



## **Clinical Hours for Nursing Students at Camp**

Nursing programs establish the number of clinical hours required for each clinical course. Nursing students typically complete 8-24 clinical hours in a week, depending on the course, the clinical objectives, and the intended outcomes. Youth summer camps can be a wonderful opportunity for students to receive “hands on” clinical care within a community environment caring for youth and staff. Therefore, summer camps can be a good clinical site for different experiences - community nursing, pediatric nursing, and mental health practicums.

Camps provide overnight and/or day experiences during the summer. Overnight camps (residential) have youth and staff who stay overnight and provide numerous hours each day that could be used for student clinical experiences.

Day camps serve a relatively consistent population, providing students with the opportunity to work with the same campers throughout the summer. Camps that run day programs may be able to accommodate students up to 8 hours a day. Day camps typically run Monday through Friday.

### **Day camp potential hours = 8 hours a day, up to 40 hours a week of clinical time**

Residential summer camps may serve the same campers for the entire summer or they may offer shorter camping sessions (i.e. 1 week, 2 week, 4 week sessions), admitting a new group of campers at the beginning of each new session. Participants could complete up to 12 hours a day in a residential camp environment. Healthcare services include medication management, communicable disease care, triage, illness and injury care, with a frequent emphasis on dermatology, orthopedic, and diabetes care. There may be the potential for two groups of students to complete clinical in a single day because of the number of hours campers need care, this will depend on the availability of clinical faculty.

Residential camps may run six or seven days a week.

### **Overnight camps potential hours = 14-16 hours a day, 84-96 hours a week of clinical time**

#### **Example of a Typical Day at Camp**

Wake up time is between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Campers are typically scheduled for five -six activities each day-three in the morning and three in the afternoon. Siesta follows lunch each day. In the evening there is typically a camp-wide activity such as dancing, talent show, campfire, messy games, carnival, or swimming. Lights out 9pm -10 pm.



## **A Typical Camp Schedule**

7:30 a.m. Wake up Bell

8:00 a.m. Breakfast/Medication Administration

9:15 a.m. Clean Cabin Awards/ Morning Healthcare & Treatments

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9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Activity 1

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Activity 2      Provide Triage and Care during Activities

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Activity 3

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12:30 p.m. Lunch/Medication Administration

1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Siesta

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2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Activity 4

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Activity 5      Provide Triage and Care during Activities

5:00 p.m. Choice Time

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6:00 p.m. Dinner/Medication Administration

7:00 p.m. Evening Activity

8:30 p.m. Snack/Medications & Night Treatments

8:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Night chats, Bedtime