

APRIL 21, 2010

FROM THE SECTION OFFICE

ACA Camp Compensation and Benefits
Report: 2010 is Now Available!

These reports contain the latest salary information for day camps and resident camps across the U.S. and are the most comprehensive study of salaries for camp personnel (including international staff) available to the industry. The reports are available for resident camps only, day camps only, or both.

http://www.acacamps.org/research/improve/salary_study.php

ServSafe Trainings

<http://www.indianarestaurants.org/Training.asp?Type=Training>

The American Camp Association is committed to securing great deals for day and resident camps on products and services through our partnerships. From time to time ACA is approached by corporations interested in marketing to camps through free products and promotions. In order to shape current and future partner opportunities, ACA needs your help. Please take a few minutes to complete this brief [survey](#).

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RGMQ68S>

TECH TIP

That comes on the heels of an announcement that the USPS will seek rate hikes for 2011. A Web site to provide customers with the details of the proposal will include a special section telling business mailers how to manage a change in delivery.

www.usps.com/communications/five-daydelivery/

(Nonprofit Times Newsletter)

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Federal Innovation Grants for Camp/School Partnership Programs

Deadline Approaching Soon, \$643
Million Available

Nonprofit camps that are currently in partnership with schools are potentially eligible for Investing in Innovation Fund grants. The deadline for submitting your intent to apply is fast approaching - April 1, 2010 (note that the grant application will ultimately be filed by the school you are partnering with) - with a grant application deadline of May 11, 2010.

http://www.acacamps.org/acanow/news/federal_innovation_grants.php

(ACA Now)

PO Box 653, N Webster, IN 46555
574-457-4379 * info@acaindiana.org

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Own Professional Development Service Center

There's no question about it: professional development is of enormous significance to the mission and goals of the ACA. But do we all know *exactly* what that means? Here are two official explanations:

1. Professional development refers to skills and knowledge attained for both personal development and career advancement;

2. It also refers to activities designed to maintain and enhance one's competence.

Important stuff! Valuable concepts. And ACA has long recognized that it is vital for all camp professionals to have easy access to top-notch professional development opportunities. Now we have plans in place to provide exactly that.

Plans for the launch of a new ACA Professional Development Service Center were revealed at the National Conference in February. It will involve the following three components.

- An on-line "dashboard"
- Certificates of added qualification (CCAQ) and/or Continuing Education Credits (CECs)
- On-line, individual member educational portfolio

The online "dashboard" will include tools, resources, job services, calendars, course catalogs, certificate requirements and an online bookstore, as well as access to a directory of college and university programs related to camp and youth development. The service center will embrace change as a principle, and offerings will be updated as needs in the profession evolve.

You will also have the opportunity to earn certificates of added qualification (CCAQs) and/or continuing education credits (CECs) simply by attending or completing ACA programs. While the number of hours required to obtain certificates is still in development, we can already calculate how many hours various elements will provide. Attending the ACA Regional Conference, for example, will accrue 6.5-20 hours or CECs; the In-person Standards Course will provide 5 hours or CECs; and ACA selected Title Book Review will equal 4 hours or CECs. More on this as the program develops.

Another valuable tool currently being designed is called the Individual Online Portfolio. This individualized record will serve as a collection point for courses, conferences attended and other continuing education activities, enabling you to set personal goals and track credits toward completion of certificates or other self-guided paths of learning. In addition, camp and program directors will be able to use this tool to guide and direct the professional development growth of their staff.

These are exciting times for professional development throughout ACA. If you would like more information or have suggestions, please contact Mary Sullivan, Professional Development Chair, at mary@gesherfun.org.
(ACA New Jersey)

NEWS YOU CAN USE

As the Community Manager for the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics (link: <http://www.LNT.org>), a conservation education nonprofit committed to the responsible enjoyment of the outdoors, I am lucky enough to work with a vast range of organizations and individuals making great strides to get more youth out of doors. Summer camps, however, have a special place in my heart. Having been a camper myself for 9 summers in Western North Carolina, I learned the importance of developing personal and outdoor ethics early. Leave No Trace was first introduced to me at camp before I could go on an overnight trip, but it was also a part of our camp culture – at the canoe docks, on the playing fields, and even in the dining hall.

Having recently attended the 2010 National ACA Conference in Denver and getting the opportunity to interact with many camp directors and staff members, the Center is even more excited to work with more camps nationwide. In an effort to reach more youth with the important concepts of Leave No Trace outdoor ethics, the Center is proud to extend a special limited-time offer to ACA Camps joining as a new partner (<http://lnt.org/support/partner.php>) of 20% off their first year of partnership – as little as \$80. Partnerships include a free suite of educational materials, optional highlights in our extensive e-news and social media platforms, exclusive logo use, and priority visits by the Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers – great for staff training! Join today at <https://store.lnt.org/partner> and help create a conscious community of environmental stewards at your camp this summer.

Catherine Smith, Community Manager
Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics
PO Box 997, Boulder, CO 80306
303.442.8222 X109 catherine@lnt.org
<http://www.LNT.org>

HEALTH & FACILITY

From an article published in Time Magazine, Feb. 15, 2010

DIY: How to Build Your Own Bedbug Detector By Sora Song

Itching for a good after-school science experiment? Researchers at Rutgers University in New Jersey have created a homemade bedbug trap using a plastic cat-food dish, an insulated jug and some dry-ice pellets. According to Wan-Tien Tsai, who reported her findings in December at the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America, the dry-ice-and-thermos combo captured the bloodsucking critters in an infested apartment just as effectively as, if not more so than, equipment used by professional exterminators.

The most important part of this MacGyverized contraption is an insulated one-third-gallon jug—like the kind sold in camping-supply stores—filled with 2 ½ lb. of frozen carbon dioxide, which costs about \$1 per lb. (and should be handled only with gloves). As the dry-ice pellets slowly evaporate, the open thermos spout lets the CO₂—which falsely signals bedbugs that a breathing, blood-filled meal is nearby—seep out overnight. That's usually enough time to entice the nocturnal insects into the other key component of the trap: the overturned food-and-water dish on which the thermos sits. The bugs climb the outer surface of the dish, which can be scuffed with sandpaper for better traction, and get stuck in its moat, made slippery-smooth with a dusting of talcum powder.

This trap was designed to give consumers a cheap way to determine if they have—or, in many cases, *still* have—a bedbug problem that requires a proper extermination.

Bedbugs have made a serious comeback in North America over the past few years, especially in big cities like Toronto and San Francisco. And they are notoriously hard to get rid of. As evidence, amid the enthusiastic talk on Bedbugger.com about the Rutgers invention, one commenter noted, “Dude, I am so going to try this once a month or so.” (March 2010 Camping Newsletter- YUSA)

RISK MANAGEMENT/STANDARDS

Are your lifeguards adequately trained? Good articles on pages 16, 48:

<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/c84c80b8#/c84c80b8/1>

(Camp Business MarApr2010)

Free Online Safety Resource

The federal government's online safety Web site is offering a free guide full of practical tips to help parents, camp counselors, and other mentors keep kids safe online. Net Cetera: Chatting with Kids About Being Online covers everything from social networking and mobile phones to cyberbullying and sexting. View the guide here (the guide is also available in Spanish), and order as many free copies as your camp can use.

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/net-cetera.aspx>

(ACA Now)

ACA "SECRETS"

Does Your Camp Get the Same Pricing as a FORTUNE 500 Company??

Revisit your portal often at <http://aca.purchasingpoint.org> to find new vendors and ones you may have missed. Follow 'sign up' or 'quick sign up' and ordering instructions listed on the vendor profiles to receive discounts.

- Log in to the portal using your email address and personal password.
- Forgot your log-in password? Retrieve it here: <http://aca.purchasingpoint.org/profile/forgotpassword.aspx>
- New to the portal? Use the first-time passkey: ACA463
- Questions? Email Member Services: memberservices@advantagetrustpg.com

(ACA Illinois)

PR/MARKETING

The growth in camp attendance also reflects the ACA's efforts to stay relevant in a changing world. The association has accomplished this in two primary ways: by helping parents realize that a few weeks at camp is about much more than giving a child the chance to goof off with a bow and arrow and by diversifying the types of camp experiences available to young people, so as to broaden the very definition of camp itself....

To read this exciting article found in the March issue of American Airlines - American Way Magazine:

<http://www.americanwaymag.com/hannah-virolav-craig-whiting-camp-champions-sylvan-learning>

(ACA Illinois)