



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Summer 2018

Dear Prospective Senior Kitaki Kid Parents:

This summer your teen indicated an interest in becoming a Senior Kitaki Kid. I'd like to share more information about the program to help you and your teen decide if he/she would like to apply.

What is the Senior Kitaki Kid (SK) Program?

The Senior Kitaki Kid, or SK program, is a year-round teen leadership and job training program.

What are the goals of the program?

The goals of the SK program are Service, Leadership, and Fun. SKs provide service to Kitaki by helping clean, wash dishes, and help us better serve our younger campers by assisting in games and activities. Leadership development is a primary focus of many of our SK events, with an emphasis on responsibility, communication, and personal growth. Fun happens in everything we do, be it singing in the dish room with new-found friends, climbing the leadership wall, or playing elaborate games of Capture the Flag when the weather is nice.

Who is eligible?

All interested applicants must be at least 14 years of age by September 1st of the coming year, and must have attended Camp Kitaki as a camper. As part of the program, teens must voluntarily abstain from any form of drug use, including alcohol and tobacco; have available time and means to participate in functions as planned; and consider themselves as model youth at all times and as the youth representatives and ambassadors of YMCA Camp Kitaki.

Teens in the SK program must be able to handle the responsibility of managing themselves and their time (for example bringing an alarm clock that is not a phone, waking up on time and arriving at areas on time) with limited direction from staff. SKs must also be able to supervise groups of younger campers in a positive way. We will provide a great deal of training and coaching, but please consider these factors when deciding if the SK program is right for your teen.

What is the commitment?

Kitaki offers one event each month just for the SKs. These events are typically held at camp, and feature activities designed to build relationships and teach leadership skills. In addition, there are opportunities to provide service during our camper campouts each month (Halloween Camp, Cabin Fever, etc.) and during the summer. Teens choose their level of involvement in the program. **There are no attendance requirements**, though the more time an SK invests in the program, the more he or she will get out of the experience. Most SKs attend the events each month and volunteer at least one week during the summer.

What is the cost?

The registration fee of \$290 is all inclusive, and covers the costs for all events during the school year and week(s) your teen works during the summer. Returning SKs will pay \$250. The fee for the program year is nonrefundable, so please make sure you and your SK are committed before registering.

What is the next step?

Interested teens are asked to fill out the enclosed application form and sign the Code of Conduct **by August 31st**. You are not obligated or committed to join by returning the application.

A family orientation meeting will be held at Kitaki on Friday, September 7th from 7-8pm. During this meeting you will have a chance to meet the directors of the program and ask any questions you may have. An overnight for potential SKs will follow. The overnight will wrap up at 2pm on Saturday, September 8th.

Sincerely,

Natalie Roberts-Day
Associate Executive Director

SENIOR KITAKI KID APPLICATION-DUE AUGUST 31st

SK BASIC INFORMATION			
Legal Name (First, MI, Last)			
SK's Email Address		SK's Cell Phone	
Current Address	City	State	Zip
Date Of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ (Must be 14 by September 1 st)			
I have been involved in the SK program for _____ years.			
School Attending		Grade	

GUARDIAN INFORMATION	
Guardian 1's Name	Guardian 2's Name
Guardian 1's Home Phone	Guardian 2's Home Phone
Guardian 1's Cell Phone	Guardian 2's Cell Phone
Guardian's Email Address	

SK APPLICATION- Please feel free to attach additional sheets if necessary
<p>Why would you like to be a part of the SK program at Kitaki?</p> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Is there anything that may limit your availability for this program? (school restrictions, etc.)</p> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Please tell us about your strengths</p> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>What are your weaknesses?</p> <hr/> <hr/>

SKs are asked to serve camp in a variety of ways. Do you consider yourself a hard worker? What chores are you responsible for at home?

Tell us about your talents, hobbies, and interests.

SKs work with our campers to help make sure each child has a positive experience at camp. What experience do you have working with/caring for kids?

How comfortable are you supervising and working with younger campers?

When it comes to working with kids, what scares you or makes you nervous? What skills would you like to learn?

As role models, we expect SKs to stay drug, alcohol, and tobacco free. Can you commit to this expectation?

While at camp, we want you to focus on connecting with your fellow SKs, and therefore require as an SK you leave your cell phone at home or turn it in to the staff when you arrive at camp. Can you commit to this expectation?

Describe your relationship with your parents.

Have you ever had any contact with adult or juvenile court? Yes No If yes, please list and explain:

SK Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

SENIOR KITAKI KID CODE OF CONDUCT:

- Senior Kitaki Kids will abide by the standards of conduct set forth by the YMCA of Lincoln, NE. consistent with the mission of the YMCA. Volunteers must adhere to the YMCA Four Core Values of Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility.
- Senior Kitaki Kids must portray a positive role model by maintaining a positive attitude of respect, patience, encouragement, integrity, courtesy, and maturity.
- At no time during a YMCA program should a Senior Kitaki Kid be alone with a child where they cannot be observed by others.
- If working with children, Senior Kitaki Kids should never leave a child involved with their program unsupervised. Children must be supervised at all times by YMCA staff or approved volunteers.
- Senior Kitaki Kids should appear clean, neat, and appropriately dressed.
- Senior Kitaki Kids are not to transport children involved in YMCA programs or program participants in their own vehicles. Volunteers are allowed to transport themselves to and from camp, but shall not access vehicles while programs are in session.
- Senior Kitaki Kids must treat program participants of all races, religions, cultures, and backgrounds with the same respect and consideration.
- Senior Kitaki Kids may not use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco.
- Profanity, inappropriate jokes/gestures, intimate displays of affection towards others, sharing intimate details of one's personal life, offensive mannerisms (e.g., throwing things, flailing movements, foot stomping) and/or any other kind of harassment in the presence of children, parents, staff, and other Senior Kitaki Kids is prohibited.
- Senior Kitaki Kids will use positive techniques of guidance, including redirection, positive reinforcement and encouragement, rather than competition, comparison and criticism. Volunteers shall abstain from humiliating or frightening types of disciplinary actions.
- Senior Kitaki Kids will refrain from any action that could be considered child abuse, including; but not limited to:
 - Physical Abuse: spanking, slapping, striking, intimidating
 - Verbal Abuse: humiliating, degrading, threatening
 - Sexual Abuse: inappropriate gesturing, touching, language
 - Mental Abuse: neglecting, shaming, cruelty, put downs
- **State law requires any person who suspects that a child has been physically or sexually abused or neglected to report it promptly to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The YMCA expects a volunteer to abide by this law if they suspect a child they come in contact with has been abused.** The YMCA will assist Senior Kitaki Kids with this process if they seek assistance from the Director responsible for the program they are working with.
- Senior Kitaki Kids give the YMCA permission to, at any time, conduct appropriate background and reference checks. Upon request, volunteers must agree to provide any information needed to run such checks.
- A Senior Kitaki Kid is required to report any criminal offense to the YMCA. This report should be made prior to serving. If the criminal offense occurs while in the program,, a report to the YMCA should be made promptly, within 5 days of when the offense or prior to any additional service, whichever comes first. This report should be made in writing to the YMCA's Branch Executive where volunteering and include the exact offense and the date of the offense. Failure to report these offenses as required will be considered misconduct and grounds for dismissal.
- The YMCA may discontinue an individual's Senior Kitaki Kid status at any time for any reason. This may include permanent exclusion from YMCA facilities/programs as the YMCA deems necessary.

By signing below I certify that I have read and understand the rules as outlined in the Volunteer Code of Conduct. I also certify that answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the completion of this form does not guarantee me status as a volunteer. I am aware that a copy of this Code of Conduct can be found online should I need to reference this form at a later date.

Signature Applicant _____ **Date** ____/____/____

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM FOR SENIOR KITAKI KIDS

Printed Name of Minor _____

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

I give my permission for the minor named above to participate in the Senior Kitaki Kid Program at YMCA CAMP KITAKI. This consent is valid and in effect for as long as this minor is involved in the program.

I certify that I have read and understand the rules as outlined in the Senior Kitaki Kid Code of Conduct and I understand that my child is responsible for following these and any other guidelines set forth by the program area my child is volunteering in.

I realize the YMCA cannot be responsible for my child after he/she leaves the site or for any personal belongings while participating. I also understand that my child is a program participant and therefore not covered under workers compensation insurance should a claim arise.

For my child's participation in activities to be conducted by the YMCA of Lincoln, Nebraska, I hereby give my permission and consent, now and for all time, to the YMCA to make, reproduce, edit, broadcast or rebroadcast any video film, footage, sound track recordings and photo reproductions of my child and/or my child's narrative account of his/her experience at the YMCA for publication, display, sale or exhibition thereof in promotions, advertising and legitimate business uses without any compensation to, and/or claim, by me or my child. He/she may, or may not be, identified in such reproductions; however, he/she shall not be stated by name to have endorsed any particular commercial products or commercial services.

Emergency Contact of Minor _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian _____ **Date** _____

SK ORIENTATION WEEKEND RSVP

Thank you for your interest in Senior Kitaki Kid (SK) program! As an SK you are in store for a wonderful experience. You will have opportunities to develop your leadership skills, provide meaningful service to others, make many great friends, and gain memories that will influence you the rest of your life!

Our first step is the SK Orientation Weekend at YMCA Camp Kitaki, Friday, September 7TH, at 7 p.m. - Saturday, September 8TH, at 2 p.m. Parents are invited for an hour-long orientation (from 7-8 PM on Friday), in the Camp Kitaki Dining Hall, about the details of the program and, provided you feel the program is a good fit and we feel the same, a chance to pay your \$290 yearlong registration fee. Returning SK's will pay \$250. The fee for the program year is nonrefundable, so please make sure you and your SK are committed before registering.

After the orientation for parents, the potential SK's move into their cabins & parents can leave. SK's will be picked up at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The rest of the weekend includes fun, making friends, an interview process, some service to Camp, and of course, more fun.

At the bottom of this form is an **RSVP** for the **SK Orientation Weekend**.

Please return the RSVP as soon as possible.

See you on September 7th!

Natalie Roberts-Day
Associate Executive Director

RSVP and Application: Return to Camp Office

YMCA Camp Kitaki, 570 Fallbrook Blvd. Suite 210 Lincoln, NE 68521

Fax to: 402-434-9208

Or email your RSVP to: nroberts-day@ymcalincoln.org

Potential SK's Name: _____

___ Yes, my family and I will be attending the orientation from 7-8PM.

___ Yes, I will be staying overnight at Camp Kitaki for fun, friends, and leadership.

___ No, I am unable to attend the Orientation Weekend, but I still want to be an SK this year.