

Dreams in Motion Summer Camp 2019



ADMISSION CRITERIA AND POLICIES

- 1) Campers must have an autism diagnosis.
- 2) Campers must be at least 13 (thirteen) and not older than 21 (twenty-one) for Group 1 and 2 or must be at least 7 (seven) and not older than 12 (twelve) for the younger Group 3, 4 and 5.
- 3) Campers must be exempt from the any of the following health care needs that our staff are not equipped to handle:
 - a) serious or contagious disease
 - b) diabetes management for unstable, brittle diabetics requiring insulin and glucose checks several times a day
 - c) campers requiring frequent wound management
 - d) drug holidays for campers with severe behavioral problems
 - e) campers with a feeding tube or tracheotomy tube

Camper's behaviors must be manageable within the scope of Dreams in Motion policy and procedures and the supervision the camp is able to provide. Please see Behavior Plan section of this document for more detailed information.

ADMISSION POLICY

It is the policy of Dreams in Motion to give equal consideration to all applicants for the summer camp program. However, selection priority will be given to current and active FEAT members. Active is defined as family involvement of time, talent and treasure, with time and talent given first preference. For more information about joining FEAT of Louisville, Families for Effective Autism Treatment, please go to www.featoflouisville.org.

Decisions regarding eligibility will be made by the Camp Director in consultation with others at Dreams With Wings, Inc.

FINANCIAL AID

Scholarship assistance is available to those who need financial aid. FEAT will help provide funding assistance to those families most in need that submit the documentation requested. Please contact Dreams with Wings to apply for scholarship assistance.

**If a family receives scholarship assistance, they will be asked to write a letter describing the camper's experience in the summer program.*

APPLICATION FEE, TUITION, & MICHELLE P. WAIVER

Every camper who is accepted into the program is required to pay a non-refundable application fee of \$180.00, including those campers who have the Michelle P. Waiver. Please include this when you send in your application.

Checks will not be cashed unless accepted into the program. Each camper will also be required to pay the weekly tuition payment of \$250.00 in order to attend summer camp. This fee reflects less than 1/3 of the total cost per camper.

Dreams With Wings is a Michelle P. Waiver provider. If your son/daughter has the Michelle P. Waiver, Respite funds may be utilized to pay for Camp Tuition. Please notify your Case Manager as soon as possible so that proper documentation can be put into place prior to the start of camp. Also forward your Case Manager's information to the Camp Director. Dreams With Wings must receive PA's (prior authorization) for respite by **Friday, May 10th, 2019**. If this is not done in advance, regular camp payments will be required.

BEHAVIOR & BEHAVIOR PLANS

The safety of all campers is a top priority of the Dreams in Motion Camp. While it is our sincere goal to serve this population of the autism community, we must be able to do so in a safe manner. Campers who exhibit challenging behavior will be addressed immediately by camp counselors and Head Counselor. If the behavior is judged too potentially harmful to the individual or others, the parents/guardians will be notified immediately to pick up their child. Campers who exhibit repeated inappropriate behavior or are harmful to self and others will be required to have a parent conference to discuss their further participation in the camp program. Please be very specific on the application regarding any behaviors your camper may exhibit.

For those campers requiring any specialized behavioral intervention (as outlined in their current behavior plan) or special health care need, notification on the application is required and prior arrangements with the Camp Director must be made. If your camper has a behavior plan, please attach a copy of the plan to your application form; along with the form please provide the information of your camper's behaviorist. It's highly encouraged for behaviorists to also meet with your campers counselors in the beginning of camp.

A panel of autism professionals will review behavior plans that contain measures that are not consistent with our policies and procedures. Based on recommendations from that review, we reserve the right to deny admission to the summer camp program based upon the amount of supervision and behavior intervention that the camp is able to provide. While our goal is to serve campers who may otherwise be unable to participate in a summer program, we must be able to safely serve them and others while at camp.

UNPLANNED ABSENCES & ILLNESS:

If a camper is ill or unable to attend camp, please notify the head counselors and/or Camp Director as soon as possible. Contact phone numbers will be distributed to parents and guardians at orientation. We are not able to provide tuition reimbursement for unplanned absences or illness (exceptions will be made for extended illnesses and hospitalizations).

If your child becomes ill while at camp, you will be notified immediately to pick up your child. You are expected to arrive in a timely manner once notified. We are very active in the community so you may be expected to meet us out at the designated place that day if we are unable to return the camp site due to the activity.

PLANNED ABSENCES & VACATIONS:

We are aware that our program takes place during summer break, and that families will likely be taking vacations during this time. We are happy to accommodate these and any other planned absences to the best of our ability. Campers will be required to submit payment for the full eight weeks when signing up for camp. However, if we are notified of vacations in advance, we will do everything we can to find a "fill-in" camper for the week(s) that your camper will be absent from camp. If we are able to do so, you will not be charged a fee for that week. However, if we are unable to do so, payment will still be required. During last year's camp we did have success with placing "fill-in" campers with families who notified us in advance of vacations. ***We must receive notification of any planned absences and/or vacations by Friday, May 10th, 2019***. If proper notification is not received by this date, absences that occur during the duration of the camp will be considered unplanned, and regular weekly tuition payments will be required.

EARLY PICKUP AND TARDINESS:

If a camper needs to be picked up early due to medical appointments, etc., please make arrangements with the head counselor at least one day in advance.

Please make every effort to be on time for the start of camp. Structured activities, both on-site and off-site, begin as early as 9:00am. Campers should arrive for camp no later than 8:45am. In the event of a field trip or a scheduled activity with an instructor, the group will leave at the scheduled time. If possible, efforts will be made to allow a tardy camper to join the group at the field trip site. Campers should be picked up between 3:30 and 4:00pm. If later pick-up is necessary, please make arrangements with the Camp Director. There will be a fee for those who drop-off and pick-up late if there was no prior communication to the counselor that your camper may be late or you will be late to pick up.

LUNCH, SNACKS AND DRINKS

Campers are expected to bring a lunch, snack and an ample supply of water or appropriate drinks for the day.

Due to the fact that we are out in the community during lunchtime most days, refrigerators are not typically available. Any food items that need to be kept cold should be packed in an insulated lunch box with an ice pack. Please clearly mark your camper's lunch and containers with his/her name.

Severe Weather Plans

Many of our programs occur outdoors in the summer months. We continuously monitor the weather and on days when heat advisory alerts are issued we will restructure our schedule for activities to be inside during those times. The Camp Director will notify the Head Counselor of any heat advisory alerts issued. **Please provide proper swimwear for your camper. Some waterparks do not allow t-shirts to be worn in the pool, so please provide a swim shirt if your camper needs one.**

Emergency Evacuations will be posted onsite directing counselors and campers where to go during a Fire and Tornado emergency. Tornado and Fire Drills will be conducted once a month. If an emergency occurs while offsite, staff will look for the safest area for everyone to gather and notify the Camp Director immediately.

Counselors will receive training on our severe weather policy in orientation. As part of our DDID Training Modules, counselors also receive certification on CPR and First Aid.

Family Member/Guardian or the primary caregiver is required to attend the Camp Orientation. If you fail to attend the orientation you must meet with the Camp Director and Head Counselor prior to your son or daughter attending camp. Important information regarding camp is shared that evening with family members. It is also an opportunity for families to meet the counselors and share important information with them regarding their camper.

Activities Calendar

The calendar lists the two scheduled activities for the day. Each day other activities occur throughout the day with morning circle, social games, reading, outdoor games, and trips to the park, movies, etc. Please be aware that your camper will be involved in these other activities throughout the day. Any changes or cancellations to the scheduled calendar the Head Counselor will notify you of changes on the End of the Day Sheets and will also post a change of plans next to the sign in sheet. Most days we will not return to camp before 3:00 pm. Camp ends at 4:00 each day if you need to pick up your camper earlier than 3:30, please let the head counselor know at least one day in advance.

Please be aware that activities are subject to change due to weather, cancellation, and activities are shorter than planned. There will be no reimbursements for activities that are canceled because other activities are added to the calendar and if possible the activity is rescheduled for a later date.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Devon Wasser with any questions or concerns:

(502) 459-4647 or dwasser@dreamswithwings.org

*Families will be asked to complete a survey at the end of the camp. Surveys will be available online as well as in paper form. We ask that surveys be completed in order to be eligible for camp the following year.