

Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana Summer Camp and COVID-19

Safety is a cornerstone of Girl Scouting and we will continue to put the health and safety of our campers and staff first throughout the summer camp season. We are regularly monitoring COVID-19 updates and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA), the American Camp Association (ACA), and the state and local authorities, and will continue to adjust our guidelines and processes with the goal of providing a safe and fun outdoor experience. All of our 2021 summer camp programs, including day and overnight camps, will follow the guidelines and processes below.

Though this summer will look different from past summers, our team is working hard to prepare an enjoyable summer camp experience full of camp traditions and new friendships while implementing new strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The information listed below will give you and your family a general idea of camp operations and expectations this summer. With your help, patience, and understanding we have no doubt that we can provide incredible camp adventures!

We will continue to monitor the information around COVID-19 and will provide updates to the information below in order to run summer camp programs with the most current public health information in mind. If you have any questions, please contact support@girlscouts-gssi.org for more information.

NOTE: All information presented in this resource is subject to change. Guidelines and requirements may be changed and/or added at a later time pending recommendations from the CDC, GSUSA, ACA, and state and local authorities.

BEFORE REGISTERING FOR CAMP

While we are preparing for the upcoming camp season with the health and safety of our campers and staff in mind, here is information to consider when making program choices:

1. There will be updated guidelines and processes at camp. These updates are detailed below and include mask wearing, social distancing, and specific changes to activities, meals, and sleeping accommodations. Please make sure your camper is prepared to handle these changes and is ready to follow directions from camp staff.
2. Your camper may be around other campers from across the council area and/or other states and will be around staff from across the council area and/or other states during overnight camp offerings at Camp Koch.
3. GSSI is preparing many strategies to prevent transmission of COVID-19, but we can't guarantee that your child won't come in contact with COVID-19 at camp. We are aware that some campers or family members may be at higher risk for COVID-19 complications so we recommend that these families contact their medical provider to assess the risk of attending summer camp.

BEFORE ATTENDING CAMP

A healthy camp begins at home and requires a commitment from everyone. For the safety of our camp community, we are asking you to partner with us before coming to camp by:

- Wearing masks and practicing social distancing when you are outside your household.

- Limiting your camper's and family's contact with people outside of your household for two weeks prior to your camper's session.
- Taking your camper's temperature daily for two weeks prior to your camper's session.
- Being honest with us if your camper or someone in your household develops any COVID-19 symptoms, has exposure to COVID-19, or tests positive with COVID-19.

Campers and staff are not permitted at camp if any of the following is true:

- They or anyone in their household has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of scheduled camp session
- They have had a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit within 14 days of scheduled camp session
- They have shown two or more COVID-19 symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, etc.) within 14 days of scheduled camp session
- They have had known contact with a person who has COVID-19 within 14 days of scheduled camp session

For everyone's health and safety we cannot make exceptions and we thank you in advance for not asking our staff to do so. If any of these statements apply, please contact GSSI as soon as possible. We will work with your family to find the best solution, and if possible, transfer your camper to a later session.

All campers will be required to complete a **HEALTH PRE-SCREENING** prior to camp. Details will be sent prior to your camper's session for how to complete and return. Pre-screen will include taking and recording your camper's temperature and answering health screening questions. Camp staff will follow-up with families who report symptoms, fever, and/or exposure.

GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES AND PROCESSES WHILE AT CAMP

Daily Health Checks

Temperature and health checks will be done daily before breakfast each day.

Mask Wearing

Campers and staff will be expected to wear face masks over their nose and mouth when indoors or when unable to adequately social distance outdoors. Masks may be taken off during specific indoor situations (i.e. eating, sleeping, etc.).

Physical Distancing

Campers and staff will be expected to physical distance throughout the summer camp experience. This includes practicing six feet of physical distancing during activities and throughout the day where possible. We will use fun strategies to encourage physical distancing, especially with younger campers. Campers will be reminded to practice physical distancing throughout the day and during unstructured times.

Campers will be separated in PODS throughout their camp experience. Staff will work to group pods from the same geographical area and/or school, if available and possible. NEW THIS YEAR: Campers may request their pod mates/tent buddies to encourage consistent groups from geographical areas/schools.

Campers and staff that are part of a pod will do all activities together, eat together, and share a sleeping space. Pods will be treated like a unit/cohort and will enjoy the camp session together. Pods will not be allowed inside another pod's designated sleeping, eating, or program activity spaces.

Traditional large group activities (flag ceremonies, mealtimes, etc.) will be modified so that each pod can participate while physically distanced from other pods. Large group activities will be held outdoors and will follow current guidelines for the number of people who can safely gather together.

Utilizing the Outdoors

At camp, most activities typically take place outdoors. Activities will be kept outside in the open air whenever possible. Many activities that may have previously taken place indoors will be moved and modified to take place in outdoor or highly ventilated indoor spaces.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

Campers and staff will be trained how to properly wash and sanitize hands, based on recommendations from the CDC for infection control. Additional hand washing stations will be placed throughout camp and hand sanitizer will be placed at activity areas and carried by all staff.

We will follow a "Sanitize In/Sanitize Out" model which requires campers and staff to wash or sanitize hands before and after an activity and staff will disinfect all commonly touched surfaces (i.e. door handles, picnic tables, light switches, etc.). Cleaning protocols will be in place for cleaning activity spaces and equipment between pod usage and transitions.

Camper's traditional Kapers will consist of their own sleeping spaces and sites, including maintaining personal belongings, sweeping, and wiping down their own bed. Daily cleaning will take place by staff throughout camp with high touch areas and shared bathrooms being cleaned multiple times a day. All activity areas and unit sites will be deep cleaned at the end of each weekend camp session.

Check-In and Check-Out Process

All overnight camp programs will have a drive-thru check-in and check-out process. Families and friends are expected to remain in their vehicles at all times. If you want to see Camp Koch prior to your camper's session, please attend *GSSI's Passport to Camp: One Day Jamboree* at Camp Koch on Monday, May 31, *Family Camp* June 19-20, or *Kite Day* on June 26.

We also ask that the number of people in the vehicle dropping off your camper is kept to a minimum and that all people in the vehicle above the age of two wear a mask. Carpooling this year is discouraged.

Only campers will exit the vehicle with their belongings, please say goodbye before they get out of the car. Campers will receive a health check, including a temperature check, near their vehicle.

Each camper will be assigned a check-in time for the first day of their session. You will receive this time the week prior to your camper's session. By staggering check-in, we hope to keep any lines to a minimum. Upon arrival, camp staff will guide your vehicle to the designated area. If you arrive before your check-in time, you will be asked to wait in the holding parking lot until your scheduled time.

We will offer a full check-in process through the drive-thru experience, including paperwork and medication distribution verification. We will have a detailed health screening process that includes

temperature checks, head checks, and COVID-19 screening. Camper's belongings and luggage should be labeled clearly and placed in the trunk of the vehicle so that staff can easily assist in unloading.

Camp staff will be at designated nearby areas to meet your camper. They will assist with luggage transportation, bedding set up, and orientation.

For check-out, campers will have their luggage with them and pick up will take place in the same drive-thru line method with staff assisting in loading luggage into vehicles.

More information will be sent out prior to your camper's session detailing the check-in and check-out process and how you should pack to ensure things run smoothly and quickly.

Mealtimes

Campers and staff will wash hands before and after every meal. Meals will be eaten in pod groups while maintaining physical distancing. In general, more meals will be eaten outdoors, either around camp or in a pod's assigned space. Outdoor meals may be structured as cookouts, picnic-style, or grab and go. All cooking equipment, tables, and chairs that are used will be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly.

Camp Koch will decrease the number of meals served inside the Dining Hall (based on weather). Any meals that take place in the Dining Hall will be served in shifts and limit the number of people in the space at one time. When inside the Dining Hall, campers and staff will be assigned to specific tables by pod. Tables will be seated at half capacity and will be distanced by at least six feet. Windows inside Dining Hall will remain open when weather is not an issue.

Campers and staff may remove their masks once their entire table is seated to eat.

Daily kitchen and Dining Hall cleaning protocols will include a combination of what we have done in previous years and new COVID-19 specific processes. This will include, but is not limited to, sanitizing commonly touched surfaces, counter tops, and equipment after each pod shift.

Sleeping Accommodations

In addition to general safety processes previously mentioned, sleeping areas will have the following modifications for this summer. Beds will be moved to ensure physical distancing parameters are met and ventilation will be fully utilized. Campers and staff will be required to sleep toe to toe or alternated as needed to prevent close proximity of head spaces. Campers and staff will remove masks while sleeping; however, be expected to wear masks at all other times while in the sleeping area.

AFTER ATTENDING CAMP

GSSI recommends that the camper continues to wear a mask, social distance, limit contact with people outside their household, and screen for symptoms for two weeks following the camp session to confirm COVID-19 was not contracted or spread.

CANCELLATIONS

If you must cancel your camp session due to exposure, symptoms, and/or a positive case of COVID-19, please contact support@girlscouts-gssi.org immediately. We can refund your camp fees, minus the non-refundable deposit which may be held for another session at a later date or donated to GSSI.