Seasonal Camps and Early Childhood/Out of School

When do summer camps typically open for registration?

As a general rule, registration opens for camps in February. Be sure to check our website often, beginning in early February for more info about when info will be posted and registration will open.

Is there a scholarship program for camps?

We do not offer scholarships for camp, but we offer a reduced rate for DC families who qualify. You'll need to provide proof of residency and proof of income, along with our reduced rate application. This application will be available on January 20, 2020.

Can I come to the office to register for camp?

All camp registration is done online. However, if you come to our offices, our friendly staff will walk you through the registration process.

If I attended camp last year, can I get the same location again?

All registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. You're certainly welcome to attempt registration for a location you enjoyed. Because it opens to everyone around the city at the same time, there is never any guarantee of getting the same location.

Why are camps broken up into sessions?

Families have a better chance of getting the camp package that fits their needs when we break up into sessions.

I've been added to the waitlist. What are my next steps?

If you've been added to the wait list, you will be contacted via email and phone call once a space becomes available. You'll have 24 hours to respond and pay and the slot is yours! You're welcome to call the office for updates if you're interested in how the wait list is moving.

I've decided to do something else for the summer? I've already submitted a refund request form. Can my neighbor have the slot I'm releasing?

No…All released camp slots go back into the general bucket and persons on the wait list are contacted to see if they are interested in that slot.

Early Childhood (EC) Programs FAQs

At what age do your EC programs start?

We have a program called Cooperative Play (Co-Op) that starts at 18 months.

I notice that when I send my 3 year old to camp, you have a strict rule of them being potty trained. Will this apply if I enroll them in Co-Op?

This rule doesn't apply to Co-Op, as there are multiple staff (Facilitator and Duty Parents) who can provide additional help to your child that isn't potty trained.

What other programs are offered under EC?

Other programs offered are: Tiny Tots Need Recreation, Too; Story Hour; and Wee Play.

Why aren't EC programs offered in all sites across the city?

There are several factors that go into where we place program. Some of the biggest determining factors are community desire (determined from assessments), historical data, retention and sustainability.

Are your EC program facilitators EC development professionals?

Yes, and they all have varying levels of expertise. One amazing thing about staff is that they network, furthering their knowledge base.

Out-Of-School-Time (OSTP) Programs FAQs

What are the program offerings currently in your inventory for OSTP?

Afternoon Access, Enrichment Zone, Fun Day, Winter Wondercamp, Mid-Winter Camp, Spring Break Camp

How is it that my 6-y.o. and my 10-y.o. can coexist in a program? They're so different!

We absolutely recognize the developmental differences in these two ages. Typically, upon arrival at an OSTP program, our staff do a great job of aligning similarly-aged participants. They also align those with similar interests and challenges.

Is there a cost to these programs?

The Break Camps have a nominal fee associated. All others are free to DC residents.

Similar to your summer camps, are there field trips with the Break Camps?

Occasionally there may be a field trip. There are also camp enhancements for the participants to enjoy.

I have multiple children…do you have a sibling preference option?

We do not currently have that in place; our office will look at this on a case-by-case basis.