

2026 Summer Camp Resources

Great, Inclusive Summer Experiences for All!

Everyone enjoys summer camps! The laughs, the games, the independence, and the friendships create happy memories that last a lifetime. If your child has special needs, there are wonderful camps ready to help them create these special memories with their differences in mind. Here's a list of 2026 summer camps for you to explore.

<https://www.njkidsonline.com/articles/special-needs-camps-in-and-around-new-jersey>

Discover exceptional summer camps for children with special needs. VerySpecialCamps.com is your comprehensive directory since 2003, connecting families to inclusive programs with specialized support.

<https://www.veryspecialcamps.com/New-Jersey/Special-Needs-Summer-Camps.shtml>

Children's System of Care-Perform Care

For 2026, **the Children's System of Care (CSOC) will be providing Summer Camp Services** to eligible children, youth, and young adults under 21 years of age. These services include Financial Support toward Summer Camp Tuition and One-to-One Aide Services for Summer Camp.

CSOC, a division of New Jersey's Department of Children and Families (DCF), is offering **Alternative Recreational Sessions (ARS) as an additional component of Summer Camp. ARS provides youth an opportunity to engage in a recreational activity with peers within the community, on a per session basis, rather than a full day of camp. This shorter time frame will increase camp access for youth who may benefit from a brief structured period compared to a longer traditional camp day.

Your child must be determined eligible for Developmental Disability Services by CSOC and registered for a Qualified Camp prior to submitting the application for CSOC Summer Camp Services.

A youth can be considered eligible for CSOC Summer Camp Services if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Youth is deemed eligible for CSOC Developmental Disability (DD) Services.
2. The youth is under the age of 21 and will not turn 21 before the end of the camp dates selected for reimbursement.
3. The youth resides in their own home with a caregiver.

Youth are eligible for CSOC Summer Camp Services only during the period of time in which they are not eligible to attend an extended school-year program. Financial support is based on available resources in a given fiscal year. The amount of financial support available per individual is capped and may vary year-to-year and by how many families apply.

Completed applications for CSOC Summer Camp Services (Financial Support toward Summer Camp Tuition and One-to-One Aide Services for Summer Camp) must be postmarked or received by PerformCare no later than June 30, 2026. Your application must be complete for the services requested for it to be considered.

Parents and Guardians can now apply online for CSOC Summer Camp Services through the PerformCare Family Portal: <https://apps.performcarenj.org/CYBERPortal/Production/Default.aspx>

Before applying for Summer Camp Services, please make sure to direct specific questions about camp facilities and camp programming to your preferred camp.

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute developed a checklist and guide to help you with CSOC's camp application process. Links, dates and other important information can be found in the attached.

Sports Camp: 2026 Camp Shriver - sonj.org

Camp Shriver - Special Olympics New Jersey

Camp Shriver offers young athletes a unique sports play program with and without intellectual disabilities. This program helps develop and improve gross motor, social and basic sports skills, including foundational skills, walking & running, balance & jumping, trapping & catching, throwing, striking and kicking. Register your child today. sonj.org

2026 Camp Shriver - Special Olympics can trace its roots to a backyard summer camp started by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, known as Camp Shriver, five years before the Special Olympics movement began. New Jersey embraces this legacy by hosting our own version of Camp Shriver every summer. Camp Shriver is about fitness, wellness, sports, fun, and learning.

Special Olympics of NJ Complex Camp (5 Weeks) – Lawrenceville

- July 6 – August 6
- Day: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Twilight: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Young Athletes Camp (1 Week) – Lawrenceville

- August 3–6
- Ages 2–4: 9:00 am – 10:00 am
- Ages 5–7: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Overnight Camps

Camp Fatima - <https://campfatimanj.org/>

Overnight Experiences - Our mission is to provide free, life enriching camp experiences, for children and adults, with disabilities. For over 50 years, Camp Fatima of New Jersey has provided magical summer camp programs for children and sleep-away weekends for adults with disabilities. As a not-for-profit organization, we are funded entirely by private donations and fundraising events and operated only by volunteer efforts.

Elks Camp Moore: The Miracle on the Mountain - <https://www.njelkscampmoore.org/>

Discover a Place Where Everyone Belongs! At Elks Camp Moore, we believe in creating unforgettable experiences for individuals with special needs and disabilities. Nestled in the serene mountains of Haskell, New Jersey, our camp offers a safe, supportive, and joyful environment where campers with special needs and disabilities can enjoy camping and recreational activities while gaining independence.

Since 1971, Elks Camp Moore has been the New Jersey State Elks Association's State Major Project, dedicated to providing children and young adults with special needs. Elks Camp Moore offers a FREE sleep-away camp experience. Campers participating at Elks Camp Moore attend

at NO COST TO THE FAMILY. Campers can attend FREE by obtaining a sponsorship from their local New Jersey State Elks Lodge. Your local Special Children's Chairperson will be able to support you in providing your family with the Camp Application & Sponsorship paperwork.

Local Summer Camps – Inclusive to all children

NJ RISE Summer Camp - <https://njrise.org/summer-camp-registration/>

Summer at Rise is where learning meets adventure (Hightstown)

2026 Summer Academic Enrichment Program helps children stay academically strong while enjoying an exciting, structured, and activity-filled summer. Campers build friendships, explore new interests, and gain confidence — all while preparing for the upcoming school year.

Call today to schedule your registration appointment: 609-443-4464

Spots fill quickly. Registration is completed in person by appointment only.

Program Details:

Schedule: July 6 to August 14

Time: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (Early drop-off & late pick-up is available)

Eligible Ages: 5-17

Tuition: Sliding scale based on family income

Meals: Free breakfast and lunch provided daily

Location:

Perry L. Drew School

70 Twin Rivers Drive North

East Windsor, NJ

2026 Summer Recreation Camp – East Windsor - Inclusive

<https://www.east-windsor.nj.us/ewt-summer-camps>

2026 Summer Camp

Registration begins 3/18 8am

****\$50 non-refundable deposit for each week of camp****

7 weeks -- 7/6-8/21

First 6 Weeks @ Perry Drew School -- Final week @ Etra Lake Park

Explorer Camp (Entering grades K-1) -- \$240 per week

Adventure A Camp (Entering Grades 2-3) -- \$240 per week

Adventure B Camp (Entering Grades 4-6) -- \$240 per week

Travel Camp (Entering Grades 5-9) -- \$400 per week-- Tentative schedule to be released later this month

****NEW**** Week 7 Explorer and Adventure Camp Travel Edition (trips everyday) -- \$325 -- Tentative schedule to be released later this month .

Diabetes Medical - Stillwater, NJ (Overnight)

a group of insightful parents in 1958 (the New Jersey Diabetes League) partnered with caring health professionals (the New Jersey Diabetes Association) to create a safe place for their children and patients to come together, have fun, and at the same time, develop their diabetes management skills.

Camp Nejeda is the tri-state region's only full-season residential camp to exclusively serve campers with type 1 diabetes and their families. As one of just a handful in the U.S. to own its facilities, Camp Nejeda is able to offer not only a full summer season of residential diabetes camping but other programs throughout the year.

<https://www.campnejeda.org/our-history>