



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT[®]
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

GETTING READY FOR CAMP

2025 Parent Handbook

YMCA of GLENDALE



Rev. 2.3.2025

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A LETTER FROM THE CAMP PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dear Parents, Guardians, Campers, and Friends,

Welcome to the 2025 summer camping season with the YMCA of Glendale. The mission of the YMCA is to provide programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body. Our camps embody the YMCA's core values by creating a conscientious environment for all. As a YMCA program, we craft our weeks to support and reinforce positive personal values by focusing on empowering young people, improving health and well-being, and inspiring action in and across communities. We value diversity amongst our campers and strive to create an inclusive environment suited for their needs. It is my goal each year to provide your child with a **safe** and fun-filled week that will make a true lifelong impact, incorporating supportive messages alongside cherished memories.

Since 1926, the Glendale YMCA has provided children from all over the world an experience of a lifetime at Camp Fox on Catalina Island. Many former Glendale Y campers still remember these time-honored traditions, now sending their own children and grandchildren to camp. Our Camp Fox programs deliver a unique opportunity for self-discovery and reflection, structured alongside activities, performance and playful competition. It is our honor to provide a space where development continues year after year, and welcome the next generation of campers to our little island home.

Over the past two years, our campers have brought their excitement to new horizons, exploring the picturesque Camp Big Bear, nestled lakeside in Big Bear, CA. Our mountain camp is staffed by the exceptional Glendale YMCA Camp Fox team, dedicated to providing outstanding care and unforgettable camp experiences. Travel to and from Camp Big Bear will be conveniently arranged by bus, departing from the Glendale area. We're thrilled to continue expanding our offerings, allowing more campers to experience the enriching adventure of a Y Camp!

Our camps are run by a group of qualified individuals who continue to amaze me every year. I can say with full confidence that our directing and counseling staff is one of the best camp staff in the world. With years of experience under their belt, our directing staff truly understands the importance of our mission and continues to provide their time year round to make a difference. We are proud of our group of amazing counselors, most of whom once were campers themselves. They are carefully selected, screened, and trained to help your child have the best possible experience. All staff, aside from the head directors, are volunteers who sacrifice their time to prepare, share, and preserve a camp environment like none other.

Whether you have a first-time camper or have been a member of our camp family for years, we would like to thank you for your continued support. This summer We look forward to a fun-filled week with your child that will provide lasting memories and friendships. We know it has been a rough few years for all with the COVID-19 pandemic, and we believe camp is needed now more than ever. We can't wait to see your kids, unplug and get some fresh air, and just be together. The spirit of camp is always strong when we are together! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time. We can't wait to see your child at camp!

Sincerely,



Rebecca "Barbie" Messler
Camp Program Director
YMCA of Glendale

LET'S GET STARTED

Welcome to Glendale YMCA Summer Camp Program! You are now a part of a community of men, women, individuals and children joined together by a shared commitment to nurture the potential of kids, promote healthy living and foster a sense of social responsibility. The Y is made up of people of all ages and from every walk of life working side-by-side to strengthen the communities they represent. Together we work to ensure everyone, regardless of race, gender, income, faith, sexual orientation or cultural background has the opportunity to glimpse their fullest self. The Y is a force for building bridges among all people as we share the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

This handbook is a great tool to help you get acquainted with our program and understand our policies. We encourage you to take some time and speak with any one of our helpful staff members to better understand the Y's amenities, rules, policies and age requirements.

Contacting the Camp Department

Here at the Camp Department, we are here for you for any questions or concerns you may have at any point of the process. If you do have any questions or concerns, please contact us at the following:

Rebecca "Barbie" Messler

Camp Program Director, Youth Camps Director

E-Mail: rjmessler@glenymca.org

Kendall Huberman

Teen Camps Director

E-Mail: khuberman@glenymca.org

Jhamahl "Salt" Taylor

Camp Registration and Family Coordinator

E-Mail: camp@glenymca.org

The Volunteer / Staff Partnership

Our YMCA camp community fosters a unique bond between employed staff and participating members. Many participants, having cherished their experiences as youth members, develop a lasting connection with camp and often return as leaders. This cycle allows our community to cultivate future leaders from within, ensuring high-quality programming for generations to come.

The YMCA of Glendale counseling staff comprises enthusiastic adult and young adult volunteers dedicated to being positive role models for our participants. Each volunteer undergoes thorough screenings and background checks to ensure only the most qualified individuals lead our programs. To fully prepare our staff for any potential situation, we provide comprehensive training, covering health and safety, age-specific behavior practices, risk management, youth supervision, child abuse prevention, and many other camp-related topics.

Donations

The YMCA of Glendale is a non-profit organization and always accepts donations. Contributions provide the help to send youth to camp. Your tax-deductible contribution of any size will help a youth have a memorable camping experience. To make a donation, please contact Rebecca Messler at rjmessler@glenymca.org, or mail your donation by separate check to YMCA of Glendale, Attn: Campership Dept., 140 N. Louise St., Glendale, CA 91206. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

RESIDENT CAMP DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Camp Code of Conduct Policy

Participation in our Resident Camp program is a privilege that comes with shared responsibility. The policies outlined in this handbook are not suggestions or flexible guidelines. They are essential rules created to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and success of all campers, staff, and families involved.

By registering for camp, all families agree to uphold and follow these policies in full.

Failure to comply with camp policies, including behavior expectations, communication procedures, health protocols, or any other outlined requirement, may result in immediate action, including:

- Early dismissal from camp without refund
- Exclusion from current or future Glendale YMCA overnight camp programming
- Suspension of registration privileges for campers and/or the household

We appreciate your commitment to maintaining a respectful, responsible, and cooperative camp community. These expectations help us provide the safe, enriching, and memorable experience every camper deserves.

Now, on to registration!

Camp Registration Instructions

Before Registration Opens:

To ensure a smooth registration process, log in to your Daxko account in advance by clicking the **sign-in** button at the top right corner of the **Program Search** page. Verify your account credentials as soon as possible, and if you encounter any issues, contact camp@glenymca.org for assistance. An active Glendale Y membership is not necessary for registration, and provides no additional benefit when signing up.

Only a camper's parent or legal guardian may complete registration, as confidential waivers and forms must be signed upon completion. Adding non-family members to a unit is strictly prohibited and will result in revocation of the registration. **There is no way to register in person, all registrations must be completed through Daxko.**

On Registration Day:

- Log in **at least 10 minutes before** registration opens.
- Navigate to the Glendale YMCA **main camp pages** for Camp Fox or Camp Bear. Click the "**CAMP REGISTRATION**" button in the **Quick Links** section of their respective pages.
- A new tab will open, displaying Daxko's **Program Search** with a list of available camp sessions.
- Select your desired session by clicking the program on the list, then click the **blue "Register" button** on the following screen.
- You will then load the member selection screen.

Completing Registration:

- Choose the camper you are registering, then continue to the cart. This will **secure a spot in your cart for 30 minutes** while you complete checkout.
- **Registering multiple campers?** Click **Back** on your browser from the cart summary page to return to the member selection screen. Select additional campers and proceed. **Avoid selecting a camper already registered**, as this will trigger an error. If this happens, press **Back** to correct the selection.
- If registering campers for different sessions, each session must be added separately.

Finalizing registration is continued on the next page.

Finalizing Payment & Confirmation:

- Confirm all selected sessions and campers on the **cart summary page**, then proceed to checkout.
- A **minimum \$100 deposit per camper** is required to secure a spot. Children age 2 and under need only a \$25 deposit to secure Family Camp registration.
- Payment methods can be saved for future use.
- If checkout is not completed within **30 minutes**, the system will **remove your registrations** and offer the spots to the waitlist.
- Once checkout is complete, check your **account dashboard** to confirm your camper's registration. A confirmation email with your receipt will be sent automatically—don't forget to check your **spam folder!**

Waitlist & Capacity Details:

- **Camp Fox** accommodates **300 campers per session, 150 for Family Camp**. If a session reaches capacity, campers will **automatically be placed on a waitlist** in first-come, first-served order.
- **Camp Big Bear** has a **150-camper limit per session** and also operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Once full, the system will **activate a waitlist**.
- Registrations **without a \$100 deposit** will be forfeited, and the next camper on the waitlist will be offered the spot. If a camper loses their place, they may **rejoin the waitlist but will be placed at the end** for that specific session.

For any questions or concerns, contact camp@glenymca.org.

Tuition and Deposits

Tuition and Deposits for the 2025 camp season are as follows:

Camp	Camp Fee	Deposit
Youth Camp Big Bear (June 15 - 21, 2025)	\$800.00	\$100.00 non-refundable deposit that is included in the camp tuition, not in addition to.
Teen Camp Big Bear (July 6-12, 2025)	\$800.00	
Camp Fox Youth July (July 20 - 26, 2025)	\$1,100.00	
Camp Fox Teen July (July 27 - Aug. 2, 2025)	\$1,100.00	
Camp Fox Youth August (August 3 - 9, 2025)	\$1,100.00	
Camp Fox Labor Day Family Camp (Aug. 30- Sep 1)	\$400.00	
Children age 2 and under	\$25.00	

The camp tuition includes **a non-refundable deposit** of \$100.00; it is not an additional charge. The deposit secures a spot in the camp, but it will be forfeited in case of cancellation. Refer to the "Due Dates and Past Due Accounts" section for further details. Children age 2 and under need only a \$25 deposit to secure Family Camp registration.

Cancellations and Refunds

You have the option to cancel your camp registration at any time, but please note that a cancellation does not guarantee a full or partial refund. To initiate a cancellation, kindly use the online form available on our website (<https://forms.gle/o2E62mQdmXCrAMNb6>). Approval for refunds is at the discretion of the Camp Program Director and is subject to the following guidelines:

- If canceled 8 weeks prior to camp, a refund request may be eligible for 75% of the amount paid, excluding the \$100 non-refundable deposit.
- If canceled 6 weeks prior to camp, a refund request may be eligible for 50% of the amount paid, after subtracting the \$100 non-refundable deposit.
- If canceled within 4 weeks of camp, a refund request may be considered on a case-by-case basis, pending approval from the Camp Program Director.

All refund requests, including those based on medical needs, must receive approval from the Camp Program Director. Refunds related to medical needs may necessitate a written doctor's note with the prognosis, submitted to the Camp Program Director for approval. Approval of refund requests is not automatic and is assessed on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the Camp Bear Refund Schedule and Camp Fox Refund Schedule outlined below.

Camp Bear Refund Schedule

	100% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$700.00)	75% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$525.00)	50% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$350.00)	No Refund
Camp Bear Youth	Before 11:59 PM PST on 4/19/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 4/20/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 5/4/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 5/18/2025
Camp Bear Teen	Before 11:59 PM PST on 5/10/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 5/11/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 5/25/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/8/2025

Camp Fox Refund Schedule

	100% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$1000.00)	75% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$750.00)	50% of amount paid, after subtracting \$100.00 non-refundable deposit (\$500.00)	No Refund
Youth July	Before 11:59 PM PST on 5/24/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 5/25/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/8/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/22/2025
Teen July	Before 11:59 PM PST on 5/31/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/1/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/15/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/29/2025
Youth August	Before 11:59 PM PST on 6/7/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/8/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 6/22/2025	After 12:00 AM PST on 7/6/2025
Family Camp	Before 11:59 PM PST on 7/5/2025 (\$300.00)	After 12:00 AM PST on 7/6/2025 (\$225.00)	After 12:00 AM PST on 7/20/2025 (\$150.00)	After 12:00 AM PST on 8/3/2025

Due Dates and Past Due Accounts

All forms and fees for **All Camps (Camp Bear & Camp Fox)** are due **May 1st, 2025 @ 12am** to hold your camp reservation.

Failure to complete payment of camp fees and submit all required forms by the specified due date will lead to the cancellation of your camper's registration.

Waiting List

If a camp session reaches its full capacity, you can join the waiting list by following the same registration process on our website applicable to that specific week of camp. No deposit is required to secure a spot on the waiting list.

Track your child's waiting list position by sending an inquiry to camp@glenymca.org.

If a spot becomes available in any of our fully booked camps, we will notify the first person on the waiting list for that camp. The parent or guardian must confirm their interest within 24 hours to secure the spot; otherwise, it will be offered to the next child on the waiting list.

Please be aware that registration closes one week before each camp session, and no additions from the waiting list will be accepted after that time.

To maintain fairness and prevent complications, camp positions are non-transferable. Our waitlist experiences frequent registrations, and each new camper sign-up allows others on the list to move one spot closer to registration. This systematic approach ensures equal opportunities for every camper. It would be unfair to displace those who patiently moved up the list. Therefore, we cannot accommodate requests to switch spots within the waiting list or between different camps. This policy is crucial for consistency and ensuring equal opportunities for all campers.

Financial Assistance

The YMCA of Glendale is committed to providing financial assistance to those in need, and it operates on a first-come, first-served basis. This assistance is contingent upon the availability of funds, generously contributed by supporters of the YMCA.

Applicants for financial assistance in the Camp Department can initiate the process by completing the request form on our website at www.glendaleymca.org/campfox, www.glendaleymca.org/campbear. It is essential to fill out the form entirely and attach required documentation, such as a **Rental Agreement or Mortgage Payment Documentation**, along with two of the following documents:

- Federal income tax for the previous year (W2 forms do not qualify)
- Most recent paycheck stubs (2 months)
- Current statement of award or benefits for TANF, SSA, SSI, GAU, or other public assistance
- Most recent unemployment check stubs (2 months)
- Most recent bank statements (2 months)
- An official letter from a case manager or similar authorities if unemployed, not receiving benefits, participating in a structured job training or rehabilitation program, homeless, or residing in a homeless shelter.

Upon completion of the application, our team will reach out approximately 5-7 business days from the request submission to provide guidance on the next steps. It's crucial to submit the form in its entirety, as failure to do so will disqualify the application, and the participant will need to submit a new form.

Please note that due to the Glendale YMCA leasing camps from third-party organizations, there is a maximum amount of assistance available, varying based on the specific camp. We encourage all Financial Assistance applications to be submitted 2 weeks before the May 1st, 2025, camp forms and fee deadline. For additional information please contact Jhamahl Taylor, camp@glenymca.org.

Your Camper's Health

Information on Insurance and Physical Examinations

The YMCA of Glendale does not provide accident or health insurance for program participants and is not financially responsible for any injuries. We request that you upload a copy of your health insurance card to the "Insurance Section" of your camp forms. If you do not have health insurance, please indicate "no" in the "Insurance Section" and get in touch with us. By answering "no," you acknowledge your financial responsibility in case your child needs hospital care.

While physical examinations are not mandatory, we highly recommend them within 24 months of attending camp, considering the strenuous physical activities participants may undertake.

Immunization Information

We require that all of our campers are current with their immunizations and require that the dates of those immunizations are inputted into the "Immunizations" section of our camp forms. For a faster and easier option, you may upload a copy of your immunizations under the **"Immunization" Section*** on CampDoc.

The YMCA of Glendale and the Resident Camp Department follow strict guidelines and regulations from the State of California. Effective January 1, 2016, the State of California amended California Health and Safety Code, Sections 120325-120375 in regard to immunizations. Those changes and our policy are as follows:

- Changes in the State of California Health Code made all immunization waivers for personal beliefs not valid and require all children to be immunized for enrollment.
- The YMCA of Glendale and the Resident Camp Department follow the regulations of the State of California and the Glendale Unified School District and require immunization for attendance to camp and do not accept any type of waiver for personal beliefs.
- The only exemption to this policy is if your child has an exemption for medical reasons. This exemption must be brought to the attention of the Camp Program Director with a doctor's letter stating the exemption. Additionally, your camper must have doctor's clearance within 30 days of the camp they are going to attend. Once cleared, we require the doctor to forward the documentation to us confirming they are medically fit to attend camp.
- For further information, please contact Rebecca Messler, Camp Program Director, at rjmessler@glenymca.org or visit www.shotsforschool.org/laws.

***"Immunization" Section**

All vaccination records submitted to your camper's health profile will undergo a thorough review by a member of the Resident Camp Department and the camp's medical director. In the event that documents, such as exemptions to regulations, are uploaded to your camper's medical profile instead of valid immunization documents, our team will promptly identify and flag them. Subsequently, a discussion between the camper's parent or guardian and the Camp Program Director or designated representatives will be necessary to ensure the continued health and safety of your camper.

COVID-19

The well-being of your children and our staff is our top priority. We closely monitor the guidelines and mandates for summer camps issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the American Camp Association ("ACA"), The State of California, and Los Angeles County. Given the evolving nature of these guidelines, we remain flexible and ready to adapt.

Our approach aligns with the current guidelines of the school district, and as a result, we will not mandate the COVID-19 vaccine or a pre-camp COVID test for campers. However, we highly recommend both to assist in preventing the spread of the virus and maintaining a healthy camp environment.

In the event of symptoms or a positive exposure, rapid tests will be available at camp. If a positive case arises, parents will be promptly notified, and arrangements for camper pick-up in Avalon or Long Beach (depending on age and travel capability) will be made.

Please note that the information provided is subject to change based on the latest recommendations and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the American Camp Association ("ACA"), The State of California, and San Bernardino County.

Information on Medications at Camp

Taking medication at camp is just like it would be at home, however there are a few policies we must follow. Below are our listed policies for medications at camp:

- In accordance with Federal Drug Regulation and guidelines from the FDA, we require all prescription medication that is sent to camp to be in the original pharmacy containers with dosage typed by your pharmacist or a written and signed letter from your primary care physician. Any parental modification will not be accepted.
- Over the counter medications must be in the original packaging and labeled by the parent with camper's name and dosage.
- **DO NOT PACK MEDICATION IN LUGGAGE**. All medications, prescription or over the counter, must be placed in a clear zip lock bag with your camper's name and given to the camp Medical Director during check in.

Prior to camp, parents should discuss with their camper their medication schedule while at camp. Prior to boarding the boat for Camp Fox or bus for Camp Bear, we require parents with medication to fill out the "Medications" section of the camp forms with exact information stated on the prescription bottle from the pharmacist.

Any unused medications will be returned by the camp Medical Director upon arrival back from camp and it is parent/guardian's responsibility to pick up medications at the harbor for Camp Fox and at Fremont Park for Camp Bear. Any medications left with the camp Medical Director after everyone has departed from arrival will be given to the Camp Program Director and taken back to the YMCA of Glendale.

Medications will be held up to 30 days for pick or to be mailed out at the owner's expense. It is the parent's responsibility to pick up medications from the YMCA or pay for postage for them to be mailed. After the 30 days, any medication left will be properly disposed of through our local fire department or hospital.

Medical Treatment Standards and Guidelines

The camp medical staff is committed to providing your child with a safe and healthy camping experience. We follow treatment standards that have been approved by trained, qualified physicians. We will contact the parent/legal guardian immediately should the services of the physicians in Avalon be required. A camper's parent/guardian will be contacted using the following guidelines:

- Minor First Aid, i.e. minor scrapes, or scratches
 - Injuries falling in this category do not require emergency medical care; as such we will inform parents of these types of injuries upon our return.
- Minor Illness / Injury, i.e. sore throat, headaches, nausea
 - This category is at the discretion of the camp medical staff as to when parent / legal guardian is contacted. Prolonged symptoms will initiate a phone call.
- Services Involving a Hospital or Physician, i.e. cuts requiring sutures, prolonged vomiting, etc.
 - Parent/Guardian and Emergency Contact is contacted by camp staff and hospital.

Campers with Special Diets and Medical Needs

Our aim is to ensure that every participant feels included and embraced at camp. We recognize that there may be dietary or medical requests, and we strive to accommodate them all. In case we are unable to fulfill a request, we will reach out to parents.

Our camp kitchen is adept at handling dietary restrictions, and upon enrollment, you can specify any restrictions in your CampDoc forms. We will convey this information to the camp before your arrival. If your camper has a more serious condition like Celiac Disease or unique dietary needs, feel free to contact the Head Director of your camp session in advance to discuss it.

Camp is capable of accommodating special meals such as vegetarian, vegan, lactose-free, and others. Please indicate all special dietary needs in the camp forms under "Allergies" by selecting yes for the question, "Does your child have any dietary restrictions?" For special medical accommodations or other specific requests, please reach out to Rebecca Messler, Camp Program Director.

Prohibited Items Policy

Camp enforces a strict zero-tolerance policy concerning the presence of drugs, alcoholic beverages, weapons, smoking/vaping materials, or adult content publications. Additionally, any individual compromising the health and safety of campers or staff by disregarding safety rules, disrespecting others and their property, or disobeying volunteers and program staff will face zero tolerance.

To ensure compliance, the camp reserves the right to inspect the belongings of all attendees during their stay, with prohibited items such as knives, needles, or sharp objects due to safety concerns.

Attendance at camp is considered a privilege, and the camp manager/director has the discretion to send home any camper or volunteer staff member at any time for non-compliance with camp schedules, policies, or code of behavior.

In the event of dismissal, the parent/guardian of the camper or volunteer staff member is responsible for arranging and covering transportation from Avalon, California (Camp Fox) or Camp Bear (Youth and Teen Mountain Camps) to the individual's final destination. If the camper or volunteer is under 18, the parent/guardian must also cover the cost of a chaperone.

What Not to Bring to Camp

Personal items have been lost to the sea, shattered on rocks or forgotten while packing many times, by campers and staff alike. At camp we encourage all of our participants to allow themselves to experience camp to its fullest potential. To do so, we ask that parents encourage campers to leave any items at home that can be easily misplaced, lost, broken, or taken. Below is a list of examples of such items:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Personal sports equipment | e. Expensive cameras or jewelry |
| b. Personal vehicles | f. Portable gaming devices |
| c. Pets | g. Laptops |
| d. Radios / Cell Phones / iPod | h. Inappropriate clothing |

Such items are subject to be confiscated by camp staff and returned upon arrival back from camp. Items such as digital cameras may be brought to camp, but it is the responsibility of the campers to keep items safe. The YMCA of Glendale, Camp Fox and Camp Big Bear are not responsible for any broken/stolen items that are brought to camp.

Protecting the privacy of each camper and their unique home situations can be best assisted by parents ensuring **phones are not brought to camp**. We appreciate your understanding of our approach, as it plays a crucial role in fostering meaningful relationships and positive habits during their time at camp.

Please be sure you are aware of what your child packs. Weapons, alcohol, or drugs of any kind are NOT permitted in camp and will result in them being sent home.

What to Bring to Camp

Suggested Packing List

We want to make packing for camp an enjoyable experience for both parents and campers to engage in together. Please place your camper's initials on all items your camper brings to camp. Below is a suggested list of items to pack to be used as a guide to be best prepared for a great camp experience:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Long Pants (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Materials/Stamps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow (packed inside sleeping bag) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts (5) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweater/Sweatshirt or Jacket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear (7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Shoes (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T-Shirts/Tank Tops (8) | <input type="checkbox"/> Inexpensive Water Shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Pajamas |

- Socks
 - Hat
 - Bag for Dirty Clothes
 - Towels/Wash Cloths (2)
 - Toothbrush and Paste
 - Feminine Products
 - Shampoo & Soap
 - Sunscreen & Lip Protection
- (note: camp also has ample sunscreen available for campers use)
- Flashlight (bag the batteries)
 - Refillable Water Bottle

Optional suggested items include a disposable camera, musical instrument, and reading materials. All lost and found items left at camp will be taken back to the YMCA of Glendale. Items left after 1 month will be donated to charity. Pack all items in a roller or duffel bag with each camper's name written on the side.

The Sugar Shack: Camp Store (Camp Fox Only)

If you'd like to give campers money for snacks at the Sugar Shack during camp, a maximum of \$40.00 is sufficient. Your child can use this money to purchase daily snacks. Place the cash in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly labeled, and pack it in your child's luggage for easy access. Upon arrival at camp, your child can give the envelope to the cabin counselor.

Once the money is handed over, it will be recorded and can function as a "*camp checking account*" at the Sugar Shack. This allows campers to buy items at the store without carrying the cash you provided. Any unused money at the end of camp will be returned to the camper on departure day and can also be donated to World Service if desired.

World Service

Campers will be given the chance to contribute to the YMCA World Service Program, which directs funds to provide children in the United States with opportunities similar to those experienced at camp. The impact on campers is significant when they realize that even small individual contributions can achieve substantial outcomes. Many campers typically donate amounts ranging from \$1.00 to \$10.00. When these contributions are pooled together, they have the power to cover the expenses for a less fortunate individual to attend camp for a week. Donating to this fund is voluntary and entirely at your discretion. If you and your child decide to make a contribution to the World Service fund, kindly include the amount in your child's spending money.

Communication While at Camp

Phone Service and Phone Communication from Your Camper

To ensure campers fully immerse themselves in the camp experience, we request that all campers, including CITs, leave their cell phones at home. Besides potential reception issues, we aim to minimize the impact of homesickness that a call from parents can have on a child away at camp. Additionally, beyond the potential for homesickness, our staff seeks to avoid a situation where multiple campers want to call home if others find out that a camper has made a call. Drawing on years of expertise, we assure you that every camper will return safely on Saturday.

While we require a phone-free environment at camp to enhance a focused and immersive experience, rest assured that our dedicated staff is readily available to facilitate communication. We recognize the importance of staying connected with your child, and our team is committed to ensuring their safety and well-being. In the event of any updates or concerns, we will promptly keep you informed. We appreciate your understanding of our approach, as it plays a crucial role in fostering meaningful relationships and positive habits during their time at camp. If you have specific questions or would like to discuss anything further, please feel free to let us know.

With limited wireless service, communication with camp directors is minimally accessible through email sent to Rebecca Messler, at rjmessler@glenymca.org and **should only be used in the event of an emergency.**

Camp Mail (All Camps)

We have been informed by all camps that they cannot accept any mailed letters or packages, however we offer a solution! You may bring your own care package to check in/drop off, and we will be happy to collect it and deliver it to your camper mid-week as a fundraiser for camp (\$10 for the size of a shoe box or smaller, \$20 for anything larger).

We will also be happy to accept any letters or postcards that you would like us to deliver, free of charge.

Getting to Camp (Camp Big Bear)

Departure Information for Camp Big Bear

Our mountain Camp Bear will depart from Gwinn Park in Pasadena, CA by bus.

Check in for this camping adventure is between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM, and a parent or guardian must be present during check-in.

The address for Gwinn Park is: *3000 E Orange Grove Blvd, Pasadena, CA, 91107.*

Return Information for Camp Big Bear

We will return from Camp Big Bear to Gwinn Park in Pasadena, CA by bus around 1:00 PM on the scheduled return date. Please note that timing is subject to change, we will keep you.

The address for Gwinn Park is: *3000 E Orange Grove Blvd, Pasadena, CA, 91107.*

Late Pick-Up

When your child returns from camp, if they are not collected before the last staff member departs for Glendale, they will be under our supervision and transported to the YMCA of Glendale at 140 N. Louise St., Glendale, CA 91206. They will stay under our care until you arrive. It's important to note that this option should not be considered as a substitute for picking up your child on time and will result in a fee.

Getting to Camp (Camp Fox)

Departure Information for Camp Fox

The Catalina Classic Cruises boat terminal has moved locations.

1825 W Pier D St, Long Beach, CA 90802

Directions to the New Catalina Classic Cruises Location

- Take the 710 Freeway South and follow signs for **Port of Long Beach**.
- Exit at Pier B, C, D, E, Pico Avenue.
- Turn right off the ramp onto Pico Avenue, heading south.
- Continue straight, **passing Pier C**.
- At the first stoplight, turn right onto Pier D.
- Drive approximately 0.5 miles, and look for the Catalina Classic Cruises terminal entrance on your right.



Our Camp Fox programs begin on Sundays, departing from the Catalina Classic Cruises building in Long Beach. It's important to note that check-in times can differ, so please read the details carefully.

Camp Week	Check-In Time
Youth July (July 20th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GROUP A 6:45 AM - 7:30AM: Campers with last names A - F ▪ GROUP B 7:30 AM - 8:00AM: Campers with last names G - O ▪ GROUP C 8:00 AM - 8:30AM: Campers with last names P - Z
Teen July (July 27th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GROUP A 6:45 AM - 7:30AM: Campers with last names A - G ▪ GROUP B 7:30 AM - 8:00AM: Campers with last names H - O ▪ GROUP C 8:00 AM - 8:30AM: Campers with last names P - Z
Youth August (August 3rd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GROUP A 6:45 AM - 7:30AM: Campers with last names A - J ▪ GROUP B 7:45 AM - 8:30AM: Campers with last names K - Z

The address to Catalina Classic Cruises: 1825 W Pier D St. Long Beach, CA 90802

Return Information for Camp Fox

We will be using a similar Pick-Up schedule for each of our camps on the following Saturday.

Camp Week	Pick-Up Time
Youth July (July 26th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GROUP A 11:45AM: Campers with last names A - F• GROUP B 12:30PM: Campers with last names G - O• GROUP C 1PM: Campers with last names P - Z
Teen July (August 2nd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GROUP A 11:45AM: Campers with last names A - G• GROUP B 12:30PM: Campers with last names H - O• GROUP C 1PM: Campers with last names P - Z
Youth August (August 9th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GROUP A: 11:45 AM: Campers with last names A - J• GROUP B: 12:30 PM: Campers with last names K - Z

Early Drop Off and Pick Up

The Glendale YMCA leases Camp Fox from a third-party organization that manages its daily operations. Due to their policies, we are unable to accommodate any personal travel arrangements to or from camp, including early arrivals or pickups from Camp Fox.

Late Pick-Up

When your child returns from camp, if they are not collected before the last staff member departs for Glendale, they will be under our supervision and transported to the YMCA of Glendale at 140 N. Louise St., Glendale, CA 91206. They will stay under our care until you arrive. It's important to note that this option should not be considered as a substitute for picking up your child on time and will result in a fee.

Cabin Requests

Cabin requests are among our most frequently asked questions and can be submitted through your CampDoc forms. While we strive to accommodate as many requests as possible, we kindly request that you limit your list to your top four preferred cabinmates. All requested campers must fall within a 21-month age difference.

Please note that the Camp Director and leadership staff hold the discretion to make any necessary changes in cabin assignments after they have been initially designated. These changes will only be implemented if they contribute to enhancing the overall experience for all campers in the cabins.

Cabin assignments are typically assembled approximately one week before the start of camp and may continue to change up until your camper's arrival. Due to this dynamic process, we are unable to provide cabin assignments to parents in advance. Camp serves as a space for participants and staff to foster personal growth and development, with the opportunity to make new friends playing a crucial role in this journey.