

Big City Mountaineers wants to make the expedition experience as safe, comfortable, and accessible as possible for all families.

BCM is a teen-focused organization; our programs are designed to build life skills in our teens. Our staff and volunteers are committed to giving your teen the best experience possible. Through physically and emotionally safe wilderness based expeditions, teens challenge themselves, build self-esteem, learn responsibility, set and achieve goals, and take teamwork to a whole new level.

**BCM will:**

- Fully outfit your student with appropriate footwear, clothes, and camping equipment.
- Provide staff who are experienced at leading teens in the wilderness, fully qualified in wilderness medicine, and trained adult volunteers to support the staff.
- Provide routes through the backcountry that are appropriate for our students.
- Have support staff that are available 24 hours a day, a comprehensive emergency action plan, and emergency communication devices on all courses.
- Have local staff who are available and willing to answer all your family's questions.

**Student and Family Expectations:**

To help ensure our trips are safe, fun and engaging experiences we expect all BCM participants to:

- Provide a clear, accurate and complete application
- Participate in pre- and post-expedition team building activities
- Come prepared: review all information before attending activities and events
- Promote emotional and physical safety: follow BCM's safety policies – safety begins with you!
- Help create a positive learning environment: respect others and be open to new experiences
- Be an active participant in the experience: engage in group activities and discussions
- Celebrate and share your accomplishments with others!

**Day 1:**

Get clothing and all outdoor gear at Big City Mountaineers, drive to a campsite and sleep near the van. Students will not have access to their phones starting on day 1.

**Days 2-5:**

Hiking, backcountry camping, leadership skills development, and fun!

**Day 6:**

Hike out of the backcountry, celebrate the group's accomplishments, and camp next to the vehicles.

**Day 7:**

Drive home, students will call once they are back at BCM with arrival time home. (mid-afternoon)

