late May and early June with specialized activity training in areas such as belay training and lifeguarding.

Good candidates will be people who are already experienced in the world of camp programming, belaying, and navigating a flexible camp schedule. Come spend a rewarding summer with us inspiring campers through special program activities!

Direct Supervisor: Summer Program Coordinator or Program Manager

Kitchen Crew

The Gretna Glen Kitchen Crew, the backbone of our thriving camp community, is responsible for preparing delicious meals to all campers, staff and volunteers each day. The food service team includes kitchen assistants and dishwashers. They will provide excellent service in the preparation and clean-up of meals and snacks. A big part of the role in the kitchen is to help make sure all food preparation and clean-up maintains health code and sanitary guidelines while working at a quick and rewarding pace. The kitchen assistants handle tasks such as preparing the salad bar and beverages, baking the delicious desserts and maintaining a clean and welcoming dining hall. Dishwashers are responsible for working the dish station and ensuring that all dishes are cleaned and sanitized. The food service team works hard to create a warm and welcoming environment in our Dining Hall. Join us this summer in the kitchen to learn new skills and contribute to the success of Gretna Glen!

Direct Supervisor: Hospitality Manager

Lifeguard

The Lifeguard staff serve under the Waterfront Coordinator and are responsible for the care and safety of all Gretna Glen pool and lake activities, including swimming, boating, water slides, and water games. Lifeguards will complete daily tasks such as setting up and putting away waterfront supplies, completing basic checks on pool chemicals, and maintaining the

cleanliness of the pool area and lifeguarding closets. All Gretna Glen lifeguards are expected to uphold our high safety standards at all times. Attendance at our pre-summer Waterfront Orientation is required, as well as a mid-summer In-Service Training to review important lifeguarding skills and site-specific procedures. A valid American Red Cross Lifeguarding (Including Deep Water) with CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid certificate (or equivalent) is required. If certification expires prior to August 30th 2026, we can assist with finding a recertification opportunity. All lifeguards are expected to be able to frequently lift 50 pounds, and occasionally lift or move a person weighing 100 pounds or more.

Direct Supervisor: Waterfront Coordinator, Summer Program Coordinator or Program Manager

Note on Residency:

Some Summer Staff positions (Day Camp Counselor, Kitchen Crew, Lifeguard) are typically “Commuting” roles, where you arrive and depart Gretna Glen each day based on the hours you are assigned. However, residency throughout the week for these positions is an option if strongly preferred. In these cases, the role of staff members living on-site becomes more flexible based on the needs of our programs. These staff members will be expected to complete tasks outside of their normal job duties, which may include cleaning program areas, helping to lead activities, or jumping in the kitchen after dinner. By being “both feet in” and contributing to the larger scope of Gretna Glen’s mission in this way, Resident staff will help campers thrive, strengthen staff culture, and keep our camp running smoothly. In most cases resident staff are 18 and over. Staff under 18 who are not resident counselors have adjusted hours based on their age.