

# Climbing Wall Attendant/Instructor

RecSports Outdoor Program  
University of Tennessee

## Introduction

Our undergraduate and graduate level staff have a varied background, coming from across the state of Tennessee and beyond. Recreation, biology, information technology, philosophy, art, geology, and speech pathology represent some of the various majors our staff studies.

The love of the outdoors draws this diverse set together. It is our priority to find students who are passionate about the outdoors, who share this love with others, are willing to learn new skills, and then eventually share these skills with others.

In applying to work for the RecSports Outdoor Program, you will be working shifts at the Vol Wall Climbing Gym, plus various special events as scheduled. Working other positions inside our department is possible.

## Expectations

You must have a sense that the glass is half full and provide an **attitude of genuine kindness, thoughtfulness and insatiable curiosity** due to a love of learning. **"Type A" personalities** who exhibit the above traits, are highly desired.

**A positive work ethic is important.** While it is climbing related, it is work; we enjoy it because we all have a tendency to do our jobs as well as possible and help others to have amazing climbing experiences. We expect you to develop into the type of person who, when you graduate, we are reluctant to let go of because of your work ethic, teaching ability, and warm personality.

You could work anywhere else but **you have chosen to work for the RecSports Outdoor Program.** By working here, you are looking for more than just a paycheck. You should be looking to join a community, to **become an excellent teacher and leader** and of course, to develop solid outdoor skills. In return, we expect you will always bring a positive attitude and work ethic to work and make the program an important part of your undergraduate or graduate experience.

We expect **open and direct communication** and hold ourselves and others accountable for duties, decisions, mistakes, words, and actions.

The RecSports Outdoor Program is a student run program, with direction and coordination provided by two Co-Coordinators and Climbing Wall Manager. To make this program run smoothly, **staff is expected to take part in all RecSports Outdoor Program trainings, train younger staff and improve the program however possible.**

Make sure you understand these duties and areas - now is the time to ask questions to see if this is the right fit for you.

### **Climbing Requirements**

- Belay checked at the Vol Wall
- Climb V1 and 5.8 easily
- 1 semester or more of regular climbing (indoors or out, at Vol Wall or other locations)
- Want to help others get into climbing

### **General Requirements**

- Minimum First Aid, Adult/Infant/Child CPR and AED (provided by RecSports) or higher level certification
- Currently enrolled student.
- A 2.5 GPA or higher (a lower GPA may be considered if you sell yourself)
- Checking or savings account for direct deposit
- Acceptance of expectations in this document
- Commitment to work a minimum of 6 hours a week
- Attend all required staff trainings
- Attend mandatory staff meetings
- Have & able to secure within 7 days of an interview the following:
  - original, signed, non-laminated Social Security card
  - or original passport.
  - Driver's license

- These are required IDs to complete new hire paperwork

## **Job Description**

These specific duties and descriptions are in addition to the more general and normal activities that go on daily.

The general activities include, but are not limited to:

- Greeting participants, answering questions, and directing them to the right resource with friendly and positive service.
- Cleaning, maintaining, and renting climbing equipment.
- Teach weekly learn to climb & belay clinics and evaluate participants in belay ability.
- Instruct and belay participants on the climbing wall.
- Running errands.
- Identifying what needs to be done and doing it.
- Maintain climbing participation records.
- Help participants plan their own climbing adventures.
- Ensuring safety during all clinics and programs.
- Enforce the rules and regulations of department.
- Other duties as assigned.

## **Time Frame**

The RecSports Vol Wall is open 5 days a week while school is in session (Fall, Spring) with different summer hours. Staff who are committed and add value to the program will be asked to stay on each semester until graduation.

Climbing wall: Monday – Thursday 3-9pm, Friday 3pm - 8pm

## **Wage Range**

\$7.25 to \$7.70 after 3 years of service at an entry level. Promotion to higher positions are available.

## **Average Hours Per Week**

6 to 20 hours

## **How to Apply**

Fill out [online application](#)

Be sure to include a cover letter

**Your *cover letter* should cover:**

- What your most relevant skill & experience is
- Why you want to work with the UT RecSports Outdoor Program
- What can you do to make a climbers first experience at the Vol Wall amazing for the following people:
  - brand new (never climbed)
  - Intermediate (never climbed outside but climb at other gyms)
  - Experienced climbers who have own gear and climb outside

Cover letter should be 1 page or less – no fluff please.

**Learn to Rock Climb, Kayak, & Teach - Apply for to *Student Outdoor Leadership Expeditions (SOLE)* training course, held each spring.**

If you apply to work the Outdoor Center, you should submit a resume and application for the *Student Outdoor Leadership Expeditions (SOLE)* training course as well.

For the right person, this spring time 170+ hour outdoor leadership program provides the skills and experiences to eventually become paid trip staff. See the *SOLE* candidate hiring document for information.

No experienced is needed to join this training course.