



## TEMPORARY PART-TIME JOB BULLETIN RECREATION ASSISTANT (CAMP COUNSELOR)

**SALARY** \$23.92 Hourly

*(The current salary range is subject to change. You may confirm the starting salary with the hiring department before accepting a job offer.)*

**SCHEDULE** Tentative Zoo Camp dates: June 9 - August 7, 2026

Approximately 40 hours per week; Monday-Friday; 8-hour shifts which may start as early as 7:00 a.m. and as late as 5:30 p.m.; possible one (1) overnight shift on Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

**LOCATION** Los Angeles Zoo – 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027

### JOB DESCRIPTION

L.A. Zoo Camp is a nurturing, safe, outdoor day camp experience for PreK (age 4) through 4th grade children, centered on nature, conservation, and animals. Zoo Camp Counselors play a vital role in creating joyful, meaningful experiences for campers while supporting their curiosity, confidence, and connection to the natural world. Counselors supervise camp groups and work closely with fellow staff to lead engaging, age-appropriate activities in a dynamic outdoor setting.

This is an at-will exempt intermittent position which can be terminated at any time without cause. This position is ideal for individuals who enjoy working with children, collaborating as part of a team, and learning alongside campers in an educational environment. The duties of Recreation Assistants / Camp Counselors include, but not limited to:

- Camper Supervision and Safety: Provide direct supervision for a group of campers (up to 20 children) at all times, ensuring a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment where all campers feel supported and valued;
- Program Facilitation: Collaborate with your co-counselor(s) to plan, organize, and instruct age-appropriate educational activities, games, crafts, and guided Zoo experiences;
- Behavior Management: Promote positive group dynamics by modeling respectful behavior and using positive guidance techniques to support camper engagement and success;
- Communication: Maintain effective, professional communication with co-counselors, parents/guardians, and Zoo staff regarding daily camp activities and camper experiences;
- Logistics and Preparation: Prepare materials for daily camp activities and programs, including setting up and breaking down classroom spaces, snack areas, and craft stations;
- Administrative Support: Assist with essential daily procedures such as camper check-in and sign-out, and supporting drop-off and pick-up operations;
- Physical Activity: Actively participate in all program activities, including walking and standing for extended periods, stooping, kneeling, and lifting or carrying supplies (up to 25 lbs).
- Conduct specialized camp classes focused on wildlife, conservation, and nature;
- Travel up to four (4) miles per day, sometimes over uneven terrain and transporting up to 25 pounds of supplies;
- Work outside and in varied weather conditions; and
- Be a positive role model for Zoo campers.



The Los Angeles Zoo strives to have a workforce that is representative of the diverse communities of Los Angeles and we encourage people of all backgrounds, including applicants who identify as Black, Indigenous, people of color, people with varying abilities, women and of the LGBTQAI+ communities, to apply.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience in managing groups (with assistance) of up to 20 children, Pre-K through 8th grade, is preferred;
- Interested in nature, conservation, education, or youth development;
- Able to follow directions, arrive on time, and maintain consistent attendance;
- Demonstrates solution-oriented thinking and sound judgment in a variety of situations;
- Able to build and maintain positive, collaborative relationships with campers, parents/guardians, and Zoo staff;
- Able to participate fully in program activities, including walking and standing for long periods, squatting, kneeling, and lifting/carrying up to 25 lbs.; and
- Available for all nine (9) weeks of camp, including holidays.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should email the following to [lazoo.personnel@lacity.org](mailto:lazoo.personnel@lacity.org):

- An updated resume or a completed City application, and
- A brief cover letter responding to the following prompt:  
Zoo Camp is built on teamwork, curiosity, and creating a safe, joyful environment for children to learn about nature and wildlife. Why do you want to be part of the Zoo Camp staff at the Los Angeles Zoo, and how would you contribute to a positive camp culture for campers and fellow staff?

The email subject line must include **“RECREATION ASSISTANT (CAMP COUNSELOR)”**.

All documents must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28, 2026, or until sufficient applications have been received.



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## OUR VISION

Creating a just and sustainable world where people and wildlife thrive, together.

## OUR MISSION

Through the passion of our team, the Los Angeles Zoo is leading the way in saving wildlife and connecting Angelenos to the natural world by providing exemplary animal care, delivering distinctive and diverse learning opportunities, and creating unforgettable experiences.

Saving Wildlife. Enriching Our Communities. Creating Connections to Nature.

## ABOUT THE ZOO

The Los Angeles Zoo property comprises 133 acres and is home to more than 1,500 mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles representing more than 250 different species, 64 of which are endangered.

The Zoo is owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles. The Zoo is operated and staffed by City employees as well as employees from its partner organizations and sub-contractors. In total, they represent approximately 350 full and part-time Zoo/City employees, and approximately 400 volunteers. The Zoo is open 363 days each year (closed Thanksgiving and Christmas) and the annual attendance for the Zoo is approximately 1.5 million visitors.

On average, the Los Angeles Zoo welcomes almost 5,000 visitors a day with capacity days up to 10,000 or more visitors. Each year, more than 130,000 school group attendees also visit the Zoo.

## COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

The Zoo Department is committed to equity in all forms, including a culture of respect among all employees as well as ensuring a welcoming and inclusive environment for all guests.



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