



CHAPERONE AGREEMENT

Thank you for volunteering to support your group's overnight at Riverbanks Zoo and Garden. Chaperones play a vital role in creating a fun, safe, and respectful experience for all participants.

As a chaperone, you're more than an adult—you are a role model, guide, and participant. Your engagement helps ensure that everyone has a meaningful and memorable experience.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE:

- **Check your arrival details** with your Group Leader. Riverbanks has two separate entrances, one for the Zoo and one for the Garden. Participants should arrive **no later than 6:00 p.m.** unless otherwise directed. Guests arriving late may miss dinner.
- **Pack light!** You'll carry your belongings to and from the sleeping area. Luggage will be removed from the park at **7:30 a.m.** Label items to avoid confusion.
- **Participants must be at least 5 years old and in elementary school** to attend. For safety and program design, younger siblings are not permitted at any point.
- **Riverbanks is a tobacco-free campus.** Smoking, vaping, and e-cigarettes are not allowed anywhere onsite. Please plan accordingly. Instructors cannot escort guests for smoke breaks.

DURING THE PROGRAM

- **Always stay with your group.** Your presence ensures participant safety and helps maintain a positive experience for all guests and staff.
- **Participate in all scheduled activities** and help maintain a positive tone and pace for your group.
- **Use electronics (e.g., phones or tablets) only during breaks** so you can stay present with your group.
- **Recording video is not permitted** during the program, but photos are welcome. For safety, please avoid taking selfies while walking or near animals.
- **Notify the Overnight Instructor** immediately if anyone in your group needs first aid or has a special dietary concern.
- **Chaperones must remain for the full duration** of the overnight experience, including morning departure at 9:00 a.m. Early departures cannot be accommodated.
- **Deliveries cannot be accommodated during the program** due to safety policies. Instructors and chaperones must always remain with their groups. (Examples include DoorDash and Grubhub.) All items should be brought into the park upon initial arrival.

RIVERBANKS OVERNIGHTS

YOUR ROLE AS A CHAPERONE

- ✓ Supervise and support your assigned group throughout the program
- ✓ Encourage participation, curiosity, and cooperation
- ✓ Reinforce the schedule and behavioral expectations
- ✓ Help redirect behavior if needed, using your group's guidelines
- ✓ Stay alert and available—no need to be an expert! Instructors are here to help
- ✓ Ask questions and model enthusiasm—we're learning together

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

To ensure a fun, safe, and respectful experience for all guests, animals, and staff, we ask that all participants follow these expectations:

- **Be kind and respectful to others**—use indoor voices, stay with your group, and always follow instructor directions.
- **Move safely through the Zoo**—walk calmly, stay on paths, and avoid climbing on rocks, fences, or exhibits.
- **Help us protect nature**—leave flowers, plants, and natural materials untouched so others can enjoy them too.
- **Keep Riverbanks clean and healthy**—gum, tobacco, alcohol, and outside snacks (unless for special diets) are not allowed.
- **Leave electronic distractions at home**—phones, music players, and gaming devices should be stored away during the program so everyone can fully participate.
- **Respect quiet hours**—at bedtime, help create a calm environment for everyone to rest and recharge.

If you have specific needs or questions, just ask an instructor—we're here to help make your overnight amazing!

CHAPERONE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understand the expectations as outlined in this Chaperone Agreement. I agree to follow all guidelines and support a positive experience for my group and fellow participants.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

GROUP NAME: _____ **OVERNIGHT DATE:** _____