

Summer Care: June 15-June 26

Frequently Asked Questions

Questions will be updated regularly; please check back for more information.

The following are answers to questions regarding safety and health, cleaning protocols, pick-up and drop-off, camp activities, groupings, lunches, registration, refunds, and more.

Refunds and Cancellations

Do first session camp cancellations include Apprentice and CIT programs?

Yes. Apprentice and CIT programs will not be offered during first session.

What if I want a full refund issued instead of a household credit?

Please contact info@skokieparks.org or the specific [Camp Supervisor](#) to make a refund request. This may take up to 2-3 weeks to process. All first session camp credits have been processed and applied to households in the meantime.

When will a decision be made about 2nd session or End of Season camps (start date July 13 or later)?

Staff are actively working on plans for 2nd session. To request a 2nd session refund, please request this by emailing info@skokieparks.org or the specific [Camp Supervisor](#) by July 1. Information on 2nd session camp offerings will be communicated before July 1.

What is the deadline to receive a full refund for a 2nd session or End of Season camp (start date July 13 or later)?

July 1 is the deadline. However, this may change. Please contact info@skokieparks.org or the specific [Camp Supervisor](#) for your refund request. This may take up to 2-3 weeks to process.

I was contacted by a Camp Supervisor about a first session camp not being cancelled. What does this mean?

Some **select** 'specialty' camps, such as theater, circus, cooking, ice skating, and hockey, have been modified. If your child is enrolled in any of these first session camps you should have received an email with details. If not, please contact the specific [Camp Supervisor](#).

Summer Care Registration

Should I refer to the Summer Camp guide the Park District sent out or rely on new information being sent to me?

Session 1 Summer Camps have been cancelled. Therefore, please refer only to new information regarding camp credits and refunds, and Summer Care programs.

Why does the Summer Care fee seem to be higher than regular camp?

The breakdown of the Summer Care per hour rate is similar to an average of the per hour rate for our regular camps. However, regular scheduled camps were approximately 6 hours in length per day, while Summer Care is 8 hours in length per day, which increases the total fee. We have also included additional staffing costs, supplies, and cleaning materials in the fee.

What if I do not need care every day or for the full day?

Unfortunately, we do not allow prorating of fees. The full fee is required even if you do not utilize every day, all day.

What does it mean to link a sibling when registering?

Linking siblings at the time of registrations guarantees that the siblings will be placed at the same location after the lottery is drawn. If one child gets a spot, the other does, too, and vice versa.

Does it matter when I register for the lottery? If I register sooner, does that help my chances of getting a spot?

It does not matter when you register your child(ren) for Summer Care. Please register before the deadline on June 2 at 10 p.m. for June 15 to June 26 summer care. Register before the deadline on June 16 at 10 p.m. for June 29 to July 10 summer care. The computer will randomly choose registrants and we will notify you if you receive a spot.

Safety and Health Questions

Are children required to wear face masks/coverings during Summer Care?

Yes, indoors only. Children will be required to wear facemasks outdoors only when social distancing is not possible.

How will you ensure that other campers are following the established guidelines (e.g. social distancing and wearing a face mask/covering)?

We have updated our Camper Code of Conduct to include the COVID-19 related requirements for attending Summer Care. If your child or other children are unable to follow the guidelines, then they will not be allowed to attend Summer Care.

Are the staff required to always wear masks/gloves around my child?

Staff are required to wear masks indoors. If they need to be close with a child or deal with any first aid or bodily fluids, they will be required to wear masks and gloves.

How are you cleaning equipment?

Strict CDC cleaning guidelines will be enforced. All equipment will be fully sanitized each day by staff.

Are you taking children's temperatures?

We will not be taking children's temperatures daily. Staff will ask COVID-19 pre-screening questions at drop-off. Thermometers will be available at camp in case staff need to take a child's temperature during the day. Parents/guardians will be required to take their child's temperature each morning before Summer Care begins.

What safety precautions are being put in place for both staff and children?

To name a few:

- Staff and children will wear face masks/coverings indoors, and outdoors when social distancing is not possible.
- Staff will be required to take their own temperature before reporting to work each day.
- Parents will be required to monitor their child for symptoms and take their child's temperature each morning before drop-off.
- Hand sanitizer application is required for campers and staff upon arrival and departure, every day.
- Our staff has increased their cleaning protocols to include cleaning of highly touched areas several times a day.
- Each groups of 10 campers and 2 staff, or "pods," will remain separate from every other pod.
- All pods will spend as much time outdoors as possible.
- There will be designated equipment and supplies per pod, in order to eliminate cross contamination.
- Implementation of handwashing procedures will be enforced throughout the day.
- Staff will be trained in Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines related to COVID-19.

What would happen if either a child or staff member were to become sick? Would the entire camp shut down or just the group that had the sick person?

If a child or counselor were to become sick, we will follow OSHA and CDC guidelines in determining best practices for potential closure. All families will be notified immediately.

Camp Activities and Group Info**Why is there a maximum capacity at each site?**

We want to ensure that each group has a separate and safe indoor home base for inclement weather days. Our park district facilities have limited available separate spaces.

Each room/space will be equipped with activities, toys, games, and art materials to make the day fun!

What will pick-up and drop-off look like?

At drop-off you will join a line of cars, where a staff member will greet you and escort your child to their pod/group. For pick up, you will again get in a line of cars and wait for a staff member to bring your child to your vehicle. *More information will be emailed to registrants that receive a spot in Summer Care, after the lottery.*

What times will pick-ups/drop-offs occur?

Drop-off: Parents may drop off anytime between 8:30 and 9 a.m. Drop-offs after 9 a.m., must be arranged with staff ahead of time.

Pick-up: Parents may pick up between 4-4:30 p.m. Pick-ups before 4 p.m., must be arranged with staff ahead of time.

How are the groups being divided? (How many children and how many counselors?)

There will be 8-10 children with two Program Leaders in each group. Children will be divided by age.

Will siblings be placed in the same “pod?”

Unless requested, no, they will be with other children in their own age group. We will honor ‘same pod sibling requests’ only if the age difference is no more than two grade levels.

Will there be a mix of ages in the “pods?”

The goal is to group children in “pods” with similar ages. Some “pods” may consist of various ages depending on registration numbers.

Are friend requests accepted in Summer Care?

We are not accepting friend requests. Your child will be placed in a group of his or her ‘same age’ peers, but due to the small sizes we are not taking friend requests.

How can I talk to my child’s Program Leader if I never see them?

Parents may call the facility main number and leave a message for a staff member to return their call. The supervisor’s email will be available, and a cell phone number will be provided for emergencies.

Will my child get to go outside?

Yes, children will be outside as much as possible!

What should my child pack daily for Summer Care?

- 1) A facemask or face covering.

- 2) Lunch and a snack in a disposable paper bag preferred. *Refrigeration will not be available.*
- 3) Water bottle. *Reusable or disposable allowed.*
- 4) Sunscreen.
- 5) One set of extra clothes in a Ziploc bag. (Optional)

What will Summer Care look like daily? What activities will be offered?

Children will be involved in play! Whether it be free time, a structured art project, or running on the field, your child's day will be full of excitement and adventure.

Without field trips, what "special events" will the kids do?

The children will be engaged in fun activities through the day. During this Phase 3 program, special performers will not be permitted on site. Do not worry! Our staff have plenty of captivating activities planned.

Will Summer Care go to the pool?

No, pools are not currently open.

Will Summer Care use mini-golf or the driving range if Sports Park is the "home base" location?

No. Children and staff will not be utilizing the Sports Park amenities during Summer Care. Most of the time they will be outdoors at nearby parks and fields.

How will you ensure my child has a great "camp" experience with all the change going on?

We promise fun, which is what summer is all about. Our staff members are eager to provide enriching activities throughout the day.

If more restrictions are lifted, what changes might we expect to see? What might be added to the "camp" experience?

We are working on tentative plans to add more or extend the summer care experience as safely as possible.

More information will be provided after the lottery.

Thank you!