



Quassapaug Sailing Center

Junior Instructor Job Description 2026

Mission

At Camp Sails & Trails, our overall goal is to create an enriching and memorable experience for our campers. We strive to foster an environment that prioritizes safety, fun, and success. Our camp programs are designed to promote personal growth, skill development, and a love for sailing and nature exploration.

Overview

The Junior Instructor role at Quassapaug Sailing Center is an exciting opportunity for young individuals aged 16-18 to gain hands-on experience in outdoor education and sailing instruction. This position is ideal for those who are passionate about sailing and eager to develop their leadership and teaching skills in a dynamic and supportive environment.

In addition to aiding with sailing instruction, Junior Instructors will also have the opportunity to assist the Naturalist Instructor with various land-based activities. This includes participating in and supporting the Trails program, where they will help in guiding and educating campers about the natural environment, including activities like hiking, animal tracking, and ecological education.

Responsible to: Head Instructor

Qualifications

- Must have reached their 16th birthday in the calendar year that the summer camp is being held in.
- Must commit to attending the pre-camp training week.
- Must have a strong interest in sailing, kayaking and outdoor activities.
- Have excellent sailing skills and knowledge.
- Energetic, responsible, and eager to learn and develop instructional skills.
- Good communication and teamwork abilities.
- Hold a US Sailing Counselor or US Sailing Small Boat Instructor Level 1 certification (QSC is hosting a certification course in June 2026).
- Hold a current Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid certification.
- Hold a current State Safe Boating & Personal Watercraft Certificate (NASBLA approved)
- Prior experience in sailing is preferred but not mandatory.
- Must have proficient swimming skills and understanding of water safety.

Dates of Employment 2025

Pre-season Staff Meeting: TBD

Level 1 US Sailing Course: June 12, 13 & 14

Training & Setup Period: June 15 - June 19

Camp Start Date: June 22

Work Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Family Day: August 8

Camp End Date: August 14

Cleanup: August 17 - 19

Responsibilities & Expectations

- Aid instructors in teaching safety, boat handling, and sailing theory to students of all skill levels in dinghies.
- Help carry out lesson plans, both on land and on the water, ensuring an engaging and educational experience for campers.
- Uphold the highest standards of safety and well-being for all campers, actively participating in creating a secure learning environment.
- Demonstrate leadership and a proactive attitude in undertaking responsibilities and contributing to camp activities.
- Follow all camp policies diligently, including safety protocols and dress code.
- Engage actively in staff training sessions and meetings, contributing to a collaborative team environment.
- Assist in the maintenance, care and cleaning of the docks, boats, and grounds before and after classes.
- Embrace opportunities to gain experience in outdoor education and leadership, and seek continuous personal and professional development.
- Work towards enhancing your sailing and teaching skills in a supportive, hands-on setting.
- Ensure punctuality and preparedness, bringing enthusiasm and a positive attitude to contribute to the camp's success.

Note: This job description highlights key responsibilities and may include other duties as needed for the camp's operations.

Application Process

To apply for a Junior Counselor role, please submit your application to manager@qsailingcenter.org. Your application should include a resume detailing your relevant experiences and a short essay describing your interest in the position. In your essay, please share why you are interested in this role, what you hope to contribute, and what you aim to gain from the experience.

We are considering applicants on a rolling basis, so prompt submissions are advantageous.

For any inquiries or additional information about the role, feel free to contact Henry James at 203-893-8722 or send an email to henryj@qsailingcenter.org.