FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Job Title: Cabin Counselor: Riding Instructor
Employee Classification: Seasonal
Reports to: Barn Director

Status: Exempt
Revision Date: 10/2026

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Cabin Counselor: Riding Instructor (CC:RI) serves as an overnight camp counselor; living in cabins with a group of 8-10 campers and one co-counselor for 1-2 week sessions. During activity periods, CC:RIs will act as riding instructors as part of the CCO equestrian program, leading trail rides and western style horseback riding lessons. They are expected to work collaboratively with their co-workers to ensure each camper's physical, social, and emotional health and safety needs are met. They are responsible for all aspects of the camper's experience, with the expectation of exceptional customer service.

OUR CULTURE:

We firmly believe in our mission of putting Christian principles into practice through programs, staff, and facilities in an environment that builds healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. The YMCA of the Rockies staff are key players in helping cultivate an environment of healthy living, youth development, and community impact on our breathtaking properties outside Rocky Mountain National Park. This is a place where nature inspires, and staff lead with heart. We are committed to being welcoming to ***all*** people and to making a difference in the lives of our members, guests, and staff. The work each staff member does matters. We count on our staff to provide extraordinary mission-based experiences for our guests and for each other.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR ALL CAMP CHIEF OURAY STAFF:

- Create a safe space for all campers, families, and staff. Promote safe work practices to allow for development and growth for all.
- Possess the mental, social, and emotional skills necessary to build rapport and positive relationships, putting camper needs first
- Respond to camper and customer requests for service, troubleshoot problems and develop solutions in a patient and respectful manner.
- Contribute to a cooperative and positive camp community, be a team player
- Be responsible for the upkeep of the camp facility and cleanliness of camp. Report any repairs in a timely manner.
- Assist other departments as needed

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR THIS POSITION:

- Participate in barn and all staff training prior to working with campers
- Become familiar with all camp programming, with a special focus on the equestrian program
- Become familiar with the horse herd of 45 leased horses, and show an ability to learn and identify each horse's name and temperament
- Be concerned with the needs of camper development and growth, guiding individual campers in participation in engaging and enriching activities
- During activity periods, be responsible for delivery of equestrian program curriculum. CCO offers five levels of western pleasure riding instruction lessons, as well as beginner trail rides for campers aged 7-14. CC:RIs will rotate between facilitating lessons/trail rides and completing barn work projects. Barn work projects include but are not limited to: horse healthcare, facility Maintenance,

equipment cleaning/repair, etc. CC:RIs are expected to evaluate campers in lessons to identify progression and growth areas and provide appropriate documentation each session
- Complete appropriate documentation (incident reports, horse healthcare logs, camper evaluations, etc.) in a timely manner
- Ensure the physical and mental safety of campers in their care
- Support overnight camp operations by assisting with evening programs, cleaning duties, meal facilitation, etc.
- Attend all required staff meetings as assigned
- Assume weekend responsibilities for one weekend of the summer
- All other duties as assigned

REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Have experience working with youth in a summer camp or other childcare setting
- Have experience and/or training in horsemanship and western style pleasure riding (written documentation/references required), prior experience working with youth and horses preferred
- Ability to prioritize tasks and efficiently manage time
- Must have current certification in CPR/First Aid or be willing to obtain certification

GENERAL YMCA OF THE ROCKIES REQUIREMENTS

- Uphold and reflect the YMCA core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith in all functions
- Uphold the YMCA of the Rockies Mission, policies, and programs.
- Possess and demonstrate excellent customer service skills; for example, friendly, personable, helpful, patient, and professional.
- Support the YMCA of the Rockies safety program. Promote safe work practices and a safe environment for guests, members, and staff.
- Promote a cooperative, positive, and flexible atmosphere while working with others in a diverse community.
- Attend required abuse risk management training and report suspicious or inappropriate behaviors and policy violations.
- Commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and antiracism is required.
- Must meet acceptable criminal background check standards.
- All other duties as assigned.

WORK ENVIRONMENT & PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

- Be able to work inside and outside in all weather conditions
- Be able to hike on rugged terrain
- Must be able to lift 50 pounds, climb/work on ladders and in tight spaces
- Must be able to participate in regular horseback riding

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COLLABORATION:

Support organizational environmental sustainability goals through regular and effective collaboration and communication with sustainability leadership.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

YMCA of the Rockies is a **Praesidium-accredited** organization. Our hiring process reflects the values and standards of Praesidium and other accredited organizations. For more information about Praesidium accreditation, please visit https://www.praesidiuminc.com/

Note: Employees are held accountable for all duties of this job.
This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, or qualifications associated with the job.