



High Trails Counselor Application 2026-2027

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Email Address: _____

Being a counselor at High Trails: The High Trails program engages sixth graders in a rich outdoor-education experience at 2000 Old Stage Road, Florissant, CO. High school students attend for one session (3 day/2 night) in a leadership role, and while at the camp, they are responsible for:

- assisting in the teaching of Discovery Groups (small outdoor-education classes) with enthusiasm and engagement
- engage in an evening program and/or other recreational activities
- working on the kitchen crew
- interacting with adults at the camp (middle-school teachers and camp staff) in helpful, productive, and mature ways

Application process: Completed applications are due to Mr./Mrs. _____ in room _____ by _____

To be considered, an application includes the completion of both sides of this page and two faculty references. Please be considerate in giving your teachers adequate time to complete these.

Please note the names of the two faculty members from whom you requested references:

Previous High Trails experience:

Did you attend as a camper (in sixth grade)? ____

Have you been a counselor at High Trails? ____

Have you applied to be a counselor before? ____

High Trails Schedule: There are 2 sessions in a week with each session being 3 days/2 nights. Session 1 will be M-W and sessions 2 will be W-F. Please see the schedule below and find the high school you attend to determine the week that you will be needed to support middle schoolers at High Trails.

Dates	Middle School	High School
8/31-9/4	MRMS/VMS	RHS
9/14 - 9/18	EMS	AAHS
9/21-9/25	DCCMS	DCCHS
10/5-10/9	CTMS	AVHS/LHS/PCHS
10/19-10/23	CMS	PCHS
10/26-10/30	TMS	LHS

Other Activities: Prior commitments to fall sports or activities usually take precedence over serving as a High Trails counselor. However, if you are involved in a fall sport or activity here that would accommodate your participation as a counselor, please list it below and obtain the sponsor's signature to acknowledge that you have permission to attend.

Activity: _____ Sponsor: _____

Academic Progress: All your class grades must be passing, your behavior needs to be in good standing, and you must have good attendance at the time of your participation in this program. You will miss three entire school days, so you must commit to contacting your teachers **before** you leave to acquire class work and homework that you will be missing, and you must also complete this work within policy guidelines. All these commitments (your passing grades, behavior in good standing, attendance, and arrangements for makeup work), will be documented before your departure on the standard Extended Absence Form.

Grade check: Students agree to submit grades to the High Trails coordinator before the start date. Students cannot have any D’s or F’s if they wish to participate in High Trails. Please bring a printed copy of your current grades to the coordinator a week before you leave for High trails.

Personal Statement of Purpose: Please describe in the space provided below why you would like to be a counselor at High Trails and what specific experiences and personal qualities will help you complete this successfully. These previous experiences may include, for example, camping and other outdoor activities, and any occasions when you have had leadership responsibilities with children.

Thursday, August 27th, Leadership Workshop: The High Trails camp offers a pre-service training opportunity for students who will be attending as counselors later in the season. This will involve a full day at the camp (without sixth graders) when camp staff will lead students through an outdoor-education workshop designed to prepare them for their leadership roles later in the season. The goal is for all HS counselors to attend Leadership Day. If you are unable to attend, you will need to work with your HS coordinator to acquire the information from this day.

Student Commitment: Please read and sign below.

In applying to be a High Trails counselor, I understand that all rules and policies in effect at school also apply to my behavior at High Trails. I agree to be in good academic standing, with good attendance and behavior in good standing at the time of my participation as a counselor. I will make arrangements with all my teachers for completing work that I will miss and will complete it within policy guidelines. I understand that the High Trails program is designed to provide a rich outdoor-education experience for sixth graders, and that this will be my priority as well during my time at the camp. If chosen to participate in the program, I understand that this is a commitment that I will not revoke on short notice. I will make sure that my behavior and language is professional.

Signature of student: _____

Parent or Guardian Permission: Please read and sign below.

My child has my permission to apply to attend High Trails as a counselor and we understand that this involves missing three days of classroom instruction per session. I agree to monitor their academic progress, attendance, and behavior incidents so that they remain eligible to participate in the program and so that their absence does not jeopardize their semester grades. I understand that transportation will be provided by District 20 and that my child will ride the bus both to the camp and back under the supervision of D20 teachers. (There will be additional paperwork and permissions to complete if selection and placement occurs.)

Signature of parent: _____

High Trails Faculty Reference

Student name: _____

Teacher name: _____ **Signature:** _____

The above student is applying to be a counselor at District 20's sixth-grade outdoor-education program this fall. We have a limited number of positions available, and value teacher input in the application process. Please rate the student in the following areas using this scale: 1 [*poor*], 5 [*average*], 10 [*outstanding*]:

Classroom presence: _____

- quality of work
- attendance
- positive participation

Citizenship: _____

- maturity
- judgment
- politeness
- responsibility

Leadership potential: _____

- willingness to help others
- enthusiasm and charisma
- creativity
- initiative

Do you have **any** concerns about this student's ability to provide appropriate leadership and support of middle-school students?

Please make any additional comments on the back of this page.

Please return this either to the student or to _____ (mailbox or room #). Completed applications are due on _____.

Thank you again for supporting this program and for taking the time to advocate for this student.

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