



CAMP CHALLENGE



**READ THESE PAGES PRIOR TO
COMPLETING ANY CAMP FORMS**

Hello Campers!

WELCOME to the 2024 -2025 camp season! The camp season will run from October 2024 Weekend Camp through Summer Camp 2025.

We have continued the streamlined application process so that there is ONE application for ALL overnight camp programs that occur from October 2024 and go through summer 2025. The application must be completed once per year on a September – August calendar cycle. You will note that there are now 5 parts to the application packet – they are listed below.

Please do NOT use any previous applications. You will notice we have condensed the application and eliminated several pages. Please make sure ALL pages and forms are complete and signed/initialed as required. Incomplete applications will not be accepted and may delay acceptance into the program. Accepted applications missing signatures will significantly delay the check-in process.

Index and Instruction:

- **Cover Page:** Welcome section, Index and Instructions – keep for your records
- **Part 1:** Camper Application – Pages 1 – 5
 - Complete all sections
 - Sign the attestation on page 5
- **Part 2:** Camp Session Registration and Payment Information, 4 pages
 - Be sure to check EACH camp program/session camper wants to attend – additional sessions can be added throughout the camp season by sending a new registration page
 - If applying for Financial Aid make sure the form is filled out in its entirety
- **Part 3:** Required Forms, 4 pages
 - Medical and Liability Release/Insurance Information Form
 - Authorization to Receive Protected Health Information via Text Message Form
 - Authorization – Media and Testimonial Release Form
- **Part 4:** Medical Form (to be completed by a physician or licensed medical provider), 2 pages
 - FOR CAMPERS ATTENDING WEEKEND OR WEEKLONG CAMP, WHO ALSO ATTENDED SUMMER CAMP IN 2024, THE MEDICAL FORM FROM SUMMER CAMP 2024 CAN BE USED. OTHER CAMPERS ATTENDING WEEKEND OR WEEKLONG CAMPS MUST HAVE THE MEDICAL FORM COMPLETED AND SIGNED PRIOR TO ATTENDANCE AT THE FIRST REGISTERED SESSION. DAY CAMPERS DO NOT NEED A MEDICAL FORM SIGNED BY A MEDICAL PROVIDER. **PLEASE CAREFULLY REVIEW THE FORM WITH THE MEDICAL PROVIDER AS IT MUST BE COMPLETED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SIGNED AND DATED ON BOTH PAGES IN ORDER TO BE ACCEPTED.**

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO SEND BACK TO EASTERSEALS CAMP CHALLENGE

Camp Application Checklist – after completing, please send us the following:

- Part 1 – Camper Application – completed and signed – 5 pages
- Part 2 – Session Registration and Payment info - completed for each session and signed - 4 pages
 - Payment for deposit (for each camp session) or full amount
- Part 3 – All completed required forms - 4 pages
- Part 4 – Medical Form – signed by licensed provided – within the required time frame - 2 pages
- Current copy of medical insurance card

Please mail all the above items to:

Easterseals Camp Challenge, 31600 Camp Challenge Road, Sorrento, FL 32776

OR

email to camp@fl.easterseals.com

Camp office phone #: 352 383-4711

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

- Cover Page & Welcome Letter

Once accepted to the camp program, a confirmation letter and further information will be sent to you regarding preparations for camp. **All acceptance letters will be sent via email.**

We ask that you provide as much detail on the application as possible so that we can best meet the needs of the camper and provide the most enjoyable experience possible. **Medication will need to be placed into individual dose packs or bubble packed – the original bottles will also need to be brought with you to camp.**

Please note: We cannot fully process an application and confirm acceptance to the program without a deposit and a completed application packet. Incomplete applications will be returned and acceptance into the program will not be guaranteed. DO NOT SEND THE SIGNED MEDICAL FORM WITH THE APPLICATION UNLESS YOU APPLY WITHIN 45 DAYS OF ATTENDING CAMP.

Easterseals Florida, Camp Challenge is committed to SAFETY. We will continue to monitor and implement COVID-19 safety protocols, following the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, at a minimum. We will share Camp's most current Safety Plan protocols and guidelines with you just prior to each camp session.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this camp season!

Dr. Maggie
Director of Camping and Recreation



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a 3:1 camper: staff ratio?

Campers must be able to be cared for in a group of 3, with one counselor able to meet their needs. Physically, campers may use wheelchairs and need lifting/transferring, require assistance in the bathroom or changing disposable briefs, need assistance eating or having their food cut up. Cognitively, campers may function lower than their chronological age, require prompting and assistance transitioning from activities, have behavioral concerns and require supervision. Campers who have tracheotomies, require ventilators, have aggressive behaviors or run away are not a good fit for the camp environment. Campers who are considered 1:1 or 1:2 for life skills training or in the classroom, may still meet the criteria for a 1:3 ratio at camp. Please contact the office to discuss specific needs of campers so we can help determine if a camper is a good fit for our program.

When do I need to send the medical form?

If you attended camp in the summer of 2023, you do not need a medical until April 1 – June 1, 2025. If you did NOT attend camp the summer of 2023, you need a medical prior to your first session. (For example; if you did not attend summer camp in 2023 but are attending October Weekend Camp you would need an updated medical prior to weekend camp). We must receive your medical signed by a provided NO LESS than 10 days before your camp session in order to fully accept you into the program.

When is payment due?

For weekend camps, winter camp, and spring break camp, payments are due 14 days before the session. Summer camp payments are due by May 1, 2025. The early bird deadline is February 15, 2025. You may pay by check via US mail or by credit card Mondays and Tuesdays by calling Bill in the Camp Office at 352-383-4711 x 200.

When will I know about financial aid?

Financial aid is assigned beginning April 15, 2025. We must have a completed application to assign financial aid.

What do I need to pack?

Campers need to bring clothes for the length of their session. We spend time both indoors and outdoors. Some sessions have special events or theme days – they will be listed in your acceptance email. We do have limited laundry facilities for soiled clothes and linens. Bedding for a twin-size bed. Most campers prefer to bring a pillow, blanket, and sheets; a sleeping bag is also acceptable. Personal toiletries such as toothbrush, toothpaste, shower supplies, and hygiene products. Each cabin does have a tear-free 3-in-1 shampoo/bodywash product. Camp also provides laundry soap, bug spray, and sunscreen. Refer to the Camp Handbook for a complete packing list.

What should I NOT pack?

Campers are encouraged to leave electronics at home; they not banned but we encourage campers to engage in activities and use cell phones and other electronics in the cabin during downtime. Do not bring expensive items that can be easily lost, such as jewelry. We always do our best to make sure every camper goes home with what they came with, but our campers also have autonomy over their personal items.

How do I send it my application?

You may scan and email your application to camp@fl.easterseals.com; fax it to 352-383-0744; or mail it to Camp Challenge 31600 Camp Challenge Rd, Sorrento, FL 32776.