
FOCUS, the Fellowship of Christians in Universities and Schools, is an interdenominational youth ministry established in a dozen areas along the east coast and in San Francisco. For more than six decades, FOCUS has given independent school students in grades 6-12 the opportunity to explore traditional Christian faith and values in a forum that is fun, intellectually stimulating, and non-coercive. During the school year, FOCUS pursues this goal through area-based activities and discipleship, both one-on-one and in small groups. From May through August, we offer a variety of Summer Programs, most of which take place at our Martha's Vineyard Study Center.

Vision:

The FOCUS Vineyard Staff program is a discipleship program that combines the real-life elements of work at FOCUS, biblical studies and nurture, and the support of a Christian community. The program is designed for people who are deeply committed to Christ and desire to join our staff in providing an environment where volunteers and students can experience Christ.

Qualifications:

This program is for men and women who are teachable, have displayed qualities of faithfulness in their lives, are seeking God's leading, and have a sincere desire to grow in an intimate, abiding relationship with Jesus Christ.

Applicants must have completed at least two years of college and must be at least 18 years old. College graduates are also welcome and encouraged to apply.

Applicants must be willing to make the following commitments:

- To arrive on May 27 and depart on August 15 or later.
- To actively pursue a life of faith in Jesus Christ, including personal Scripture study and prayer.
- To attend, participate, and be on time to all required teaching and study meetings, discussion groups, worship and prayer times, meetings with leaders, and any other meetings that may occasionally be designated as required.
- To work willingly, cheerfully and to the best of ability at whatever job assigned.
- To be at work each scheduled day unless legitimately sick, to be on time, and to submit to the authority and regulations of the departmental supervisors.
- To gain a lifeguarding certification if working in the Summer Programs Office or in the Facilities department.

Our Commitment:

We are committed to making this summer both challenging and rewarding. We will ask much and give much to each other as we serve Christ as a community of believers. You will be involved in Bible study, worship, small and large group sharing, and lots of work all while living in community with other Vineyard Staff. The intensity and volume of some of the work and study may challenge you. We believe it will be more than worth it.

Our Focus:

We will be focusing on four areas: Christ, Discipleship, Work, and Community. You will be a part of an amazing group of committed Christians and be included in the Lord's work of changing students' lives for eternity. You will never be the same as you trust Christ to conform you to His image throughout this summer.

Christ:

1 Corinthians 2:2 "For I am determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

The most important aspect of your time on Vineyard Staff will be how your faith matures as you draw closer to Christ. Through worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and service, you will be strengthened in your life and faith in Christ.

Discipleship:

1 Timothy 1:2 "To Timothy, my true child in the faith..."

Those who love you will speak the truth in love. Each Vineyard Staff member will be under the Department Managers and Summer Programs Hosts in a mentoring relationship. They are available to talk about spiritual growth, personal problems, areas of concern, or to explore God's leading in potential areas of work.

Work:

Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

We believe at FOCUS that our diligent labor is directly connected to the Gospel message that students will hear. By doing our work in an excellent fashion, we contribute to the total program experience of our guests. This is your mission for the summer. The available departments include: Programs Office, Kitchen, and Maintenance. It is important to remember that no matter what department you work in, you will be asked to serve wherever needed. You will work a six day work week.

Community:

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many."

You will be housed with other Vineyard Staff of the same gender and you will be learning what it means to live in community. The Vineyard Staff is a part of the greater FOCUS staff community that is committed to laying down their lives to serve each other and our guests. Living in community is both a great blessing and challenge. Living in a "fishbowl" forces us to be real with each other and deal with those areas of our lives that may need some attention.

Bible Study and Fellowship:

The biblical studies program is the heart of the summer – effectiveness at work and harmonious community living are directly related to a person's walk with the Lord. Vineyard Staff have a weekly Bible Study and weekly fellowship time. These meetings are held in the evening and include studies focusing on who God is, who we are, and the fundamentals of being in a growing, biblical relationship with Him.

Housing/Meals/Transportation:

Housing and meals are provided for all Vineyard Staff. You will share a sleeping room with the same gender. Although the accommodations are more than adequate, space is limited. TVs are not allowed, but Vineyard Staff may bring laptops. We cannot accommodate any pets. There is limited privacy and there are high standards and expectations for keeping your living quarters clean. The Study Center serves three meals a day during the summer and provides additional snacks during programs. No one goes hungry at FOCUS! Access to vehicles for free time is possible, but limited. To drive FOCUS owned vehicles you must be 21 years old and have a clean driving record. (Vineyard Staff between 18 and 20 years of age, who have a minimum of 2 years licensed driving experience, will be allowed to drive FOCUS owned vehicles only if no minors or students are passengers in the vehicle.) There is space to park your own car if you choose to bring it to the island.

Salary:

Each Vineyard Staff will be paid each month via direct deposit or paycheck on the 28th of each month. (If the 28th falls on a weekend or holiday, payday will be on the Friday before that). In addition, full room and board will be provided, paid for by FOCUS.

Relocation allowance:

FOCUS will reimburse up to \$500 of moving expenses to offset the costs of relocating to Martha's Vineyard and an additional reimbursement of up to \$500 for relocating from Martha's Vineyard.

Vacation:

Each Vineyard Staff receives four days of vacation over the course of the summer. That time can be used to go on vacation or rest at the Study Center. Vacation days must be approved and scheduled prior to the start of the summer. Vacation days should not be scheduled before June 16 or after August 10. These must be used during the summer and will not be paid out at the end of the summer.

Community Rules:

Living in community, the Vineyard Staff adhere to a set of lifestyle standards that allow us to live together harmoniously and in consideration of one another. The primary commitments include:

- To refrain from using any alcohol or drugs for the entire summer anywhere on the island, and from tobacco products at the Study Center.
- To be non-exclusive and non-physical in all relationships with the opposite sex of the Vineyard Staff and other FOCUS staff persons. To not pursue any romantic relationships within the FOCUS community for the summer.
- To respect the Study Center campus-wide curfew.

FOCUS Vineyard Staff Job Descriptions

Kitchen:

- Preparing and serving meals and desserts
- Managing and leading volunteers in preparing and serving meals
- Educating kitchen volunteers on proper cleaning techniques
- Washing dishes and putting them away
- Preparing any food needed for the next meal
- Doing any kitchen laundry that needs to be done

Office:

- Working with Program Directors to provide for the needs of each program
- Answering the office telephone and respectfully communicating with parents and staff
- Coordinating transportation days
- Preparing leader packets and other handouts
- Organizing supplies for games and events on and off property
- Providing hospitality for guests staying in the cottages by preparing their housing (including cleaning the rooms and bathrooms)
- Serving as lifeguard for the program
- Managing the linen closet and laundry room

Facilities:

- Fixing things that break on the property
- Maintaining appearance of Study Center grounds
- Cleaning and maintaining vehicles
- Helping the office with games and other events
- Providing the “heavy lifting” to all that happens at the Study Center
- Preparing fires in the fire pit and fireplaces for the program
- Serving as lifeguard for the program