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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear

Q: What are the dates for camp?

A: There are two sessions – Week 1 runs from Sunday, July 13–Saturday, July 19. Week 2 runs from Sunday, July 20 – Saturday, July 26.

Q: How do I register for camp?

A: Registration is available online. Registration opens on Monday, February 10 at 8am at www.ymcasm.org.

Q: Which camp option should I register my kid(s) for?

A: When selecting a grade group, kids should be registered for the grade they will be starting in the Fall (August 2025).

Q: Will my child be able to spend time with kids of a different age group (ex. 5th and 6th graders)?

A: Yes! The division in ages is specifically designed to allow kids of each group a fair opportunity to attend. Campers will be able to see and spend time with other campers throughout the day.

Q: Can I request my child be bunked with their friend?

A: Cabin buddies must be the same grade or within one grade difference to be considered. We will do our best to accommodate everyone's request. However, we cannot guarantee we will be able to fill all requests. For registration, and if selecting multiple bunkmates, ensure that each child requests another so that we can try to keep everyone together.

Q: When will I know if my bunkmate request was accepted?

A: Bunk assignments will begin in mid-March, after most registrations come in.

Q: If I leave my \$100 deposit, when is the remainder of the balance due?

A: Balances are due Monday, June 30.

Q: Will I be required to fill in Medical History information at registration?

A: No. Once registered, parents/guardians will receive an email from CampDocs so that you can provide us with important information about your child's history, medical information and needs.

Q: My child is turning 18 before camp starts. Can they still attend?

A: No. Summer Camp at Big Bear is limited to campers 17 and under. At 18, we encourage your teen to continue participating and sharing their love for Big Bear with others as Camp Counselors. More information will be available soon.

Q: I made it on the waitlist. How does this work?

A: Don't get discouraged! The waitlist secures your spot when a currently registered camper cancels their registration. Historically, we see movement from the waitlist in late June/early July. If a spot becomes available, you will be notified via email/phone to provide you with the opportunity to claim your spot.

For information about drop-off day, medication, recommendations on what to pack, and policies regarding cancellation, behavior, cell phones, etc., please review the Parent Handbook located on the Camp Big Bear page of the website (www.ymcasm.org).

Parent Information Meetings will be held in-person on Friday, June 27 from 6:30–7:30pm and virtually on Saturday, June 28 at 10am to answer any additional questions you may have. First-time camp families are strongly recommended to attend.