



WORLDS OF IMAGINATION

Super Summer
Adventure Camp

FAMILY YMCA OF GREATER AUGUSTA

2026 Summer Camp

Parent Handbook

FAMILY YMCA OF
GREATER AUGUSTA



WELCOME TO Y SUMMER CAMP!

We are excited that you have chosen the Family YMCA as your day camp of choice this summer. Our Family Y works year-round to be able to provide the best camp experience for all our campers. Please read all the information provided to make sure you are aware of all the great things going on at our Y and to help keep you and your camper safe and on the same page all summer.

CAMP IS AN OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

We spend much of our day outside, playing games, learning and just having fun! We ensure that all campers stay cool and hydrated by keeping all our campers filled up with water and coming inside when it gets too hot! To assess weather conditions, we use the OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool, and remain indoors when conditions are hazardous.

EATING HEALTHY, LIVING HEALTHY

We are committed to increasing the amount of time campers spend being active during the day. As a part of this, we also want to make sure children are eating healthier throughout their day too! We provide healthy meals and snacks through our partnership with USDA's Summer Food Service Program. A doctor's note is required for special dietary meals provided by the Y. Campers are welcome to provide their own meals if preferred.

FRIENDS

At the Y, we believe that one of the most memorable parts of camp is the friendships campers make at camp. We believe that if EVERY CAMPER does not meet and have at least one new friend by the end of summer, we've failed! Encourage your camper to branch out, try new things, and meet new people- this is a great life skill for them to learn now!



WHAT MAKES Y SUMMER CAMP SPECIAL?

- Our day camp activities create a foundation for building emotional intelligence and problem-solving skills in your child.
- Y Camps are led by caring and trained youth developers who are dedicated to bringing out what is special and unique about your camper.
- Integrating activity with nature is a top priority that allows your camper to experience how great it feels to disconnect from electronics and connect with the great outdoors and other campers.
- At Y Camp, your camper will gain independence, build confidence and develop a sense of responsibility for themselves.

PARENT HANDBOOK

This Parent Handbook is your passport to all things summer camp. We'll layout all of our policies, processes and other important information that you need to know for camp. Please keep this handbook somewhere safe so you can look back on it throughout the summer!



PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

WHAT'S GOING ON AT HOME?

Children's actions in our program often reflect problems they are experiencing at home (i.e. pet's death, parent divorce, fight with sibling, etc.). If any such disruptive or traumatic experience should occur, please inform your child's Camp Director. This will enable us to better meet the needs of your child.

CAN DAY CAMP STAFF BABYSIT FOR MY FAMILY?

The Family Y strives to employ the absolute best staff possible in all our programs. During staff time off or after they are no longer employed with us, these persons are private citizens and no longer subject to our employment rules and procedures. The Family YMCA cannot and does not endorse or recommend its present or former staff members as babysitters to any parent or guardian of any child in any of our programs. Any babysitting arrangements with present or former staff of the Family Y is separate and independent from any YMCA program and must be based on the independent investigation, responsibility and judgment of the parent or guardian. By continuing your child's enrollment in camp, you agree that the YMCA shall not be responsible and will be held harmless from any claims or liability in connection with such employees acting in such a private, independent capacity.

PARENT UNDERSTANDING

- I understand the policies and procedures, including those regarding deposits, payments and transfer.
- I understand that Y staff and volunteers are not allowed to transport children in personal vehicles at any time outside the Family Y program.
- My child is allowed to be transported off day camp site by YMCA Camp buses to attend other Y activities.
- I understand that I am not to leave my child at the Y or program site unless a Family Y Staff member or volunteer is there to receive and supervise my child.
- I understand that the Family Y is mandated, by state law, to report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities for investigation.
- I understand it is my responsibility to read this handbook and understand its contents as it relates to my child's camp experience.
- I understand my child must be potty trained to attend this program.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to keep my child's registration information current to reflect any changes as they occur. I further understand that it is my responsibility to update my payment information as needed ten days prior to the draft date.
- I understand that an Emergency Preparedness Plan is available at my Camp Site and I can review it upon request.
- I understand that it is the responsibility of the parent/caregiver to adhere to the same expectations of the camper behavior outlined in the handbook under Behavior Expectations and Discipline.

DISCLAIMER

Policies and guidelines may differ between camp locations, as well as change to meet state, federal or local requirements. Please review any supplemental policies and follow updated guidelines from camp staff. Parents will be notified of any changes to our guidelines or policies.

DROP OFF/ PICK-UP PROCESS

DAY CAMP HOURS OF OPERATION

Day Camp operates Monday–Friday, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm.

DROP OFF

For safety campers may not be dropped off at the camp site earlier than 7:00 am. Drop off hours are 7:00 am to 9:00 am. All campers must be dropped off by 9:00 am OR provide a doctor's note and notify the camp director for prior approval.

EARLY PICK-UP

We understand that there will be times when you need to pick up your child early. When this occurs, it is extremely important that you make contact with the Camp Director via phone and/or in writing. Please understand that we use many areas of our facility and children may be participating in an activity away from the building. We have a hand-held radio system that allows us to communicate effectively. However, it may take a few minutes to retrieve the child from the program area. Your patience is appreciated.

PICK -UP PROCEDURES

Pick-up is from 4:00 pm–6:00 pm. A picture I.D. is required to pick-up your camper. Only authorized people are allowed to pick-up your child. Children will not be released to anyone unless listed on their enrollment form. Campers must be signed out with their counselor each day. Any changes to the pick-up list must be made in writing. Campers must be picked up by 6 pm to avoid a late fee.

LATE PICK-UP

It is very important that your child be picked up on time. A late fee will be charged for each child not picked up by 6:00 pm. The fee will be assessed at a rate of \$10.00 per 5 minutes per child starting at 6:05 pm. Late fees are due with your next scheduled payment. More than three late pick-ups may be cause for the child to be removed from the program. If a child is not picked up by 6:00 pm, we will begin calling authorized pick up numbers. If the child is not picked up by 7:00 pm, authorities will be called.

Late fee example: \$10 will be charged if picked-up at 6:05 pm, \$20 will be charged if picked up at 6:10 pm and so on. For two children in camp: \$20 will be charged at 6:05 pm, \$40 at 6:10 pm and so on.

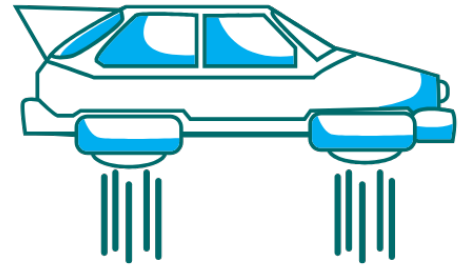


PAYMENT POLICIES

- A new registration form must be filled out every time you register.
- A non-refundable deposit must be paid for every week of camp per camper at the time of registration. The deposit will be credited towards that week or forfeited if the child does not attend.
- Full payments must be made by the Monday prior to the week camp starts.
- If payment is not made on the Monday one week prior to the camp start date, your camper will be removed, and the deposit will not be refunded.
- Session changes must be made 14 days prior to the camp start date, or the deposit will be lost.
- Cancellations must be made in writing 14 days prior to the camp start date. If the cancellation notice is not received, you will be responsible for all weeks registered.
- Non-attendance does not entitle you to a refund.
- Family YMCA of Greater Augusta offers financial assistance through our Annual Campaign scholarship program. Applications are available at any Family YMCA welcome center and online during registration. Sibling discounts are also available, upon request and cannot be used in addition to financial aid.
- The weeks with a holiday (i.e. July 4th), will not be prorated even if the Family Y does not offer service on that holiday.

Family YMCA of Greater Augusta Youth Program Policy

1. I permit my child to participate in activities the Family YMCA conducts outside the Y facilities.
2. **Photography** – I give permission for the YMCA to use, without limitation or obligation, photographs, film footage or tape recordings which may include my child's image, voice or artwork for purposes of promoting or interpreting YMCA programs.
3. **Cancellations** – Non-attendance does not relieve me of the responsibility to pay for the program. I understand that I must cancel, in writing, 14 days prior to stop payment.
4. **Refunds** – I understand that non-attendance does not entitle me to a refund. I understand that no refund or adjustments are granted for illness, vacation, cancellation or when Family Y programs are cancelled due to inclement weather.
5. I am aware that deposits are NON-REFUNDABLE.
6. **Accident Insurance** – Participants are responsible for their own accident insurance when using the Family Y and when participating in Y programs.
7. **Medication** – The Family Y does not normally administer any medication and will do so only when directed in writing by the child's medical doctor in the prescribed bottle. The medication authorization form must be completed prior to drop off. However, in the event of an emergency in which the parent cannot be contacted, emergency medical staff and the Y may take appropriate action in the best interest of the child. **All non-prescription medications need written directions from a doctor.** For example, "as needed" is not enough detail. If a child has a fever, he/she must be fever-free for 24 hours prior to returning to camp. A doctor's note is required for any refund to be considered. Refunds are at the discretion of the camp director.
8. To ensure the health and well-being of children in our program, please do not send your child if he or she has a contagious illness, infection, diarrhea, vomiting or fever of 100.4 degrees or higher. If symptoms appear while in the program, you must make arrangements for your child to be picked up from the program immediately. If your child is not picked up within an hour of calling this may result in termination from the program. Children who are sent home from our program must be fever-free and symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to site or have a physician's note stating their illness is no longer contagious. If children are exposed to a communicable disease while attending camp, a notification will be posted at the checkout location. Children who become ill while at the program will be isolated from the other children attending the program until they are picked up from Camp.
9. If a choking/serve allergy reaction occurs, the YMCA will do the following: administer emergency medication/lifesaving measures immediately, call 911, contact the parent/guardian, and document the incident.
10. **Babysitting Policy** – The YMCA strives to employ the absolute best staff possible in all our programs. During staff time off or after they are no longer employed with us, these persons are private citizens and no longer subject to our employment rules and procedures. The YMCA cannot and does not endorse or recommend its present or former staff members as babysitters to any parent or guardian of any child in any of our programs. Any babysitting arrangements with present or former staff of the YMCA is separate and independent from any YMCA program and must be based on the independent investigation, responsibility and judgement of the parent or guardian. I agree that the YMCA shall not be responsible and will be held harmless from any claims or liability in connection with such employees acting in such a private, independent capacity.
11. I understand the YMCA is not responsible for any personal items lost or stolen during our programs. Do not allow campers to bring phones, electronics of any kind, personal toys or items of value (example: smart watches, tablets, video games, sports balls, trading cards, etc.).



Family YMCA of Greater Augusta

Behavior, Expectations & Discipline Policy

It is important that staff maintain good order and discipline in all programs. Top objectives in all Family Y programs are safety and a positive atmosphere for developing social skills. The Y makes every effort to help campers understand clear definitions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

The Family YMCA does not condone and will not permit:

- Corporal punishment
- Ridiculing, threatening, using an inappropriate loud voice
- Leaving children unsupervised
- Use of profanity

A camper/parent's behavior is expected to be consistent with the following:

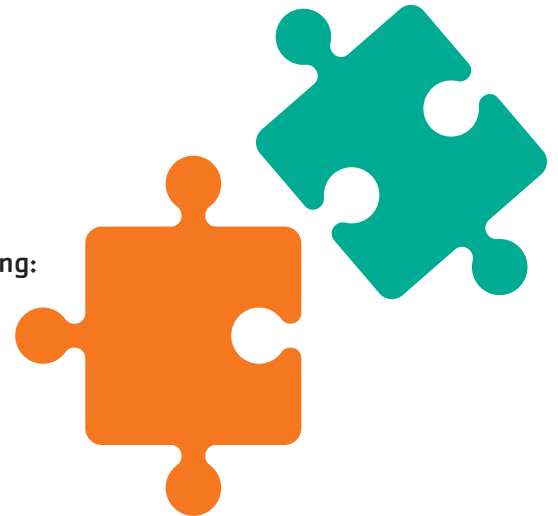
- Always use appropriate language
- Cooperate with staff and follow directions
- Respect other children, staff, equipment, facilities, and yourself
- Maintain a positive attitude
- Stay in the program areas – running away is not acceptable

BEHAVIOR POLICY:

- All parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the camper behavior waiver during registration. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are expected to review behavior expectations with their camper prior to the camp start date.
- If a camper is unable to comply with the behavior expectations, YMCA staff will complete a Camp Behavior Report detailing the event. The report requires a parent/guardian signature.
- If the behavior shows little or no improvement, the Camp Director will speak with the parent to discuss the situation (in-person or by phone). Repeated negative behaviors may result in suspension or dismissal from the program.
- Three offenses could be grounds for suspension or dismissal from the program.
- Failure of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to attend conference(s) and cooperate will subject the camper to suspension or dismissal.
- Refunds will not be given if a camper is suspended or dismissed due to behavior issues.
- If your child is not picked up within an hour of calling for a behavior issue, it may result in dismissal from the program.
- Suspension or dismissal is for program days and starts the next program day (weekends and holidays do not count). Dismissal from the program is for one calendar year.
- A child who has been dismissed from the program may request to be allowed into the program after a short assessment period of 90 days.

Behaviors which may result in immediate dismissal include, but are not limited to:

- Any action that could threaten or pose a direct threat to the physical/emotional safety of the child, other children, or staff
- Fighting (Includes shoving, pushing and/or any intimidating act towards a counselor or program participant)
- Possession of a weapon of any kind
- Vandalism or destruction of Family Y property or property of others
- Inappropriate conduct
- Swearing or Cursing
- Possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances unless under the prescription of a doctor
- Running away
- Biting
- Bullying



Family YMCA of Greater Augusta Child Abuse Prevention

The health and well-being of your camper is essential to the Family YMCA Child Care. The Y has developed a policy on the prevention of child abuse that includes the following provisions:

- Staff and volunteers will be alert to the physical and emotional state of all campers. When any sign of injury or suspected abuse is detected, the Camp Director will be notified immediately.
- Family YMCA staff and volunteers will not discipline children by use of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care, such as food and shelter.
- Family YMCA staff and volunteers will not verbally abuse, emotionally abuse, or physically punish campers.
- The hiring process includes reference and background checks. Once on staff, training will include information about recognizing the signs of child abuse and the approved procedures for responding to the suspicion of abuse.
- The Family YMCA is mandated by state law to report any suspected case of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities for investigation.

CUSTODY ISSUES

At the time of enrollment, parents are to provide legal documentation of any parties who are not to have contact with a child enrolled in Y programs. Paperwork must be court ordered and indicate the primary residential parent or if both parents have shared parental custody. Please notify your Camp Director of any unusual circumstances. In order to provide the safest care for your child, the policy stated above must be followed.

INTOXICATION

Your camper's safety is our priority. At times we are called to make judgments concerning their safety. If a Family YMCA staff member believes that a parent is intoxicated when they arrive to pick up their camper, we will detain the camper until an alternate plan can be arranged for the transportation of the camper and his/her parent/guardian. For your child's protection, should any person who appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol arrive to pick-up your child, our staff will be required to contact another person on your child's registration form. If no one is available, we are required to call law enforcement.

Swim Requirements

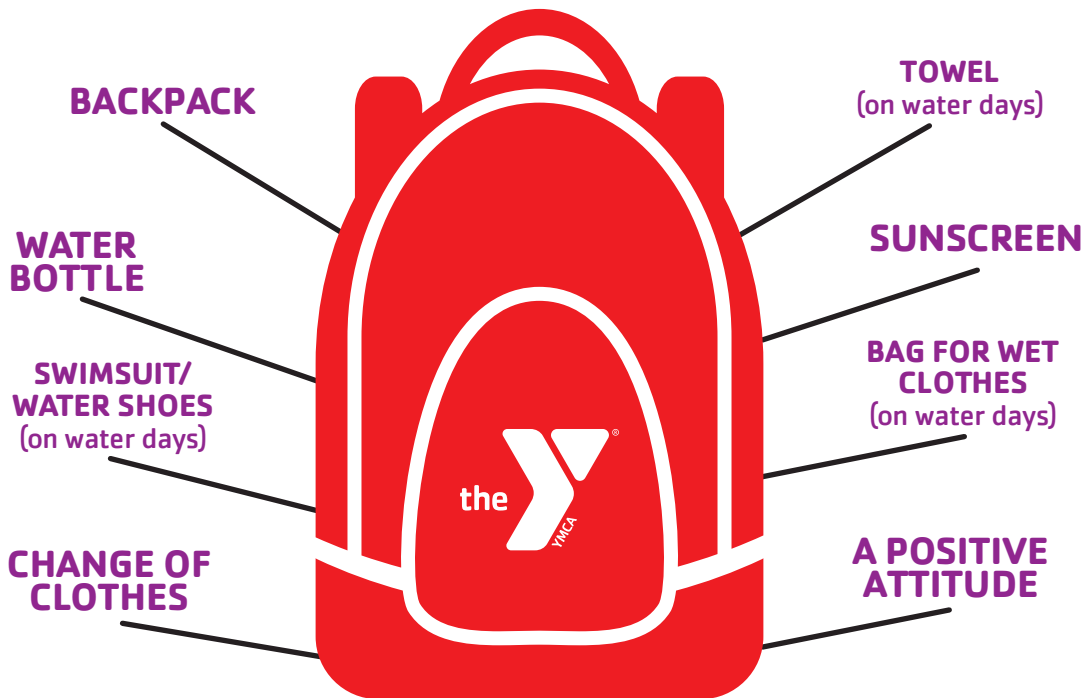
For a camper to earn their green band, they must enter the pool feet first and fully submerge, swim the length of the pool on their front (backstroke, side stroke, and doggie paddle are not sufficient strokes), tread water or float, and exit the pool without assistance. Green band swimmers can access all areas of the pool/water park, including the deep end and slides.

For a camper to earn their yellow band (not applicable at all branches), a swimmer must be able to enter the water feet first, fully submerge and swim half the length of the pool. A yellow band limits a swimmer's access to only the shallow ends of the pool and slides.

A camper who is given a red band has been identified as a non-swimmer and is unable to successfully complete the requirements for green and yellow bands. Red band swimmers must remain in the zero-entry swim area/baby pool. Any red band swimmer will be required to wear a US Coast Guard approved lifejacket if swimming in the shallow end of the lap pool. Red band swimmers cannot access the deep end of the lap pool, the slides, or any other aquatic feature that requires a yellow or green band, regardless of wearing a lifejacket.



What to Bring to Camp:



What to Leave at Home:

Toys (stuffed animals, Pokemon cards, etc.)

Electronics (smart watches, cellphones, tablets, etc.)

Non-prescription drugs
(all medication must be documented and given to Camp Staff)

Weapons

Dress Code

Campers should wear play clothes with tennis shoes. For the safety of all campers, please adhere to the following dress code guidelines. Please mark all items with your camper's initials.

- Shorts must be fingertip length or longer
- No spaghetti straps, halters, see through, or open back shirts. Straps must be 1" (3 fingertips)
- No midriffs; stomach cannot be exposed when arms raised
- Pants or shorts cannot be ripped above the knee
- No undergarments can be exposed
- Tennis shoes must be worn. Sandals can be worn with a back-strap only during water activities (example: Chacos, Crocs, or Tevas).
- Cut out muscle shirts are not permitted
- Shirts must be positive and cannot display profanity, inappropriate and /or offensive pictures /words
- Modest bathing suit for girls and swim trunks (not briefs) for boys.

BECOME A PART OF THE YMCA

Now that you have chosen our summer camps for your child, consider how you might become even more connected with our Y family. With a YMCA family membership, you can enjoy the following additional benefits:

- Save \$10 - \$40 per week on summer camp fees, which may cover your monthly Y cost (weekly rates vary by camp).
- Receive special rates on youth sports, swim lessons and other programs.
- Enjoy time together with your entire family at our 9 wonderful facilities throughout the CSRA.
- Play & Learn is a fun, safe environment where youth can play under adult supervision while you are working out (2-hour limit)
- At the Y, we make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background can learn, grow and thrive. We have affordable membership and program rates for everyone. If you are not already a Family Y member, stop by for a tour and receive a guest pass for your family to try the Y.