



Altum Institute Missionary Program

Duc in Altum - Put Out into the Deep!

About Annunciation Heights

Annunciation Heights is a Catholic youth and family located in the Rocky Mountains outside of Estes Park, Colorado. We exist to be a place of transformative encounter with Jesus Christ so that those we serve may live life fully for the glory of the Father.

We do this by fostering experiences of authentic connection immersed in the beauty of God's Creation. We provide youth and family camp programming, outdoor education, group retreat space, the Altum Institute Missionary program, community engagement opportunities, and Camp St. Malo ministries.

About the Altum Institute

The Altum Institute Missionary Program is the heart and soul of Annunciation Heights. The 15-month program forms young Catholics as lifelong missionary disciples through a communal life of prayer and service within the mission of Annunciation Heights. Inspired by the stories of the Annunciation in the Gospel of Luke (Luke 1) and of Jesus' calling of His disciples (Luke 5), Altum Institute Missionaries live and develop the core values of **Wonder, Trust, and an authentic Gift of Self.**

The Altum Institute's name is taken from the invitation Jesus gave to St. Peter on the Sea of Galilee towards the beginning of his public ministry. Jesus calls Peter to "put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch" (Luke 5:4). This call to the deep, in Latin "*Duc in Altum*," is based on the premise that, like Peter, we must first entrust ourselves to Christ's personal call to the deep before we can let down our nets for a catch. Only from the depths of knowing the reality of who Christ is could Peter fulfill the calling Jesus had for his life.

Therefore, the purpose of the Altum Institute Missionary Program is to allow for an intensive period of time—like Peter had—getting to know who Jesus is, experiencing the power and depths of his love and learning to dialogue with him in prayer. From this, missionaries will be better equipped to hear the call of Jesus in their lives and be prepared to act on that call in service, both at camp and beyond, so that even after leaving the program, the identity of "missionary" is evidenced by a continued witness of life.

The program is both a **service and formation program**, all while living in the context of shared community life. Read on for more program details!

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Program Details

The 15-month program runs from mid-May to the beginning of the next August.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Love of Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith – and a desire to go grow deeper.
- Recent college graduate or gap year participant (preferred but not required).
- Experience, desire and ability to teach and lead youth and families.
- Physically able, active, and willing to work in the outdoors.
- Desire to teach science curriculum to middle-school students in the outdoors.
- Humble and joyful with a willingness to serve wherever needed.
- Desire to be part of a team, live in community, be challenged, and have fun!
- Previous camp experience a bonus!

Missionaries Receive:

- Training and formation in the fundamentals of the spiritual life and sacred Scripture.
- Daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, regular Confession and spiritual direction.
- Servant leadership training and experience with assigned mentor.
- Diverse, guided experience in all aspects of camp life (program facilitation, public speaking and teaching, outdoor skills, grounds and maintenance skills, kitchen and cleaning tasks, etc.)
- Structured community life with fellow missionaries and residential staff.
- Room and board free with an additional \$500 monthly stipend.

Missionary Duties (see next page for further details)

- Program facilitation, direction, and teaching - JPPI Outdoor Lab programs, summer youth and family camps.
- Activity facilitation (high ropes, low ropes, archery, hiking, snowshoeing, etc).
- Hosting rental groups on site.
- Kitchen and cleaning crew.
- Work crew (grounds and facilities maintenance projects).
- Assistance with tourist engagement at Camp St. Malo property.
- Staff and camper recruitment (locally and nationally).
- Minimal fundraising (done with support after arrival) to defray formation costs.

How to Apply

Email resume, cover letter, three reference contacts, and completed short answer questions to Luke Hlavin, Director of the Altum Institute, at Luke.hlavin@annunciationheights.org.

For more information, visit <https://annunciationheights.org/altum-institute-missionary-program/> or call us today at 970.586.5689.

Now accepting applications! Application deadline is May 1.

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Further Program Details

The Altum Institute is BOTH a formation AND service program. The entirety of the mission program is guided by the **Missionary Standard of Life** (see separate document). This document spells out the spirituality and standards of communal life on camp. This document will be provided to all applicants in process of application and discernment, and it will be signed upon acceptance into the program.

Formation Summary

- **Bible Study** (*weekly - one hour*)
- **Book Study** (*weekly - one hour*)
- **One-on-One Mentor Meetings** (*every 2-4 weeks*)
- **Spiritual Direction** (*monthly*)
- **Community Formation:**
 - **Missionary Dinner** (*weekly*)
 - **Standard of Life Review** (*weekly*)
 - **Men's/Women's Nights** (*weekly*)
 - **Family Dinner - missionaries with staff families** (*monthly*)
- **Prayer and the Sacraments:**
 - **Holy Hour** (including Lauds) and **Mass** (*daily*)
 - **Adoration** (*weekly*)
 - **Confession** (*scheduled times weekly*)
 - **Silent Retreat:** Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius (*annually*)
 - **SEEK Conference** (*annually*)
 - **Pilgrimage** - alternate domestic and international (*annually*)
- **Professional Formation** - teaching, public speaking, marketing, etc.
- **Ad Hoc Formation**

Service Summary

- **JPII Outdoor Lab/Summit School** - teaching as outdoor education instructor in experiential science curriculum (*3 days/week for entirety of school year*) - see below for more details.¹
- **Youth Camps** - first summer as counselor; second summer as leader and presenter (*6 weeks in summer*) - see below for more details.²
- **Family Camps** - leader and activity facilitator (*5 camps in summer*) - see below for more details.³
- **Guest Group Hospitality** - hosting groups on site (*weekly*).
- **Camp Work Crew** - kitchen shifts, cleaning camp multiple times per week, other facilities and grounds projects as assigned (*weekly*).

¹ JPII Outdoor Lab (Summit School when taught to public schools) is an outdoor education program for middle school students. You will be teaching science courses with Catholic faith tie-ins. Lesson plans will be provided for you to use, but get ready to be an experiential, outdoor educator for three full days each week!

² Youth camps run 6 days/week through the summer. Prepare for long, fun days with kids!!

³ Family Camps run 4 days/3 nights. With parents onsite, we get to facilitate all the fun without the work of supervision!

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Year at a Glance

| Months | Service Activities |
|---------------------------|--|
| May through August | Summer staff training; counselor with campers living in lodges. <i>[10 day break between end of summer and August training]</i> |
| August through November | Further missionary training; JP II Outdoor Lab instructor training; JP II Outdoor Lab program teaching/facilitation; guest group hosting; staff recruiting. <i>[one week break during Thanksgiving week]</i> |
| November through February | Summer camp outreach; SEEK; pilgrimage; camp work project; group hosting; Spiritual Exercises silent retreat. <i>[two week break from mid to end of December]</i> |
| March through May | JP II Outdoor Lab program teaching/facilitation; guest group hosting; summer camp preparations. <i>[one week break during Holy Week/Easter]</i> |
| May through August | Summer youth and family camp leadership and activity facilitation. |

Week at a Glance

We expect our missionaries to serve camp needs 6 day/week. We commit to one 24 hour day off each week. Typically this is Saturdays throughout the summer and Mondays throughout the remainder of the year.

| Typical Week in the Summer (less rhythmic than school year weeks below) | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Sunday | Camper arrival |
| Wednesday afternoons (subject to change) | Missionary formation |
| Friday | Camper departure and cleaning |
| Saturdays | OFF |

| Typical Week in the School Year | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday | Formation and cleaning day |
| Wednesday through Friday | JP II Outdoor Lab programs (12-15 hour days) |
| Friday through Sunday | Guest group hospitality and program preparation; “work week” concludes with Sunday night missionary dinner. |
| Monday | OFF |

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