



DES MOINES Y CAMP

2021 COVID-19 OPERATIONAL RESPONSE

Updated: 6.02.2021

Purpose:

This plan is designed to position Y Camp to be safe and successful in 2021 with regards to overall camper health and prevention of spreading COVID-19. It is designed using resources from YMCA of the USA, the CDC and the Iowa Department of Public Health.

MASKS & VACCINATIONS

Masks & Face Coverings

In accordance with CDC guidance, masks or face coverings will be optional within the cabin group, or cohort, and in outdoor settings in which campers can safely distance. Masks will be required in indoor spaces in which social distancing is not possible between cabin groups or individuals from different cabin groups. Y Camp supports and encourages all campers who choose to wear masks and face coverings when they are optional.

Vaccines

For campers who have been fully vaccinated and are at least 13 years of age wearing face masks or face coverings is optional during camp programming. If a camper is not fully vaccinated the mask policy listed above applies.

Staff Masks and Vaccines

Fully vaccinated Y Camp staff will not be required to wear face masks or face coverings during camp programs. They will, however, model good hygiene, support all who choose to wear masks when optional and will enforce social distancing during camp activities.

PRE-CAMP

Prior to Camp Arrival

We ask that families and campers please follow the CDC's travel guidelines prior to arriving to Y Camp. Visit the CDC's website for more information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

Some Things to Consider:

- If you have concerns your camper has potentially been exposed to COVID 19 please consider rescheduling your week at camp or getting a COVID 19 PCR test at a local clinic or testing site.
- Practice safe behaviors prior to camp to limit the risk of exposure or possible infection before checking in for your week at camp.

CAMPER ADMISSION PROCEDURES

- **Check In**
 - All campers must be fully screened before admission to Y Camp. This screening process will include a questionnaire about contact tracing and symptoms.
 - Our check-in process will be a **Drive-Thru Experience!** All components of check-in will be conducted road-side by our staff, including screenings, head checks, trading post deposits, etc. *Parents/guardians will then be able to park their cars and drop campers off at their cabins but will not be permitted to enter the cabin.*
 - To further promote distancing, we will encourage a staggered entry into camp on the afternoon of check-in. We will provide suggested arrival times to families based on the first letter of the camper's last name in advance of check-in day!
- **Bus Procedures (Day Camp)**
 - Before signing in at Day Camp pick up, all campers must complete a Covid-19 health questionnaire.
 - All passengers will use viral hand sanitizer when they board the bus. A supply will be provided at the door and each camper will receive a dose before seating.
 - Campers will sit every-other seat to maximize distancing between each other. Siblings and family members will sit together.
 - In order to maximize room on the bus, we will offer on-camp check in and check out for Day Camp and will encourage anyone who has the ability to do so to utilize this option.
 - At the end of each day all seats, railings, handles and window mechanisms on the bus will be sanitized with antiviral and antibacterial wipes.

SLEEPING SPACE & CABIN COHORT MODEL

- **Sleeping Arrangements**
 - Each will be capped at 8 campers and 2 staff members per cabin with the exception of the Leadership Development Program due to expected higher vaccination rates.
 - All campers will be instructed to sleep head to foot.
 - Good spacing will be prioritized in all sleeping spaces.
- **Cabin Cohorts**
 - Each day, cabins will go to each activity and location as one cohort in order to minimize contact with others outside of their cabin. These groups will be in consistent contact with one another and will form a family unit, thus making it possible to further ease mask and distancing restrictions.
 - Day Camp Cohorts will also operate in the cohort arrangement throughout their activities at camp. Cohorts in Day Camp will typically be Age Groups and will additionally operate with eased restrictions.

DINING HALL PROCEDURES

- **Mandatory Hand Washing**
 - Prior to entry into the dining hall, all campers must wash hands with soap and warm water. They may use the restrooms in the dining hall or additional nearby handwashing stations.
 - A staff member will be stationed to monitor and ensure that all campers wash their hands appropriately before a meal.
 - As campers enter the dining hall, they will receive a dose of hand sanitizer to kill any additional/remaining bacteria before sitting down for the meal.
- **The Meals**
 - We will be running split meals in order to minimize the amount of people in the Dining Hall at one time.
 - During the meal, campers are fed family style so as to reduce exposure to others and camp-wide food. Buffet-style food service will not be provided.
 - While the Dining Hall is normally a lively, loud place filled with singing, chanting and excited yelling, we will hold off on the singing and dancing until all are finished eating. Campers will then congregate in cabin groups outside the Dining Hall in Dahl Lawn for camp songs, music, skits and camp announcements.

ACTIVITY AREA PROCEDURES

- **Daily Program Areas**
 - Hand sanitizer will be available to all campers prior to and after all activities involving shared equipment.
 - All program equipment will be fully sanitized by staff following each group's participation in an activity.
 - There are cleaning policies in place for every program we offer on camp, including horseback riding, canoes, target sports, climbing wall, swimming pool, fishing, sports, etc. If you have questions about any specific program area feel free to ask and we can provide more detailed information.
- **Evening Programs & All-Camp Activities**
 - Y Camp has many different evening traditions we'll be looking to bring back this summer! However, everything from our opening campfire to our weekly talent show must be carried out in a way that keeps all cabin groups distanced from one another in an outdoor environment.

GENERAL SANITATION PROCEDURES

- Housekeeping staff are fortunate to have a ton of experience in effective sanitation practices from our Family Connection programming last summer! Our Housekeeping Supervisor keeps a tight schedule of sanitizing all communal areas on camp (Dining Hall and Pioneer, public bathrooms, door handles, pool house, etc.) multiple times a day with the help of other housekeeping staff, program staff and available cabin staff.
- Cleaning supplies will be available at each program area or activity for cabins and Day Camp groups to use upon completion of the activity. Cleaning solutions and supplies are replenished as needed by Housekeeping Staff with assistance from the Summer Camp Director.

Cleaning Products:

Y Camp will continue to use cleaning products that are both anti-viral and anti-bacterial. The Housekeeping Supervisor will ensure that all hand soaps, cleaning solutions, sanitizers and solvents meet this criteria and that all campers have access.

COVID TESTING & MITIGATION

- There will be daily symptom checks, in the form of questionnaires, to ensure campers are feeling healthy while at camp. If a camper develops symptoms while at camp we will provide the option of an on-site rapid COVID-19 test administered by Y Camp's Health Care Professional. *Parents will be notified immediately and given the option of having their child tested on-site or taking them home from the camp program.*
- If the test comes back positive the rest of the cabin group members' parents will be contacted and given the option of testing. Additionally, the camper who tested positive will need to be picked up and taken home. The family is encouraged to get a PCR COVID test at a local testing site or clinic to ensure it was not a false-positive.
- Y Camp staff will initiate contact tracing to ensure that all exposed individuals are quarantined and, if necessary, picked up and taken home from camp.

STAFF EXPECTATIONS

- Y Staff will model all practices that we're asking campers to follow. This is what being a Y Camp Leader is all about!
- Staff health will be monitored throughout the summer on a weekly basis. Before joining the all-staff meeting at the start of each week, health screenings will be carried out by our on-site Health Care Professional.

FINANCIAL POLICY

- Upon registration, there is a \$50 non-refundable deposit per camper. Should anyone be unable to attend their week of camp due to an exposure to Covid-19, we will first offer that camper a spot in a later week, should capacity allow. If this is not possible, we are happy to offer a full refund of the deposit and registration fees.
- We strive to ensure that no family is turned away due to inability to pay, especially in light of the hardships brought on by the global pandemic. If you will have difficulty paying the full registration fee, please visit www.y-camp.org/financial-assistance or call us at 515-432-7558.

AFTER CAMP IS OVER

- Following each week, there will be an electronic survey sent to the parents and guardians of all campers who joined us at camp! This survey will provide the opportunity to give feedback on how procedures were carried out, what we did well and how we can improve!