

Camp Wil-Lo-Linn Mentorship Program

Earning the Leader In Action & Program Aide Awards

The Camp Wil-Lo-Linn Mentorship Program enables girls to progress from Cadette campers (6th grade) to fully trained first year Camper Aides (8th grade) over a three-year training period. While completing this program they will earn the Cadette Leadership in Action (LIA) award and the Program Aide (PA) pin.

The program starts with our Cadette units, these are girls entering 6th grade in the fall of the camp year. During camp the Cadettes work together with Camper Aides and unit leaders to complete activities needed to earn the Leader In Action award. The following year the girls are assigned to our Program Aide-In-Training units (PAIT) where they will complete the work for the LiA award along with the core and specialty training required to advance to Camper Aide status. In their final year, they will apply to camp as a first year Camper Aide and upon completing camp they will receive their PA pin.

Girl Scouts who have not participated in the Cadette LIA activities at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn must earn their LIA award outside of camp. They can then complete their PAIT training at camp as described above and progress to Camper Aide the following year and still earn their PA Award pin.

Girl Scouts who have not earned the LIA award but who wish to participate at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn as a Camper Aide must complete PAIT training, either at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn the summer before their 7th grade or at an alternate Girl Scout camp or council training event. These girls while eligible to apply for a Camper Aide position for the summer after completing PAIT training, are not eligible to earn the PA pin through camp.

Earning the Counselor-in-Training (CIT) and Counselor-in-Training II (CIT II) Awards

As established by Girl Scouts OSW, the Counselor-in-Training (CIT) award is for Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors (grades 9 – 12). This award can be earned by girls who are serving at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn as Camper Aides. The CIT is a progression from the PA Award. Prior Girl Scout experience is not necessary, however girls earning this award at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn must meet all criteria to be appointed as a Camper Aide. Requirements for the CIT award are:

1. Complete PAIT training (general and specialized training).
2. Attend all mandatory Camp Wil-Lo-Linn Camper Aide training (off-site and on-site trainings in May and June).
3. Complete one full week as a first year Camper Aide at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn or another Girl Scout day camp working with younger girls.

Camper Aides at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn serving in their second year of camp are eligible to earn the CIT Award through their week of mentoring campers either as Camper Aides

assigned to a units or activity stations.

The Counselor-in-Training II award is for Girl Scout Ambassadors (11th & 12th grades). As supported at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn, this award level is intended to recognize girls who have chosen to focus on a specific area of camp activity, led in the creation and/or implementation of a week-long activity requiring specialized skills that they have developed over previous years as a Camper Aide at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn. The award has three requirements:

1. Earn the CIT award.
2. Attend all mandatory Camp Wil-Lo-Linn Camper Aide training (off-site and on-site trainings in May and June).
3. Work with younger girls over the course of at least one additional camp session designing and leading younger campers in a specialized camp activity station or other specialized mentoring role as approved by the camp director.

Camper Aides serving in their third and fourth years at Camp Wil-Lo-Linn leading in specialized activity stations or in specialized camp unit programs are eligible for the CIT II award upon approval by the camp director.