



Youth Leadership Development at Edison Sailing Center

Youth sailors of all ages are eligible to participate at the appropriate &/or desired levels of leadership as outlined in the matrix below. For complete details and eligibility, please read the descriptions that follow.

Leadership Role	Ages 8 & 9	Ages 10 & 11	Ages 12-14	Ages 15-17	Ages 18+
Mentor a new sailor for a semester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Volunteer for outreach events	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sign in & out at each session – note time in and time out	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Help during summer programs as a Blue Shirt		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Serve as an Environmental Ambassador – participate on the Green Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Initiate pre-approved activities & games as part of weekly practice		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Request to attend & bring back information to share with others at a US Sailing event				Yes	Yes
Post activities & photos on approved social media feeds; content, photos or ideas for ESC;s website		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Complete the online Safe Sport training					Yes
Become powerboat certified – NASBLA US Powerboating SPH course			Yes	Yes	Yes
Serve as youth representative on the ESC Board of Directors		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Acquire First Aid & CPR certification			Yes	Yes	Yes
Demonstrate eligibility for candidacy for Junior Instructor training			Age 14+	Age 15	
Candidacy for Level 1 Small Boat Instructor training, Level 2 and/or Level 3				Yes	Yes
Candidacy for Powerboat Instructor					Yes
Request a paid summer instructor position (eligibility requirements met)				Yes	Yes
Register to become a Project Reach educator				Yes	Yes
Create 1-3 year strategic plan for leadership planning & personal development				Yes	Yes
Request support for possible candidacy to a service academy				Yes	Yes
Help prepare summer staff through training				Yes	Yes

Mentoring: assisting a new sailor, helping with information, providing assistance and support as needed until the new sailor's ability demonstrate confidence.

Volunteering for outreach events: ESC believes in giving back to the community through outreach events, such as inviting the Quality Life Center students or the STARs students for a fun day sailing or kayaking; outreach can also mean participating in an island clean-up or helping with a community sailing day

Signing In & Out is a preparatory job skill (time management and responsibility). Not only does this simple skill provide a foundational skill for job preparation, it also addresses personal responsibility.

Blue Shirt: ESC's summer programs are known for the Blue Shirts – sailors who volunteer to provide the clerical, social, operational, and maintenance pieces of our summer programs. Youth leaders who want to volunteer as Blue Shirts will be required to complete an application. Sailors serving as Blue Shirts are required to attend a training day prior to the beginning of summer sessions and complete a powerboat operator/skills checklist. Completing an application is another pre-requisite skill for future job training.

Environmental Ambassadors/Green Team: youth leaders who serve in this role help oversee and reinforce the sailing center's recycling efforts; reduction of single-use plastics (zero use); planning for River Romp's sustainability objectives (Sailors for the Sea program); modeling good stewardship of our waters.

Activity/Game Leader: instructors are not the only ones who can introduce activities & games that support learning and practice. Youth leaders are encouraged to read through ESC's resources and work with a designated adult to plan, introduce and carry-out a game/activity. Suggested time limits range from 15-30 minutes, depending on the age group & skill level.

Participation in a US Sailing event: US Sailing offers an annual conference – usually the beginning of February. Locations vary from year to year. These conferences are a great way to see the latest in the marine industry, meet some of the leaders & top sailors, and learn more about sailing. Youth leaders are invited to attend the Saturday of these events to avoid missing school days. Those who attend are expected to bring back information to share with other sailors at ESC. Two regional conferences are typically held annually. Youth leaders may request to attend one of these sessions as well.

Social media feeds: youth leaders are encouraged to submit pictures, videos and helpful information on trending social media channels. Prior approval is required before posting. Go Pro and 35mm digital cameras may be made available to youth leaders who demonstrate an interest in this area.

Website content: same description as above. Prior approval required.

Safe Sport training: this online training is required for anyone who plans to work with youth – volunteers, parents, instructors. The course can be accessed on US Sailing's website and is free. This course is required for candidates who wish to register for instructor training.

Complete powerboat training: youth may have completed the Florida Safe Boater course – the Bobber Card- but to move to a leadership level, and before candidates can be eligible for instructor training, they must complete the US Powerboat course that includes an exam and time on the water demonstrating the 32 safe boat handling operator skills.

Youth Representative to the Board of ESC: every stakeholder voice must be included in the conversations within the Board of Directors: the community, parents, adult sailors, and youth. As a youth representative to the Board, you are encouraged to bring ideas, suggestions, concerns, and needs to the Board from your peers.

First Aid & CPR training: a requirement for candidacy to become an instructor, everyone is encouraged to complete an approved First Aid & CPR training.

Candidacy for Junior Instructor training: a revised training for youth leaders ages 14-15. Youth leaders who intend to become candidates for Level 1 training should consider completing this course.

Level 1 Instructor Candidate: youth leaders who will turn 16 in the year the training is offered may register to participate in the training. Candidates must have completed their NASBLA powerboat certification – the US Powerboating course is now required of all instructor candidates, Safe Sport Training (optional if under age 18), First Aid & CPR training. Teaching Coaching & Fundamentals component is an online component that candidates will need to complete prior to in-person training.

Level 2 Instructor Candidate: youth leaders who successfully complete the Level 1 Small Boat Instructor training are eligible to register for Level 2 at least one year after completing Level 1. This is a two-day training.

Level 3 Instructor Candidate (coach): youth leaders who successfully complete the Level 2 SBI training are eligible to register for Level 3 without any waiting period. All pre-requisites noted for Level 1 apply as well to Level 2 and Level 3.

Powerboat Instructor: youth leaders who have reached their 18th birthdays are eligible to register to become a powerboat instructor. Students must have completed the US Powerboating course prior to registering to become an instructor. Similar pre-requisites must be completed (Safe Sport, First Aid, CPR, Teaching Coaching & Fundamentals).

Paid position as summer instructor: youth leaders who have earned at least their Level 1 SBI certification are eligible to apply for paid positions during the summer. Instructors are required to attend training prior to the beginning of summer sessions and to have written plans for each group they instruct.

Project Reach (STEM) Educator: youth leaders who have an interest in STEM in sailing are encouraged to participate in Reach training. This one-day, eight hour training provides the materials and simulations to facilitate STEM learning while sailing.

Strategic Planning for Leadership Development: sailors in this age cluster who entertain serious aspirations for becoming a professional/career coach and/or high-performance, competitive sailor, are encouraged to work with one or more of ESC's adult mentors to develop a plan that will work toward achievement of the objectives.

Candidacy to a Service Academy: high school students wishing to pursue a college degree through one of the national service academies (USCG, US Naval Academy, Kings Point Maritime Academy, West Point) are encouraged to work with one of ESC's adult leaders who will support the student and his family's goal. Support may include letters of reference & introductions to key personnel/alumni.

