

## Peak 7 Summer Guide Frequently Asked Questions

**Who will I be guiding?** Groups vary drastically. We generally serve under-resourced youth. This means groups could be homeless populations, young people in the foster care system, veterans, refugees, teen moms, rehabilitated youth, youth groups, and low-income individuals. Guides must be flexible with conversation topics and sensitive to the needs of the group. Guides must be adaptable and excited to work with a variety of populations!

**As a guide, what am I required to pay for?** You are required to provide transportation to training at the arrival date. After that, all transportation, room, board, and technical supplies are provided. Many of our guides bring their own car for personal adventures/trips to town on off days. This is not required, but we have seen the benefit of having a source of transportation.

**What does support raised mean?** Peak 7 does not pay summer guides. Summer guides may fundraise through churches, family, and friends in order to bring in money for their work in the summer. Returning guides receive a monetary stipend. This amount is agreed upon during the hiring process. We provide materials and guidance for help raising support. We have seen many guides raise significant amounts of support and, although we wish we could pay all of our guides, this has been a successful method for our organization and many summer guides.

**Where will I live during the summer?** Spokane ascent/climbing guides live in a host home with “host parents.” This house is located at our warehouse and south office (where coordinators will be). Seattle climbing/stand-up paddleboarding guides live in different host families’ houses. These are located around the Seattle area, not too far from our office and warehouse. Oregon guides live in host families’ houses near the warehouse and office in Prineville. BAC guides travel with their group, changing locations every week. Base camp is a retreat center named Ingalls Creek outside of Leavenworth.

**What does an average trip look like?** On a multi-day trip, participants arrive at the warehouse to be outfitted with necessary gear. From there, students will travel with guides to desired location. Rock and Raft trips will consist of rafting one day, climbing the next, then traveling back to the city the following day. Guides cook breakfast and dinner for groups (lunch is packed). Activities take part during the day, and debriefs, Bible stories, and games take place in off time and at night. During a backpacking trip, groups will travel on trail to preset campsites. Guides will facilitate meals, games, debriefs, and Bible stories. This is the same for rafting except campsites are along the river. At the end of a multi-day trip, guides and participants will return to the warehouse, return gear, clean gear, and say goodbye to the group. On day trips, groups usually meet participants at the location (or warehouse), activity takes place, short debrief or Bible study, then say goodbye to the group. There is no “average” for BAC... its immersive, challenging, exciting, and includes a new activity every week!

### **Where do trips take place?**

Main locations for Oregon rafting/climbing: Deschutes River, Smith Rock.

Main locations for Spokane Rafting/climbing: Wenatchee River, Spokane River, Vantage, Minnehaha, Post Falls, ID.

Main locations for Spokane Ascent/Climbing: Minnehaha, & Post Falls, ID (climbing). Olympic National Park, Glacier Peak Wilderness, Rainier National Forest, North Cascades (backpacking and mountaineering).

Main locations for Seattle SUP/Climbing: Exit 38, Banks Lake, Mazama, Crescent Lake, Olympic National Park, Vantage.

Main locations for the Bower Adventure Course: North Cascades, Olympic National Park, Deschutes River, Smith Rock.

These are not all locations but the most popular.

**What is the commitment level to this job?** A full-time summer commitment is required for summer positions (May 28 through August 31). There is some flexibility with the ending date because many of our guides return to college that start at different dates. There is a two year commitment only for Bower Adventure Course guides.

**Will there be days off?** For the most part, yes. While guiding is a full-time commitment, guides are guaranteed days off and rest time during the summer. For every six days on, one day is off. BAC is a little different in this area. Because the course is intensive and the participants require supervision at all times, there is no designated time off. Guides can coordinate with each other if they need a morning or afternoon to themselves. Guides can also contact coordinators if time off is desired, and they will coordinate depending on need. Planned family vacations, weddings, and other pre-set plans can be discussed with coordinators during hiring or before training.

**Will this be the best summer ever?** For sure. We love our guides, and although the summer can be challenging, it is a lot of fun. Lasting friendships are always made, and the outdoor experience gained influences personal and professional recreation for each individual.

