



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Keep kids exploring, learning and making lifelong memories

Following Expert Guidelines and Local Health and Safety Requirements Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear to Open Summer 2021

Santa Monica Family YMCA's Camp Big Bear Resident Camp Programs will be opening for the season beginning July 10, 2021. Campers and parents can expect to see numerous changes in order to comply with national, state and local guidelines and recommendations, but the benefits of camp remain constant.

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore, and this is especially true this summer, following several months of stay-at-home orders. The social, emotional and physical benefits camp provides are going to be more beneficial in 2021 than ever before, and we're thrilled to be able to open and to help youth and teens build lifelong connections and confidence.

In order to help keep campers and staff healthy and safe all summer long, Santa Monica Family YMCA has adopted several changes to our operations including:

- Mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for Staff and Volunteers
- COVID-19 vaccinations are highly recommended for campers and CIT's 16 years and older
- All campers who are not vaccinated will need to have a negative COVID-19 test done a week prior to camp arrival.
- Upon arrival health screenings will be performed for campers and staff.
- Staff and campers will be assigned housing cohorts that will remain together for the entire camp week without mixing with others.
- Daily health screenings
- 50% reduced capacity in cabins and dorms
- Staggered mealtimes to reduce capacity
- Staggered seating at campfire to reduce co-mingling of cohorts
- Physical distancing, mask use and healthy hygiene will be enforced when in close contact with other housing units.

Safety has always been our top priority at Camp Big Bear and while COVID-19 is unlike any other challenge we've faced, we're confident that by following guidelines set forth by YMCA of the USA, American Camp Association, CDC and state and local authorities, we will be able to provide kids with a safe, beneficial and memorable experience like no other.

For additional information, including registration, please contact Erika Altshule, Youth and Family Program Director at erika@ymcasm.org