



Sacred Earth Foundation

Ekone Ranch * White Eagle Memorial Preserve

Ekone Summer Camp Internship Information

This is an excellent opportunity to spend an extended period at Ekone, gain some real experience, and build your resume or college application. We happily provide references and recommendations for our interns, and Ekone experience is proven to be valuable later in life.

Interns are ages 16-22 (with a few exceptions here and there), with priority given to returning interns and campers who have proven themselves hard working, positive, and ready to take on substantial responsibility.

Most internships will be 3-4 weeks in length. We find that most 16-22 year-olds thrive with this length of stay—just long enough to really settle in, but not long enough to get too burned out. We may consider shorter or longer stays on a case-by-case basis.

Being an intern is hard work! Typical intern responsibilities may include:

- Leading a chore crew
- Participating in camp planning
- Leading activities
- Stewardship and out-of-camp service projects (ie; working in the forest, helping with repairs, gardening, and general ranch maintenance)
- Helping teach riding (depending on confidence and experience level with horses)

We expect you to be an excellent example of a “Top Hand Wrangler”. It means constantly looking for ways that you can help, encouraging everyone to be where they are supposed to be when they are supposed to be there, keeping a positive, energetic and enthusiastic attitude, and helping make camp a place where ALL campers are supported, everyone looks out for each other, gossip and cliques aren't tolerated, and we have tons of fun living, working and playing together.

Interns are junior staff. We expect you to show a high level of maturity and leadership while you work with us, as you are in training to become Camp Staff. We hope to provide you with tools and skills you can use to take initiative here and wherever your life takes you. You will have the support and mentorship of older staff as you learn to negotiate your new responsibilities. Also keep in mind that not all interns will necessarily be given the same level of responsibility; age plays into this as well as camp experience, level of horsemanship, and leadership ability.

Interns are not campers. Our Counselor-In-Training program is designed to integrate a little more leadership into a fun camp experience. Interns have stepped across the invisible line and joined the staff to create the fun for others. It is a profoundly different—and equally wonderful—experience, and stepping across that line should be done with care. If you think you're not ready, you may consider being a CIT instead!

Interns sometimes grow up to run the place! Caitlin, Liz, Shonie, Shannon, Julia, Morgaine (and many others!) all started as campers, then became CITs, then interns & junior staff, and are now leading the summer camp program and other aspects of Ekone. We're excited to cultivate leadership in our campers, and look forward to watching some of you take over our jobs and have a life-changing impact on the *next* generation of Ekone kids!

Internships are unpaid, but there is also no camp tuition associated with the position. We can't legally financially compensate anyone under the age of 18, and most camps charge *more* for their internship programs. This is, more than anything, a valuable learning opportunity as well as a service.

Intern Application

Date of application:

Personal Information

Name:

Age:

Mailing address:

Phone number:

E-mail:

Have you attended Ekone Summer Camps?

Years:

Have you served as a CIT in the past?

Years:

Have you served as an Intern in the past?

Years:

Questions:

- 1. Why do you want to be an Ekone Camp Intern?*
- 2. Do you have any specific skills, talents or interests you would be excited to share with the campers?*
- 3. Please describe any previous work and/or volunteer and/or life experience that might help you step into a role of leadership at Ekone.*
- 4. Please list the sessions you are interested in Interning for below (session dates and titles can be found on the Ekone website at <https://www.ekone.org/session-schedule>)*

Please send questions and your completed Intern application to summercamp@ekone.org or 401 Ekone Rd, Goldendale, WA 98620. Thanks for your interest in helping make it a great summer!!