

Volunteer Camp Counsellor at the HBSPCA

Exciting Summer Volunteer Opportunity at the Hamilton Burlington SPCA!

Application Deadline: April 22nd, 2025

Position Summary

The Hamilton Burlington SPCA (HBSPCA) is gearing up for its Summer Camp program and is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join the team! As a Volunteer Camp Counsellor, you'll help create a fun, educational, and engaging experience for campers while gaining valuable hands-on experience in animal welfare and youth programming. Training provided.

This Volunteer Role is Right for You If:

- You enjoy working with children and animals in a dynamic, fast-paced environment.
- You are passionate about education, animal welfare, and making a difference in your community.
- You thrive in team settings and are eager to develop leadership skills.
- You are energetic, creative, and committed to creating a positive camp experience.

Key Responsibilities

- Assist Camp Counsellors and the Camp Supervisor in leading engaging activities and lesson plans, as well as supervising and caring for campers during daily programs.
- Support animal interactions and hands-on learning experiences.
- Participate in one field trip per week with campers.
- Ensure a safe, inclusive, and fun environment for all participants.

Qualifications

- Comfortable working with children and animals in an interactive setting.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively and follow camp guidelines.
- Enthusiastic, patient, and adaptable to a fast-paced environment.
- Previous experience working with children or animals is an asset but not required.

- Training will be provided.

Requirements

- Commitment to one full week of volunteering (Monday to Friday), completing all 40 required volunteer hours in just five days. Indicate your preferred weeks when applying (see schedule of dates below).
- Attendance at a **MANDATORY training session** held in early July or early August (volunteers need only attend the session before their assigned week).
 - July 9th, 1:00pm-5:00pm
 - August 6th, 1:00pm-5:00pm
- Agree to the submission of a clean Police Check (only volunteers who are 18+).
- All volunteers must be fully COVID-19 vaccinated.

What Makes This Experience Unique?

- Hands-on experience with a variety of animals.
- Opportunities to meet and learn from a variety of professionals across animal-related fields; including Zookeepers, Falconers, K9 Officers, and C-Suite Executives in animal-focused organizations.
- Gain leadership, teamwork, and educational facilitation skills.
- Make meaningful connections with the HBSPCA team and fellow volunteers.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to gain valuable experience, develop leadership skills, and immerse yourself in the world of animal welfare. It requires hard work, creativity, and a strong willingness to learn—are you ready to take on the challenge?

Apply now and be part of something amazing this summer!

When applying, please include both a cover letter and resume, as well as your preference of week (up to 3). Applications without these items will be marked as incomplete and will not be considered.

The HBSPCA is an equal opportunity employer and supports workforce diversity. We welcome and encourage applications from individuals with diverse backgrounds and lived experiences, as well as individuals of all abilities. Should you require accommodation during the recruitment process, please contact the shelter.

We thank all applicants for applying; however, only qualified candidates selected for an

interview will be contacted.

Schedule of Dates

Week/Dates	Age Range	Theme/Learning Goal
1. July 14-18	9-11	Animal Advocates
2. July 21-25	6-8	Critter Camp // Creature Comforts
3. July 28-1	12-14	Vet Camp // Shelter Medicine and Goals
4. Aug 4-8	-	<i>Reset, Review, Regroup</i>
5. Aug 11-15	6-8	Critter Camp // Creature Comforts
6. Aug 18-22	12-14	Careers Camp // Critically Evaluating Welfare
7. Aug 25-29	9-11	Animal Advocates