



Reopening Guidance FAQs

School Aged Summertime Day Camps *(updated 7/20/2020)*

Below are answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Reopening [Guidance for School Aged Summertime Day Camps](#). OHA provides these FAQ to help the public understand the guidance, to respond to stakeholder questions, and to clarify how the guidance may apply in specific scenarios. These FAQ may be intermittently updated. The FAQ is not intended to take the place of the guidance, but rather to interpret, supplement, and help fill in the details of the guidance.

For the purposes of this document, a “stable group” of 10 children is the same as a “cohort” of 10 children.

Student Experience

Q1: What is the best way to determine whether a child should participate based on symptoms?

A1: Any child or staff member with **any** of the following symptoms should not participate in a camp: fever, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.

In the absence of fever or respiratory symptoms, anyone with **two or more** of the following should be excluded: chills or shaking, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell.

Lastly, following general recommendations for any camp or school setting, anyone (staff or child) with vomiting or diarrhea should not participate until at least 24 hours after symptoms stop.

Campers who have a cough that is not a new onset cough (e.g. asthma, allergies, etc.), do not need to be excluded from camp.

Q2: Should parents be given a full-day option (7 a.m.- 6 p.m.) for summer care or should there only be half-day options (7a.m. -12 p.m., 1 p.m.-6 p.m.) available based on the possibility of exposure?

A2: [OHA's guidance](#) allows summer camps to provide both full-day and half-day options.

Timeline

Q1: The final guidelines indicate that overnight camps are not permitted "at this time." Will overnight camps be permitted this summer?

A1: Overnight camps are not allowed for counties in Phase 1. Overnight family camps and overnight youth camps may operate in counties that are in Phase 2. They must follow the [Outdoor Recreation Organizations Guidance](#).

Q2: Will there be any updates to the School-Aged Summertime Day Camp guidance as counties enter new phases?

A2: At this time, no additional changes to daytime camps are anticipated. This will continue to be reviewed by the Oregon Health Authority.

Q3: Will these guidelines affect programs running in the fall (after September 1)?

A3: Yes. At this time, these guidelines are expected to affect programs running in the fall.

Q4: Does the stable group limit of 10 campers apply to camps in counties in all phases?

A4: Yes, the stable group of 10 children in summer camps applies regardless of which phase the county is in.

Overnight

Q1: Why are overnight youth camps not allowed to open?

A1: Overnight youth camps with shared lodging are not allowed to open because the safety of Oregon's children and the staff watching over them is OHA's primary focus. Daytime operations are allowed in Phase 1. Overnight youth camps where youth are in individual lodging units and overnight family camps may operate in Phase 2 following the [Outdoor Recreation Organizations guidance](#).

Q2: How will the decision to operate overnight camps statewide be made?

A2: The Governor's Office (GO) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will work together to decide if and when it is safe for children and staff to return to overnight camp settings statewide. If new guidelines are developed, OHA and the GO will seek input from youth overnight camp organizations.

Q3: Will there be financial support for camps who rely on summer overnight camp programs?

A3: No. At this time, there are not enough state funds to provide financial support specifically to summer camps. Owners can work with Oregon's [Small Business Navigator](#) to see what supports are available.

Q4: What is the rationale behind trying to maintain a “stable group” while allowing group members (campers and staff) to return home each afternoon/evening to their homes?

A4: The rationale is that if a child is diagnosed with COVID-19, any staff or other camper exposed to that child in the two days before symptoms started will need to be quarantined for 14 days. So, everyone in the stable group plus the teacher will need quarantine, and parents of the exposed children will need to stay home from work to provide childcare for their exposed children in quarantine.

However, if a child diagnosed with COVID-19 participated in several different group activities in the two days before symptoms started, far more children and staff will need to go into quarantine. By maintaining small, stable groups, summer camps can avoid excluding large numbers of campers and staff for 14 days in the event of a case of COVID-19.

Q5: What guidance should church camps follow if they provide overnight camping and food services on site?

A5: No overnight camps are permitted in Phase 1 counties. Overnight youth camps where youth are in individual lodging units and overnight family camps may operate in Phase 2 following the [Outdoor Recreation Organizations guidance](#).

Outdoor

Q1: Can we use community parks as outdoor recess area for campers?

A1: Yes, any local park that is open may be used for activities for campers. A minimum of 75 square feet per camper must be available when using outdoor spaces. For Phase 2 counties, community parks can operate playgrounds, swimming pools, splash pads and sports courts.

Q2: Does the 75 ft of space requirement apply to all outdoor activities, or just community parks?

A2: A camp can have multiple stable groups of 10 if the camp facility or site can:

1. accommodate physical distancing for the number of campers hosted. (A minimum of 35 square feet per camper for indoor spaces; a minimum of 75 square feet per camper for outdoor space.), and
2. ensure campers' access to meals and use of restrooms, showers and activities remains within a stable group of 10.

Q3: Will pools be open later in summer?

A3: Pools are allowed to open and operate in Phase 2 counties following the guidance for [Licensed Swimming Pools, Licensed Spa Pools and Sports Courts](#).

Q4: Are there exemptions for pools that have constant chlorine sensing and adjustment capabilities?

A4: No. There are no exemptions for pools to open in Phase 1 counties. Fitness-related organizations in Phase 1 counties are required to keep saunas, steam rooms and whirlpool spas closed. Additionally, fitness-related organizations in Phase 1 are required to keep pools closed to recreational swim activities, swimming lessons, and all other aquatic activities. Pools are allowed to open and operate in Phase 2 counties following the guidance for [Licensed Swimming Pools, Licensed Spa Pools and Sports Courts](#).

Q5: If a camp has a private pool, can campers and staff use it?

A5: No. There are no exemptions for pools to open in Phase 1 counties. If camps have on-site pools and are in Phase 2 counties, they must follow the [Swimming Pools guidance](#).

Q6: What about Boy Scout Troops Camping on their own?

A6: Following [OHA guidance](#), overnight camps are not permitted to open or operate in Phase 1 counties but can operate in Phase 2 counties following the [Phase 2 outdoor recreation guidance](#).

Q7: Is overnight wilderness/adventure camping allowed (if students are sleeping in individual tents)?

A7: Following [OHA guidance](#), overnight camps are not permitted to open or operate in Phase 1 counties but can operate in Phase 2 counties following the [Phase 2 outdoor recreation guidance](#). Specifically, in Phase 2 counties, overnight youth camps may provide services to youth if individual lodging units or camp shelters (i.e. tents) are provided.

Q8: Can a traditional camp pivot to a family-based, physically distanced campground without a program? Can a traditional resident camp pivot to a family-based, physically distanced day use area only, with low-to-no program?

A8: Camps may use their camp facilities for family-based, physically distanced camping without program offerings, including dining. These camps should refer to the [Outdoor Recreation Guidance](#). Overnight camping or lodging by members of different households, particularly without an adult from each household present, would qualify as an overnight camp. Following [OHA guidance](#), overnight camps are not permitted to open or operate in Phase 1 counties but can operate in Phase 2 counties following the [Phase 2 outdoor recreation guidance](#).

Staffing

Q1: If staff wearing a mask or face covering is causing a barrier or a safety issue, having a negative impact on children, should it be worn or required?

A1: Per the [School-Aged Summertime Day Camp Guidance](#), OHA recommends that masks or face coverings be worn whenever six (6) feet of physical distancing is not possible.

Q2: Can our teen volunteers (not paid and they are between the age of 11 and 15) count as staff? Could I have 1 teacher, 1 teen volunteer and 10 kids?

A2: Volunteers, regardless of age, do not count toward the stable group of 10 limit.

Q3: How many staff members can be included in one stable group?

A3: There is no ratio requirement for staffing stable groups as long as staff are able to stay with the same stable group of children to the extent possible.

Q4: Historically we have provided childcare from 5 a.m.-8 a.m. (before care) and then 2 p.m.-6 p.m. (after care). I see the guidance addresses students, but what is the guidance for staffing? Obviously, we cannot have the same staff from 5 a.m.-6 p.m.

A4: Campers should stay in the same stable group throughout the day, even if there is only one camper in before- or after-care. The same staff should stay with the stable groups to the extent possible. In the case of an extended schedule, allowing different staff to support before-and after-care would be a reasonable. Floater staff protocols should be used in these situations.

Q5: Is there additional funding available to offset the increased costs of staffing, the extra cleaning required, and additional costs for transportation to ensure physical distancing?

A5: No. There is no funding to offset these increased costs.

Q6: Certain activities that we run require a staff member to be a specific age and have specific training (i.e., shooting sports, aquatics). If a cohort goes to one of those events, then would it be okay if that staff member would be in contact of all the cohorts?

A6: These staff members should follow the guidance for "floater staff" in the [School-Aged Summertime Day Camp Guidance](#). Minimize the number of staff interacting with each group of campers; staff must be dedicated to a single group and not move between groups if at all possible. If "floater staff" or different staff rotate with the stable group, they must wash or sanitize their hands prior to entering the space with the stable group of campers, and they must wear a mask, face shield or face covering. If guest speakers come into the space, they must wash or sanitize their hands on entering and exiting and wear a mask, face covering or face shield.

Cleaning & Sanitization

Q1: Where do we submit our communicable disease management plans?

A1: Summer camps are required to create a communicable disease management plan, but they do not need to submit them to the local health public health authority, OHA, or another entity.

Q2: Is there an emergency plan template or checklist?

A2: The Association of Camp Nursing has multiple resources, including [communicable disease management plan guidance](#).

Q3: Is there someone we can run our alternate day camp plans by to make certain we are complying with guidance?

A3: Unfortunately, there is no agency that has capacity to review plans right now. You can continue to send questions about reopening to covid19.reopening@dhsosha.state.or.us to be included in future FAQs.

Q4: Guidance says individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19 are to be excluded, but it does not address other communicable diseases. What is the guidance for those? Are we also expected to test for those?

A4: This guidance is specific to operation through the COVID-19 pandemic. Summer camps should continue to follow their existing communicable disease management plans and protocols.

Q5: What should be reported to the Local Public Health Administrator (LPHA)? When should it be reported to the LPHA? Example: A youth becomes sick during programming, and not all symptoms are in line with COVID-19 symptoms. Should this be reported LPHA? When should it be reported to LPHA?

A5: If anyone who has entered the educational setting is diagnosed with COVID-19, report the case to the LPHA within 24 hours and get advice about cleaning and possible classroom or school closure. Report to the LPHA any cluster of illness (such as symptoms of cough, fever, vomiting or diarrhea, or rash illness) among the educational setting staff or students.

Q6: A youth who becomes ill during programming should be isolated until they are picked up by a caretaker. Should youth be kept in original programming space or be moved to a different location?

A6: It is very important to separate youth with symptoms from the rest of the group, ideally in a room such as an office or other room not currently in use by other campers. Another option, if the child is feeling well enough, is to have a staff member wait with the child outdoors away from other campers until the child's ride arrives.

Q7: Should stable grouping be done by age cohorts? Should siblings/households be kept together? Do school-aged children from the same family have to be in the same stable group or can they be divided into age appropriate groups?

A7: Each camp can decide its own policies about how the stable groups are structured.

Q8: Will multiple stable groups be able to use the same restroom? Can it be shared with the public?

A8: Yes, multiple groups or the public may use the restroom but only one group at a time. Staff need to make sure that the number of children entering and using the restroom is limited to allow them to maintain adequate physical distance while washing hands. Bathrooms should be sanitized in between use by different groups of children.

Q9: Can two stable groups share one bathroom? If so, how often do the bathrooms need to be cleaned?

A9: Yes, but only one stable group of children should use bathrooms at a time. Bathrooms should be sanitized in between uses for different groups.

Q10: What is recommended for cleaning floors? Clean and disinfect daily? Should kids take off outside shoes and put on indoor shoes at camp?

A10: Floors should be cleaned as usual for proper hygiene. Taking shoes off before going indoors is a good practice that cuts down on bringing in dust and other agents such as pollen and lead. However, shoes are not a known way that COVID-19 is spread. The camp managers do not have to take any special precautions for this.

Floors can be cleaned at the regular pre-COVID-19 schedule. However, we recommend frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces based on frequent use. These include desks, tables, chairs, toys, shared equipment, door handles/knobs, kitchen and bathroom faucet handles, etc. Camp managers may choose to clean more than once daily based on need.

A disinfectant from the [list approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) should be used for cleaning floors and surfaces.

Q11: If we can't find hand sanitizer, it will be difficult to open if we can't provide this to our campers and staff. What are the suggestions for sourcing hand sanitizer?

A11: At this time, there are no procurement sources for hand sanitizer specific to summer camps that the state is aware of. You can review the [Oregon Supply Connector site](#) for additional information.

Q12: What are the specific regulations for 15-passenger vans? Can a "stable group of 10" be a different group of 10 every day of the week (keeping the 3-foot spacing in the vans)?

A12: No. Stable groups require that the same children remain together each day. Neither campers nor staff should travel with others outside their stable group. If a cohort of 10 children travel together on Monday, they should only travel with each other throughout the remainder of that program week. Camp staff should document who is in the stable group(s) (youth, staff, driver), along with the date and time of the trip and the vehicle number/license.

Drivers can transport multiple stable groups if wearing a mask and sanitizing hands before and after each driving each stable group. Vehicles should be cleaned between each group of students and staff following [transportation guidelines](#).

Q13: Can we require that parents/guardians who have a child in a high-risk category consult with their child's doctor to determine if it's safe for their child to participate in camp?

A13: It is up to the program to determine its requirements for registering for a camp, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and any other applicable state law(s).

Types of Programs

Q1: Does the guidance apply to Vacation Bible School (VBS), youth group nights/events and mission trips?

A1: Yes. VBS should follow the [OHA guidance for School Aged Summertime Day Camps](#). Following [OHA guidance](#), overnight camps are not permitted to open or operate in Phase 1 counties but can operate in Phase 2 counties following the [Phase 2 outdoor recreation guidance](#).

Q2. What is a Recorded Program?

A2: There are two types of recorded programs.

1. Preschool Recorded Programs, which serve children 36 months to 5 years of age, are primarily educational and no child is in the facility more than four (4) hours per day.
2. School-age Recorded Programs serve children from 1st grade to 13 years of age, provide youth development activities that are extracurricular in nature and do not take the place of parental care.

For more information or to determine whether your program should be Recorded, contact the Office of Child Care at 1-800-556-6616 or email childcare.emp@state.or.us

Q3: Recorded School Age Programs have to apply as Emergency Childcare and comply with the child care guidance. What flexibility do these programs have to follow the summer camp guidance, given that the summer camp guidance seems clearer and stronger?

A3: Recorded Programs were allowed to apply and be approved to operate Emergency Child Care programs. The summer camp and child care guidelines (and supplemental guidance documents for Emergency Child Care) are aligned and do not represent contradictory standards for school-age care. Programs required to register as an Emergency Child Care provider should be familiar with the guidance provided by Early Learning Division to support program operation.

Day camps are distinct from child care; however, if a group is operating as an Emergency Child Care Facility, they must follow the [child care guidance and requirements](#).

Q4: If we are recorded with the state as an after-school program, must we apply to become an Emergency Child Care (ECC) in order to run a summer camp?

A4: If you normally operate as a recorded program year round then you are required to demonstrate community need and register as an ECC, per the Temporary Changes to Child Care Rules memo issued April 24, 2020 [linked here](#).

Q5: Is the Summer Camp Guidance applicable to short duration instructional and enrichment classes that are not really serving as care? Or are they intended to be used solely for half day and full day types camps. For example, a one-hour art class, martial arts call, music class (of course assuming stable group of 10 or less, physical distancing and other conditions are met).

A5: Shorter instructional and enrichment classes should follow the guidelines for [School Aged Summertime Day Camps](#).

Sports & Classes

Q1: How can sports teams use “shared” equipment?

A1: A stable group of up to 10 children (one cohort) can share equipment among that stable group (i.e. 5-on-5 basketball). They cannot share equipment with another stable group of children and equipment must be sanitized between practices or uses.

Q2: Can play equipment like balls, rackets, ropes, etc. be shared within a stable cohort without being sanitized in between uses? What can we use as a child-safe sanitizing solution for equipment that is shared between cohorts (or between students in the same cohort?).

A2: Following [OHA guidance](#), if at all possible, designate equipment (e.g., art supplies, musical instruments balls, mitts, etc.) solely for the use by a single cohort and sanitize between practices or uses. If equipment must be shared between cohorts, it must be

sanitized before and after each use by a stable cohort. A disinfectant from the [list approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) should be used for cleaning equipment that is shared between cohorts/students.

Q3: Will youth sports camps, youth programs, swim lessons and gymnastics classes, have the same guidelines as school-aged summertime day camps?

A3: Youth sport camps, youth programs, swim lessons and gymnastics classes should follow the [Guidance for School Aged Summertime Day Camps](#), regardless of camp setting.

Q4: Do outdoor cohorts have to have access to their own bathrooms for the week, i.e. renting portable toilets?

A4: Multiple cohorts can use a shared bathroom, but only one stable group/cohort of children should use bathrooms at one time. Bathrooms should be sanitized in between uses for different cohorts of children.

Q5: At a Parks and Recreation park where handwashing is limited, do campers still need to wash hands over hand sanitizing?

A5: Yes. Following [OHA guidance](#), camps must provide handwashing and facilities, tissues, and garbage receptacles that are easily accessible to both children and staff.

Defining Terms

Q1: Can you explain the difference between cohorts and stable groups? Are these referring to the same thing?

A1: Yes, a stable group of 10 children is also considered a cohort of 10 children.

Q2: Does the stable group of 10 supersede the cap of 25? In other words, would it ever be okay for a camp to have 26 people doing the same activity in the same space assuming there is sufficient square footage?

A2: As long as there is sufficient space meeting the square footage minimums and stable groups are not eating, using restrooms, or involved in other activities at the same time as other stable groups, a camp could have multiple stable groups adding up to 26 people or more. However, activities must happen within stable groups and stable groups may not mix with each other. Thus, the distance between groups must be sufficient to prevent mixing.

Q3: How do we group/address the children of essential care providers?

A3: There is no requirement that summer camps prioritize the children of essential workers. These children should not be treated or grouped differently than any other children in the camp.

Q4: Please explain "stable groups of 10" and if the group can add a child if the group drops below 10. If so, when and how often?

A4: A stable group of 10 children means the same 10 children must remain in a group every day of the camp. The same staff should remain with the same group of 10 children to the extent possible. The stable group may change at the start of each new program week (Monday, if assuming a Monday-Friday operation). Children may not be added to a group if a child is out sick or misses camp for a few days. Stable group limits of 10 will not increase as counties move into different phases.

Q5: If a student misses a day of camp due to non-illness and returns the following day, are they still considered a part of the stable group?

A5: Yes, but that child must return to the stable group they were originally part of. No child, including a sibling of a child in the group, may replace that missing child once they are gone (i.e. the stable group may only have nine (9) children one day).

Q6: To clarify, does "a space may hold a maximum of two (2) cohorts per day" (see physical distancing section) apply to just half-day camps, or to all day camp programs?

A6: This provision is for half-day camps. Multiple groups may use shared spaces (i.e. restrooms) if they are cleaned between groups.

Q7: The word "should" is used in the guidance a lot. Does should mean "must" or "may"?

A7: Should means it is recommended but not required. Must means it is a requirement that has to be followed. Camps are allowed to institute more restrictive policies than this guidance recommends.

Q8: Should youth dance classes follow school-aged summertime day camps?

A8: Youth dance classes and other youth sports classes that take place in a fitness-related organization within an approved Phase 1 county must follow the [guidance for school aged summertime day camps](#). For youth dance classes and other youth sports classes that take place in a Phase 2 county, they must follow the [Phase 2 recreational sports guidance](#).

Q9: Would a program be compliant with the "stable cohort" requirement if a sibling replaced a child in extended care?

A9: No. The program would not be compliant with the stable cohort requirement in this case. Introducing one sibling to another sibling's cohort introduces new risk into the cohort even though both siblings live in the same household.

Q10: Is there any guidance or a state-approved template for a COVID-19 release form for day camps?

A10: There is no official guidance or state-approved template for a COVID-19 release form for day camps.

Q11: What does “exposed to COVID-19 in the preceding 14 days” mean for camp decisions on when to exclude campers from participation? Are children of healthcare workers automatically excluded?

A11: Children of healthcare workers don’t need to be routinely excluded from childcare or summer camp. If you are exposed to someone who is exposed (such as a child with a parent who is a healthcare worker), you do not need to be in quarantine unless the person who is exposed (the healthcare worker parent) develops symptoms. At that point, the parent becomes a case and the child becomes an exposed contact, who then should be placed in home quarantine for 14 days.

Other

Q1: If the counselor of the stable group is also the driver, does the driver have to be six (6) feet away from the campers?

A1: No. Camper and staff spacing in vehicles must allow three (3) feet of physical distance between people.

Q2: What legal responsibility does the organization (school program being non-profit, for-profit, state) have if my child gets infected from the school? How transparent will that information be since we are talking about children’s personal health record?

A2: The state cannot answer these questions. You should work with your organization to understand their policies regarding information sharing.

Q3: Where can we contribute questions about guidance?

A3: All questions about the reopening can be sent to covid19.reopening@state.or.us. Questions will be reviewed and considered when developing and updating reopening guidance FAQs.

Q4: Please clarify guidelines/rules to transport youth.

A4: Neither campers nor staff should travel with others outside their stable group. Camp staff should document the name of the stable group(s) and staff including the driver, along with the date and time of the trip and the vehicle number/license. Drivers can transport multiple stable groups if wearing a mask and sanitizing hands before and after driving each stable group. Vehicles must be cleaned between each group of students and staff following [transportation guidelines](#). Camper and staff spacing in vehicles must allow three (3) feet of physical distance between people.

Q5: What kind of face coverings should be used by students and staff for day camps? Should we have face shields for instructors?

A5: Students and staff must follow the [School Aged Summertime Day Camp Guidance](#) for use of face coverings, masks and face shields. General information

about types of face coverings are in [OHA's Face Covering Facts](#). Per OHA guidance, children over the age of 2 years may wear face masks if under close adult supervision. Children of any age should not wear a face covering:

- If they have a medical condition that makes it difficult for them to breathe with a face covering;
- If they have a disability that prevents them from wearing a face covering;
- If they are unable to remove the face covering independently; or
- While sleeping.

Face coverings cannot be required for use by children and should never prohibit or prevent access to instruction or activities.

Q6: Are summer camps required to follow the [Statewide Mask, Face Shield, Face Covering Guidance](#)?

A8: No. Summer camps are required to follow the [Summer Camp guidance](#) which includes mask and face covering requirements for campers and staff. Kids under 12 are not required to wear masks at all, whether in public or camp. Kids cannot be prevented from participating in camp activities if they are not wearing a face covering.

Q7: Transportation to and from camps – do they need to follow transit guidance or transportation guidance by camp staff?

A7: If the transportation is provided by the camp the guidance for [School Aged Summertime Day Camps](#) must be followed.

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact Mavel Morales at 1-844-882-7889, 711 TTY or OHA.ADAModifications@dhsoha.state.or.us.