



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

CHAPERONE RECRUITMENT GUIDELINES:

Chaperones should be teachers or other adults who are comfortable interacting with children and enforcing the policies of the school and Point Bonita YMCA. If parents are chosen as chaperones, it is our policy that they are not in the same Naturalist Trail group as their child, and we expect parent chaperones to treat all students equally. In addition, we allow no more than three chaperones per trail group. This allows our educators to keep the program focused on students and our groups of a manageable size.

What Point Bonita YMCA looks for in Chaperones:

- Good role models for students
- Positive attitude
- Models inclusive behavior
- Reasonably good physical condition (able to hike 5-7 miles a day on varied and sometimes steep terrain)
- Comfortable being in charge of children that are not their own
- Enforces school and point Bonita rules in a positive and caring way

Sample Screening questions for potential chaperones:

- What do you expect from this experience? (Responses should not include spending time with their child.)
- Are you prepared to be in charge of students for 24 hours a day throughout the entire program? *i.e.* hiking with kids all day, supervising them in the dorms, getting them ready for bed?
- How would you go about managing student conflicts?
- Do you have any similar experience supervising children?
- Will you be able to limit your cell phone use to only specific times during the day and NEVER with the kids around? (A potentially huge issue, especially if they allow kids to call home.)

If they are parent chaperones:

- Will they put the needs of the group above the needs of their individual child?
- Are they comfortable with hiking in a group separate from their own child?

Chaperone requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years of age or older.
- Must agree to all campus rules and chaperone expectations.
- One chaperone per learning group must be proficient in English

Chaperone training:

● Point Bonita YMCA recommends that the school's group coordinator facilitates a required chaperone training before arriving on site.

● Training should include:

- **Clearly explain chaperone's responsibilities and our expectations for them,** as outlined in the Chaperone Manual.
- An overall outline of the role of the teachers, chaperones, and Point Bonita YMCA naturalists and staff during the program.
- The school's and PBY's expectations of adults on the trip.
- The school's academic, social, and personal goals for students.
- Program logistics from arrival through departure.
- Sample discipline scenarios and how to handle them.