

Camp Operations Guide Summer 2020

COVID-19 Resource Center ([/resource-library/coronavirus-information-camps](#))Camp Business ([/res](#)

Camp Operations Guide Summer 2020

The American Camp Association (<https://www.acacamps.org/>) (ACA) and the YMCAs of the United States (<https://www.ymca.net/>) (Y-USA) are engaged together to provide educational resources to both day and overnight camps, state and local health departments, and parents/guardians and campers. The educational resources are being developed by an independent expert panel being coordinated by Environmental Health & Engineering, Inc (<https://eheinc.com/>). (EH&E), a Boston-based consulting firm specializing in environmental health. This expert panel has convened specialists in pediatric medicine, camp medicine and nursing, epidemiology, infectious disease management, biological safety, industrial hygiene, organizational design, and other technical specialties. Experts participating in this panel are professionals from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Association of Camp Nursing. These educational resources will be shared with CDC and state and local health departments so that all parties can be informed. Information will be available on the ACA and Y-USA websites as it becomes available.

The following table of contents is an outline of the resources that EH&E will be providing. Details for each section will be added as they are completed between now and mid-May.

Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC

Guidance

Introduction

This field guide is designed to provide camp directors and staff with a practical guide and tool kit to implement specific recommendations provided by the CDC in relation to risk reduction at camps. The objective of this field guide is to provide educational materials for camp staff to reduce potential exposures to and spread of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) the virus that causes COVID-19. The recommendations provided here are designed to be implemented for various types of camps (e.g. adventure/touring; day, resident, backcountry, weekend) and geographic locations and pertain to camps in geographical locations under low and medium mitigation conditions, according to federal guidance (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/#preparedness>). Any recommendations in this guide should also coincide with a given camp's communicable disease plan.

Outline

1.0 Communication

- Communication with Parents
- Communication with Staff
- Communication with Children
- Communication with Vendors
- Communication with Local Health Departments, EMS, and Hospitals
- Communication with Healthcare Providers

2.0 Content and Guideline Communication

- Communication on Policies and Procedures
- Updates and Communication from CDC
- Updates and Communication from OSHA
- Updates on State Specific Guidelines

3.0 Health – Screening and Preventing COVID-19 Infections

- Camper Health
 - Intake Screening and Assessment
 - Regular Screening and Assessment

Staff Health

- Intake Screening and Assessment
- Regular Screening and Assessment
- Overnight Camp Staff
- Precamp Quarantine Considerations

Testing and Screening

- Good (Minimum Guidelines) – Monitor Symptoms Regularly
- Better (Recommended Guideline) – Monitor Temperature
- Best (Recommended Guideline) – Serological Antibody Testing and/or Nose Swab PCR

Preventing Spread

- Handwashing
- Physical Distancing
- Face Masks and Cloth Face Covers
- Discrete Program Cohorts

Response and Management of Case(s) or Probable Case(s)[2]

4.0 Facilities

- Offices and Office Areas
- Health Center and Sick Person Isolation Area
- Dining Areas
- Indoor and Outdoor Athletic Facilities
- Sports Equipment
- Residential Camp
 - Housing
 - Sleeping Density
- Day Camp
- Building Ventilation
- Common and Shared Spaces
- Cleaning and Sanitizing
- Pools and Lakes

5.0 Food Service and Deliveries

- Vendor Procedures for Deliveries and Supplies
- Cafeteria Workers PPE and Protocols
- No Contact Protocols
- Hand Hygiene Stations
- Dining Schedules
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Canteen or Camp Store

6.0 Cleaning and Disinfection

- Increased Frequency of Cleaning
- Changing Areas/Locker Rooms
- Toilets, Showers, Restrooms
- Testing

 - Good (Minimum Guideline) – EPA approved; cleaning protocols; records checklist

 - Better (Recommended Guideline) – ATP test to audit cleaning

 - Better (Recommended Guideline) – Environmental surface swab test for SARS-CoV-2

7.0 Activities

- Group Activities
- Outdoor Activities
- Rainy Day Activities
- Shared and Assigned Equipment
- Educational Programs/Activities – e.g., STEM
- Aquatics, Water-Related, and Boats
- Indoor Activities
- Competitive and Recreational Sports
- Wilderness Activities
- Other Physical Activities

Travel Off-Site – Staff Days Off; Field Trips
Visitors/Tours
Equestrian
Performing Arts
Creative Arts
Range Activities
Guest Speakers and Presentations
Administrative

8.0 Campers and Staff

Groups and Cohorting for Social Distancing – Concentric Circle of Infection Prevention Model
Campers and Staff with Preexisting Medical Conditions

9.0 Transportation

To Camp and Drop Off
From Camp and Pick Up
Camp Travel – Buses and Vans

10.0 PPE Plan – for staff and workers

11.0 Supplies List

Suggested Camp Supplies and Materials for 2020 Camp Season
(/sites/default/files/resource_library/operations-guide/ehe-camp-supplies.pdf)

12.0 Appendices

A. Incident or case reporting checklist/form
B. Campout safety checklist
C. COVID-19 safety checklist

D. Information on how to talk to campers about coronavirus

E. Sample Communications

Please contact ACA (<mailto:aca@acacamps.org?subject=Camp%20Operations%20Guide%202020>) if you have questions.

[COVID-19 \(/topics/covid-19\)](#)

COVID-19 Resources for Camps

Stay up to date on the latest information and best practices for coronavirus (COVID-19).

[Learn More \(/resource-library/coronavirus-information-camps\)](/resource-library/coronavirus-information-camps)

Related Content

[Health and Wellness Resources – COVID-19 \(/resource-library/coronavirus/health-wellness-resources\)](/resource-library/coronavirus/health-wellness-resources)

[Webinar - Privacy and Security for Online Programs \(/staff-professionals/events-professional-development/events/webinar-privacy-security-online-programs\)](/staff-professionals/events-professional-development/events/webinar-privacy-security-online-programs)

[Online Learning & Events – COVID-19 \(/resource-library/coronavirus/online-learning-events-covid-19\)](/resource-library/coronavirus/online-learning-events-covid-19)

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