

Trip Application and Participant Expectations

Epic Sierra Adventures (“Epic Sierra”) is a program of The American River Conservancy (“Conservancy”), a non-profit conservation organization in Coloma, CA. The Conservancy is incorporated as a 501(c)3 tax exempt, non-profit organization in the state of California since 1989.

Admission and Enrollment Process

1. To apply read over the expectations, complete this application, and submit a \$500 deposit.
2. Epic Sierra will contact applicant and conduct a phone interview to gauge interest and inform each participant about our behavior policies and expectations. A written copy of these policies is available upon request.
3. After eligibility is determined, Epic Sierra will send documents regarding medical information and liability waivers to be completed and signed by the parents/guardian and participant. Please read these forms carefully. Final acceptance is contingent upon receipt of *completed* forms.
4. Full tuition is due April 30, 2012. If you enroll after April 30th, final trip tuition (plus a \$100 late fee) is due one month before departure date.

Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis. Limited space available. To insure your spot, send your application in as soon as possible.

Mail or fax to: EPIC SIERRA ADVENTURES | PO Box 562 | Coloma, CA 95613 | Phone (530) 621-1224 | Fax (530) 621-4818

Questions? Call Michael or Molly at (530) 621-1224 or email info@epicsierra.org

Payment Schedule, Refunds and Cancellation

- A \$500 deposit is required to secure a place on an Epic Sierra trip. \$300 of the \$500 will be refunded until April 30, 2012, with a written notification of cancellation. All fees including deposit and tuition are nonrefundable for any reason after April 30, 2012.
- Balance of tuition is due April 30, 2012. If you enroll after April 30th, final trip tuition is due one month before departure date. If you submit your fees and registration form after April 30, 2012, you are eligible to receive a \$1,350 (14-day trip) or \$500 (7-day trip) refund for up to 7 days after payment is received.
- All cancellation requests must be made in writing to Epic Sierra Adventures, PO Box 562, Coloma, CA 95613, or e-mailed to MichaelD@arconservancy.org. Cancellations become effective on the date received. Epic Sierra reserves the right to withdraw, without penalty, any announced program (in which case, a full refund of the purchase price will be made) or to make necessary changes to a program or program schedule. Epic Sierra is not responsible, in the event of cancellation or alteration of a program, for any airline or other commercial transportation cancellation penalty incurred by purchasing a nonrefundable or restricted ticket. Please contact Epic Sierra about program status prior to making your travel arrangements. We strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance. Registration and Release forms will be sent as part of your registration package.

Participant Agreement

- Epic Sierra expects participants to participate actively and enthusiastically in all trip activities. Participants should:
 - Have a positive attitude and open mind
 - Show motivation and encouragement
 - Be physically fit
 - Be respectful to others in the group
 - Take on leadership opportunities
- Participants must refrain from misuse or distribution of prescription or non-prescription drugs and/or use of or distribution of any illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products and refrain from engaging in any sexual activity. Epic Sierra does not impose strict rules of conduct, but actions detrimental to the group or our healthy atmosphere as described above may result in dismissal. Upon arrival, participants will be reminded of our disciplinary policy and ramifications of inappropriate behavior.

Healthy Group Environment

- Parents and participant must understand that for the health, safety and welfare of all members on an Epic Sierra trip, participants must abide by Epic Sierra rules and policies. Epic Sierra reserves the right to refuse acceptance to the program or dismiss any participant from the program that staff believes, in their discretion, is injurious to him/herself or others, presents a safety concern or medical risk, is disruptive, or otherwise conducts him/herself in a manner detrimental to the program. *Conduct that Epic Sierra considers detrimental to the program, which can lead to early dismissal includes but is not limited to:* misuse or distribution of prescription or non-prescription drugs; use or distribution of illegal drugs, tobacco products or alcohol; lack of engaged participation or inability to fulfill trip goals or requirements; inappropriate language and sexual innuendos; continued homesickness; pregnancy; attempted suicide; sexual activity; leaving without permission; theft; falsifying or not disclosing medical records; or not respecting community customs.
- Most trip activities should not be difficult for most teens in average physical condition. However, even if a participant is accepted on a program, parents and their son or daughter, in conjunction with his/her physician, should consider whether Epic Sierra’s programs and activities are an appropriate match.
- Parents agree to contact our office if the applicant has asthma, diabetes, a heart condition, disciplinary issues at home/school, a history of counseling, therapy, and/or medical or psychological conditions that could effect their ability to participate.

_____ Parent’s Initials _____ Participant’s Initials

Medical Policies

- Participant and parents authorize Epic Sierra staff, representatives, contractors or other medical personnel to obtain or provide medical care for participant, to transport participant to a medical facility, and to provide treatment they consider necessary for the participant’s health. Participant and parents agree that Epic Sierra has no responsibility for medical care provided to participant and agree to pay all costs associated with that care and transportation.

Travel and Medical Insurance

- Epic Sierra strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance, including travel medical insurance, for the participant’s trip. We highly recommend that parents purchase additional trip insurance to cover potential losses in light of Epic Sierra’s ‘no refund policy’ and the potential for additional costs in the event the applicant is unable to attend or complete his/her trip for any reason. Parent/s understand they are responsible for all costs associated with the above risks, including but not limited to medical evacuation and care or treatment of their child, while on program or otherwise, including those costs that may not be covered by their purchased insurance or their own personal insurance.
- Parents are responsible for reviewing any purchased insurance and their own personal insurance to understand their medical and other coverage, and to check that their participant’s personal belongings are covered for loss, theft or damage.

Food

- Participants will play an active role in preparing, eating, and picking up after a meal in small groups. We can not provide separate meals for special dietary needs and restrictions. We can withhold meat from meals for vegetarians and do our best to accommodate food allergies. Participants with food allergies should consider how this might limit their menu options. Epic Sierra cannot accommodate vegan, raw food, or kosher diets.

Trip Application and Participant Expectations (cont'd)

Destruction/Loss of Equipment

- Parents will be held financially responsible (and will be required to reimburse Epic Sierra) for their child's willful destruction or loss of any Epic Sierra equipment or property. This includes sharing in the group's collective responsibility for willful destruction or loss. In addition, Epic is not responsible for a participant's lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings.

Communication

- To encourage independence and personal responsibility, students are not permitted to make or receive phone calls during the duration of the trip with the exceptions of emergencies and a friendly call home halfway through the trip. Please note: Epic Sierra and the Conservancy's office is staffed 7 days a week in the summer (9am-5pm, Mon-Fri and 11am-3pm, Sat-Sun). Our leaders are in contact with office staff on a regular basis. Leaders carry cell phones and, in some situations, use satellite phones.

Personal Electronics

- Personal electronic devices (i.e. iPods, handheld gaming devices, and cell phones) are not allowed on any trips. Upon arrival into Epic Sierra's group, trip leaders will collect all electronic devices and place in a secure location for the duration of the program. All such devices will be returned on day of departure.

Photography, Audio/Video Recordings and Journal Release

- Participants and parents authorize Epic Sierra, and/or parties designated by Epic Sierra, to take and use photos, videos, recordings, statements and/or written reports which may include the participant or be taken of or by the participant, in any manner Epic Sierra desires. This may be for advertising, displays, educational purposes, audiovisual, exhibits, or other uses.
- Please note: Epic Sierra encourages participants and their families to 'spread the word' about their trip experiences. Epic Sierra will grow through grassroots marketing from past participants. We expect participants and their parents to respect our company and not criticize Epic Sierra in postings on the internet.
- Epic Sierra websites and information contain copyrighted materials, trademarks, protected trade names and logo/marks that are the sole property of Epic Sierra and the American River Conservancy. Other than downloading or printing for personal use, these may not be copied, broadcast, disseminated or publicized in any way without Epic Sierra's written permission.

Special Requests

- Special requests and considerations of any kind must be made in writing at the time of application.

Acknowledgement

- We have read, understand, and agree to accept and abide by these terms and Epic Sierra policies. Parents agree that the participant has permission to participate in all activities, whether conducted by Epic Sierra staff or by its contractors.
- We agree that California state law (without regard to its conflict of laws rules) governs these Terms of Agreement and all other aspects of our relationship with Epic Sierra and that any mediation, suit, or other dispute we may have with Epic Sierra or the American River Conservancy must be filed or entered into only in a place of business or state or federal court located in California. We agree to attempt to settle any dispute (that cannot be settled by discussion) through mediation before a mutually acceptable California mediator. We agree that upon signing Epic Sierra's Application and Terms of Agreement, we are entering into a legally binding contract with Epic Sierra.

TRIP AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Applicant's Full Name (please print) _____ Date of Birth _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's Full Name (please print) _____

Applicant's Email Address _____

Parent's Email Address _____

Home Number _____

Other Number (please specify): parent cell _____ applicant cell _____ parent work _____

Wild West Slope (7 days) - \$1000 (\$1100 after April 30, 2012)
Rafting, caving, camping, hiking, and service work in the Sierra's west slope
Starts/ends: Coloma, CA (Flights: Sacramento Airport)

July 1-7, 2012 (ages 14-18)

Method of Payment

Minimum amount: \$500 for deposit

- Check Enclosed (to: American River Conservancy)
- Credit Card Payment Submitted Online (www.arconservancy.org/epicsierra)
- Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard) Payment below:

Rocks, Rivers, and Ranges (14 days) - \$1850 (\$1950 after April 30, 2012)
Paddling, rafting, camping, backpacking, and service work in the Sierra
Starts/ends: Coloma, CA (Flights: Sacramento Airport)

July 8-21, 2012 (ages 14-18)

July 22-Aug 4, 2012 (ages 14-18)

CC# _____ Exp. Date (xx/20xx) _____

Name (on Credit Card): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

DO NOT SIGN THIS RELEASE IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT OR IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH ITS TERMS.

Applicant's Signature (required)

Date

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature (required)

Date