



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

2017 Counselor-in-Training Program (ages 12-15)

Do you have a passion for nature, gardening, and creative play? Do you like to get your hands in the dirt and enjoy being a role model for younger children? The Arboretum's new Counselor-In-Training program may be the perfect fit for you. Share your skills and bring your imagination and creativity to the Arboretum--join us to play, garden, create, explore and learn together!

The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program is designed to provide opportunities for responsible, positive youth mentors to increase leadership skills by sharing passion, knowledge and enthusiasm for the natural world with younger campers and gardeners. CITs will assist Day Camp and Children's Garden program staff in providing a safe, supportive, and exciting experience for all participants, as well as assisting with other projects.

Benefits of being a Counselor-in-Training (CIT)

- Have resume-building opportunities to serve as a role model, mentor, and teaching assistant in the Arboretum's summer programs
- Share passion for science, gardens, and the outdoors, with younger kids
- Receive helpful training and valuable experience that can be applied to future volunteer and job opportunities
- Develop useful life skills in leadership and time-management
- Meet new friends
- Log volunteer hours and give back to the community
- Receive first-aid training and certification
- Work with caring adult mentors
- Be a valuable part of a fun, supportive, creative environment for kids

Note that CIT's are able to choose which camp/children's garden program(s) they'd like to be involved in – it can range from one week to many. Once committed to a camp, they would need to be available all 4 days of that session in order to really get to know the campers and the way the camp is run. For Children's garden, they commit to the whole summer for a specific session (1 day/week), but are allowed to miss up to 2 days.

Interested?

Step One : Fill out an application and send it as an attachment to arbedu@umn.edu. One of our Children's Educators will then call you to set up an interview date/time.

Step Two: Successful applicants will be notified, pay fee,* and be able to select desired summer programs to assist.

*\$75 fee covers orientation, first-aid training, leadership development training, t-shirt, certificate, all project supplies, snacks, and an end-of-summer celebration! (Financial assistance is available to those who are eligible for free or reduced school lunch. Inquire by email arbedu@umn.edu.)

Step Three: Attend a mandatory one-day CIT orientation on June 13, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (includes lunch and/or snacks)

For more information: Call the education office [612-301-1946](tel:612-301-1946) or email arbedu@umn.edu