



Discovering Similarities
Celebrating Differences

Camp for All Kids 2024 Application Packet

This application includes: a student application (3 pages,) a parent application (3 pages,) a parent consent form (1 page) and a teacher recommendation form (1 page.) Please complete this packet and return to your school or directly to Camp for All Kids.

Tell me more about the Camp for All Kids organization...

Camp for All Kids provides access to free renewable overnight summer camp experiences for Black and Brown youth at seven partner camps in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Camp offers a safe environment that fosters independence, fellowship and social-emotional development. Everyone at camp benefits from going together with people from different backgrounds, lived experiences and ethnicities.

The overnight camps that Camp for All Kids partners with include:

All Girl Camps:

Birch Trail Camp

www.birchtrail.com

Chippewa Ranch Camp

www.chippewaranchcamp.com

Camp Kamaji

www.kamaji.com

Camp Marimeta

www.marimeta.com

All Boy Camps:

North Star Camp

www.northstarcamp.com

Camp Menominee

www.campmenominee.com

Camp Timberlane

www.camptimberlane.com



Camperships that are awarded are **renewable**. That means if a child gets accepted to receive a campership to attend camp for this summer, they are invited to continue to receive that campership summer after summer. Many campers start their first year of sleepaway camp when they are in elementary school and continue to return to the same camp until they are in high school (and sometimes into college and beyond!)

Camp for All Kids partners with camps that offer 4 week and 8 week camp experiences. First year campers are offered 4-week camp experiences. After the first summer, the camp director and parents of the Camp for All Kids camper can discuss if extending the experience to 8 weeks is an option- based on their readiness and maturity.

As campers grow, there are also invitations from the camps to apply for leadership training programs and employment positions. This is often referred to as the CIT (Counselor In Training) Program or LT (Leadership Training) Program. Camp for All Kids will help work with enrolled families to offer scholarships for 8-week opportunities and CIT/LT Programs as well.

What do camperships cover? What costs should families expect to pay for as part of the experience?

Camp for All Kids partners with our family of camps to provide full financial support for overnight camp. This includes tuition t, bus transportation, plus all activities and additional expenses associated with overnight camp. Campers often have an established “spending account” that enables them to buy items from the “camp store” or cover the cost of additional activities while they are at camp.

Enrolled campers are asked to make a commitment payment each year.directly to Camp for All Kids. The payment for 4 week campers is \$200 and the payment for 8 week campers or CIT/LT participants is\$350. Payment amounts are flexible and Camp for All Kids will work with families to make financial arrangements that best accommodate their needs.

For costs outside of family commitment payments, such as airline tickets to and from the charter bus locations, gas money, or hotel stays for families who are traveling to drop their camper off at camp, Camp for All Kids will work to cover partial or full amounts of these expenses as needed.

Camp for All Kids will also work with new camp families to purchase and secure camp supplies and gear such as duffle bags for packing, sleeping bags, camping chairs, bunk organizers, etc. Enrolled camp families will work with the Camp for All Kids program staff to secure the gear they need from their camp’s packing list in advance of the summer.

Session dates for camps:

Overnight camp sessions are 4 weeks in length. There are two different sessions for each camp. 1st session runs from mid-June to mid-July. 2nd session runs from mid-July to mid-August. Each camp has start and end dates that vary slightly. Here are the start and end dates for each camp:

Girls Camps:

Birch Trail Camp

1st session: June 17 - July 13
2nd session: July 14 - August 8

Chippewa Ranch Camp

1st session: June 17 - July 12
2nd session: July 14 - August 8

Camp Kamaji

1st session: June 17 - July 13
2nd session: July 15 - August 10

Camp Marimeta

1st session: June 17 - July 12
2nd session: July 14 - August 7

Boys Camps:

North Star Camp

1st session: June 17 - July 13
2nd session: July 14 - August 9

Camp Menominee

1st session: June 17 - July 12
2nd session: July 14 - August 8

Camp Timberlane

1st session: June 17 - July 13
2nd session: July 14 - August 9

Who can apply to the Camp for All Kids for new “camperships”?

Black and Brown students currently in 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade are encouraged to apply. New campers must attend one of the Camp for All Kids partner schools or be a friend or family member of a current camper enrolled in a camp.

What qualities do applicants need to show in order to be accepted?

Camp for All Kids applicants have mature and model behavior at school and at home. Students should be role models to their peers through their actions and their words. Additionally, parents and/or family members of the students should advocate and communicate effectively on the behalf of the student. Parents and family members will need to complete paperwork and follow camp and program deadlines. There will be support available from the partner schools and the Camp for All Kids program staff.

How do I know if my child is ready to become a camper at an overnight camp? Camp is all about having fun while building friendships and developing social and emotional skills. Camps want to set their campers up for success in these areas and there are certainly some milestones that children should demonstrate before camp begins. These are just some of them:

1. **Young people who are ready for the camp experience want to go to camp.** They want to have the experience away and grow in their independence while playing and having fun in a primarily outdoor environment. If your child is saying they don't want to go, they're not ready at this time and that's ok!
2. **Young people who are ready for the camp experience have skills and abilities to provide their own self care-** choosing and serving their own food when there are options, getting dressed and tying their shoes on their own, and demonstrating good hygiene skills are needed for success at camp. Of course there will be camp counselors and staff to help provide reminders, but campers are completing many of their own daily tasks without an adult doing it for them.
3. **Young people who are ready for camp practice sleeping away.** Sleepovers or nights away with family members or friends are great ways to prepare for the overnight camp experience!
4. **Young people who are ready for camp can navigate situations when conflict arises.** Being at camp is fun and exciting but there will also be moments of conflict and challenge. Campers who are ready for the experience can navigate these challenges without extreme tantrums or emotional outbursts.

When do new families apply for the “campership?”

New families are invited to apply to Camp for All Kids in late fall. Camperships are awarded by early January. Camperships are given on a rolling first-come-first-served basis, so families who apply early and before Winter Break have a better likelihood of getting a spot at a camp for the following summer.

What is the process to apply for a Camp for All Kids “campership?”

Step #1: Fill out the attached paper application and return it to your school's Camp for All Kids contact or directly to Ariana Smith, Campership and Program School Manager, ariana@campforallkids.org

Step #2: Ask your child's current teacher to fill out the Teacher Recommendation form and return it to your school's Camp for All Kids contact or directly to Ariana Smith. (Both the paper application and email of recommendation must be completed to consider the application fully turned in.)

Step #3: Complete a video conference called a “Family Interview.” (This step will be scheduled after your application has been turned in.)

Step #4: Camp for All Kids will send acceptance or denial to the scholarship program by early January.

Step #5: Families must sign an acceptance contract with Camp for All Kids and provide a non-refundable family commitment payment.

Accepted families will register their child for camp with their assigned camp once the campership has been confirmed.

Partner Schools and school contacts:

City Academy, St. Louis: Ms. Kimberli Wilson, kwilson@cityacademystl.org

Chicago Jesuit Academy, Ms. Miranda Olander, mortensen@cjacademy.org

University of Chicago Charter- Donoghue campus: Mrs. Shamilya Woods, swoods@uchicagocharter.org

LEARN 6, North Chicago: Ms. Jocelyn Cano, jcano@learncharter.org

Providence St. Mel: Ms. Christel Ward, wardc@psmnow.com

Village Leadership Academy: Ms. Dayo Harris, dharris@vllcademy.org

Urban Community School, Ms. Nora French, nfrench@urbancommunityschool.org



If you have any questions about Camp for All Kids, ask your partner school contact or reach out to Ariana Smith at ariana@campforallkids.org. You can continue to learn more about Camp for All Kids at www.CampforAllKids.org.

Student Application- Page 1 of 3

Students should complete the Student Application on their own. Students should write their answers with pen or pencil. If you need more space to write your answers, you can use a separate sheet of paper.

Student Full Name (First & Last): _____

What school do you attend? _____

What grade are you in? _____ Who is your teacher? _____

What are three words that you use to describe yourself?

What are three words that your teacher would use to describe you?

What are three words that your friends would use to describe you?

Why do you want to go to camp?

Student Application- Page 2 of 3

Student Full Name (First & Last): _____

What do you like to do when you are not in class?

When you think about going to overnight camp, what camp activities do you want to try? How do you think you will feel when you are doing these activities at camp?

If you go to camp next summer, what is something that will make you feel nervous or scared? What will you do when you feel nervous or scared at camp?

Student Application – Page 3 of 3

Student Full Name (First & Last): _____

Explain a time that you have been mad at a brother or sister or family member or friend. What happened? Why were you mad? What did you do?

Talk about a time that you helped someone in need (a friend, a family member, a stranger, etc.) How did you know they needed your help? What did you do?

In your cabin where you will sleep, you will share a space with many other campers your age. If someone left a mess on your bed, what would you do? What would you say to them?

Parent/Adult Short Answer- Page 1 of 3

Child's Full Name (First & Last): _____

Parent/Guardian's Full Name (First & Last): _____

What are three words you would use to describe your child?

What brings your child feelings of joy or happiness?

Whose idea in your family was it to go to overnight camp? Was it you? Your child? Someone else? How did you learn about the Camp for All Kids program?

Parent/Adult Short Answer – Page 2 of 3

Child's Full Name (First & Last): _____

Parent/Guardian's Full Name (First & Last): _____

Describe your child's learning style.

How does your child demonstrate independence at home?

How does your child respond to new environments and experiences?

Does your child receive special education services? (i.e. IEP or 504 plan) (Circle one) Yes No If yes, please describe your child's diagnosis and how your child learns best so we can help accommodate.

Parent/Adult Short Answer – Page 3 of 3

Child's Full Name (First & Last): _____

Parent/Guardian's Full Name (First & Last): _____

How often does your child participate in extra activities, hang out time with friends or sleepovers?

What are your worries or reservations with sending your child to overnight summer camp?

Why do you want your child to go to summer camp at this time?

Do you have any requests for a specific camp assignment, session assignment or friend/family placement?
(Requests are considered but not guaranteed.)

Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Child's Full Name (First & Last): _____

Child's Current Grade: _____ Child's Birthday: _____

Child's Home Address: _____

Child's Home City: _____ Child's Home State: _____ Child's Zip Code: _____

What is your child's ethnicity? _____

**The 1st Parent/Adult who is listed will be the primary point of contact for Camp for All Kids*

1st Parent/Adult Full Name (First & Last): _____

1st Relationship to Child (Mother, Father, Grandparent, Legal Guardian, etc.): _____

1st Parent/Adult Primary Phone Number: _____

1st Parent/Adult email address: _____

2nd Parent/Adult Full Name (First & Last): _____

2nd Relationship to Child (Mother, Father, Grandparent, Legal Guardian, etc.): _____

2nd Parent/Adult Primary Phone Number: _____

2nd Parent/Adult email address: _____

By signing below, I am consenting for my child to apply for the Camp for All Kids scholarship. I understand that Camp for All Kids is an opportunity that is awarded to students of color and families who have demonstrated good behavior with parents/family members who advocate and communicate.

If my child is awarded a Camp for All Kids scholarship, I understand that I will have to complete enrollment paperwork both for the camp and the scholarship organization. I understand that I will be asked to financially pay \$200 for my child to accept the scholarship (if attending 4 weeks) and \$350 when/if my child attends camp for 8 weeks or the CIT/LT program.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher Recommendation Form Request

Applying Families- Please fill out your child's name on this form and deliver it to your child's teacher. Request that they complete a recommendation email on behalf of your child who is applying for the camp scholarship.

Child's Full Name:

Dear Educator,

Our family is interested in applying for a full "Campership" (Full financial support) to sleepaway camp for next summer through Camp for All Kids. Camp for All Kids provides access to free renewable overnight summer camp experiences for Black and Brown youth at seven partner camps in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Camp offers a safe environment that fosters independence, fellowship and social-emotional development.

Our family is wondering if you are willing to write a letter of recommendation on behalf of our child to receive a campership. If so, please write an email and send to ariana@campforallkids.org answering the following questions/statements:

- Describe the student who is applying for the campership.**
- Describe the student's typical behavior. Are they a leader? A follower? Outspoken? Quiet?**
- Describe the development that you have observed this student making socially and emotionally.**
- What are some of the goals that you are working towards with your student?**
- How does the student respond socially?**
- How does the student respond during challenges or moments of stress at school?**
- Describe the level of involvement with the student's family that you have experienced from school.**
- How would you predict this student might benefit from being at an overnight summer camp this summer?**

Overnight camp sessions are 4 weeks and 8 weeks in length. There are two different sessions for each camp. 1st session runs from mid-June to mid-July. 2nd session runs from mid-July to mid-August. Families who apply for camp are assigned to one of seven partnering camps (three all boy camps and four all girl camps.) If you would like to learn more about Camp for All Kids, please visit www.campforallkids.org.

Thank you for your help applying for this summer campership,

Child's Parent/Guardian: _____

Send the email recommendation directly to:

Ariana Smith, Campership & Program School Manager: ariana@campforallkids.org