



Achieving Dreams Summer Camp 2025

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND POLICIES

- 1) Campers must have a diagnosis of IDD/Down Syndrome.
- 2) Campers must be at least thirteen (13) to attend and not older than twenty-one (21) on the first day of camp.
- 3) Campers must be exempt from the any of the following health care needs that our staff is 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
- 4) Camper’s behaviors must be manageable within the scope of Achieving Dreams policy, procedures, and the supervision our camp is able to provide. Current and up-to-date Behavior plans must be submitted with camp applications. Please see the “Behavior & Behavior Plan” section of this document for more detailed information.

ADMISSION POLICY

It is the policy of Achieving Dreams to give equal consideration to all applicants for the summer camp program. Decisions regarding eligibility will be made by the Camp Director in consultation with others at Dreams With Wings, Inc. Placement for new campers accepted will be determined based on information provided in application and space available.

ATTENDANCE OPTIONS

Summer camp is a 7-week commitment. We staff, rent space, and rent transportation to accommodate the full capacity of our campers who apply and are accepted. Each camper spot is filled for all 7 weeks. There are no fill-in spots available.

Full-Time is defined as attending 4 or 5 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp

Part-Time is defined as attending 2 or 3 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp

We do not offer a 1 day a week option.

APPLICATION FEE

Every camper who is accepted into the program is required to pay a non-refundable application fee of \$215 using cash, check, PayPal, or Credit/Debit Card. This is for all campers, both Private Pay and those campers who have the Michelle P. Waiver. The Michelle P Waiver cannot be used to pay this fee. It must be paid using private funds. This fee will be collected only after a camper has been accepted. Please do **NOT** send any payments until requested by Dreams With Wings as a condition of acceptance.

PRIVATE PAY

Private Pay is defined as using non-Michelle P Waiver Respite funds. If paying privately, each camper is required to pay the following weekly tuition rates dependent upon the selected and accepted attendance option:

Part-Time (PT)-Weekly Rates

2 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp - \$240

3 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp - \$270

Full-Time (FT)-Weekly Rates

4 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp - \$320

5 days a week for the entire 7 weeks of camp - \$400

This fee reflects less than 1/2 of the total cost per camper.

Once agreeing to a FT or PT enrollment, the weekly tuition rate are due without exception as described below. If the payment is not received based upon the schedule below, the camper will not be able to attend until payment is made. There are no exceptions to this policy

A Credit or Debit Card is required to be on file to make this weekly payment.

If another method is used (e.g. check), this payment is due every Monday by 9A EST or the first day attended each week.

Credit/Debit cards will be run by every Monday by 9A EST beginning on the second Monday, 6/16/25.

Weekly tuition rates are paid in arrears. This includes payment for unplanned absences where the full weekly tuition rate will be charged.

MICHELLE P WAIVER RESPITE

Dreams With Wings is a Michelle P. Waiver provider. If your camper has the Michelle P. Waiver, Respite funds may be used 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 and forward your Case Manager's information to the Camp Director. **If this is not done in advance, Private Pay tuition rates may apply and may be charged. If your camper uses all of her/his Respite Units before the end of camp, their tuition will be converted to the Private Pay weekly tuition rates.**

UNPLANNED ABSENCES & ILLNESS

If a camper is ill or unable to attend camp, please notify the Head Counselor and her/his Group Lead as soon as possible.

Contact phone numbers will be distributed to parents and guardians at the pre-camp orientation meeting. We are not able to provide or approve weekly tuition rate reimbursement for unplanned absences or illness (exceptions will be made for extended illnesses and hospitalizations).

If your camper becomes ill while at camp, you will be notified immediately to pick her/him up. You are expected to arrive in a timely manner once notified. We will use the preferred phone number you have provided on the application to contact you. If there are alternative numbers, please provide those to us at the beginning of camp. Our schedule is planned to accommodate transition time between activities from on-site to off-site, however, because we may have approximately 70 people (including campers and counselors) on the move each day, timely pick-up is necessary. In some instances, you may be expected to meet us out at the designated place that day if we are unable to wait for your arrival or return to the camp site due to the activity in which we are engaged.

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 expected to submit tuition payment weekly for the full seven weeks of camp.

We must receive notification of any planned absences and/or vacations by Friday, May 23rd 2025. 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 rates will be charged.

If we receive notice by or before Friday, May 23rd 2025, a 50% vacation tuition rate will be applied based upon your committed attendance option. This applies to both Private Pay and Michelle P Respite Waiver campers. This payment offsets the administrative and logistical costs of camp based upon committed enrolled camper capacity.

FINANCIAL AID

Scholarship assistance is available to those who need financial aid. Down Syndrome of Louisville 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.

EARLY PICK-UP/DROP-OFF AND TARDINESS

If a camper needs to be picked up early due to medical appointments, etc., please make arrangements with the Head Counselor and Group Lead 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 so they can start the day with their peers and keep the camp schedule on track. In the event of a field trip, 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.

Drop off begins at 8:00A and pick-up begins at 3P. We offer a early drop off beginning at 7:30 AM and late pick-up at 4:30 option for a daily \$5 fee for an early drop off (between 7:30-8:00A) and/or pick up (between 4:00-4:30P). This fee is due at the point of early drop off and/or late pick-up. Pre-payment can also be made in advance for the entirety of camp by contacting the Camp Director to make this arrangement.

LUNCH, SNACKS AND DRINKS

Campers are expected to bring a lunch, snack and an ample supply of water or appropriate drinks for the day. Since we are out in the community during lunchtime most days, refrigerators are not 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 her/his name.

Dreams With Wings Camp staff is not responsible for any miscellaneous food or drink purchases on outings unless expressly noted in the schedule provided to all camp families.

BEHAVIOR & BEHAVIOR PLANS

The safety of all campers is a top priority for the Achieving Dreams Camp. Campers who exhibit challenging behavior will be addressed immediately by camp counselors and the Head Counselor. If the behavior is judged to be potentially harmful to the individual or others, 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 with Dreams With Wings Camp Admin Staff to discuss their further participation in the camp program. Please be very specific on the application regarding any behaviors your camper may exhibit.

Non-disclosure of and failure to provide current and up-to-date Behavior Plans with a submitted application or failure to disclose harmful or destructive behavior is grounds for dismissal from camp. Destruction of property by a camper and any resulting cost to repair/replace damaged property is the financial responsibility of the camper's parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Campers who exhibit repeated inappropriate behavior or are harmful to others will be required to have a parent conference with Dreams With Wings Camp Admin Staff to discuss their further participation in the camp program.

You must make prior arrangements with the Camp Director and indicate on the application that a camper requires any specialized behavioral intervention (as outlined in her/his current behavior plan) or special health care needs. If your camper has a behavior plan, submit a current and up-to-date copy of the plan with your camper's behaviorist's name and contact information along with your camp application. Dreams With Wings will work with behaviorists to meet with campers counselors prior to/or in the beginning of camp to provide behavior training.

A panel of 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 behavioral 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.

PRE-CAMP ORIENTATION MEETING

A Family Member/Guardian or the primary caregiver for each camper is required to attend the Pre-Camp Orientation. Each year's meeting has updates so attendance is mandatory to share information to all camp families. 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Summertime@dreamswithwings.org

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/Camp Staff of any heat advisory alerts issued that may change scheduled plans. We will also inform you using the Remind App notifications.

Please provide proper swim wear and sunscreen for your camper. Some water parks do not allow t-shirts to be worn in the pool, so please provide a swim shirt and sunscreen for your camper to avoid sunburn.

Emergency Evacuations will be posted on-site directing counselors and campers where to go during a fire, tornado, or any other type of emergency. Emergency Drills will be conducted once a month to practice where to go while on-site. If an emergency occurs while **off-site**, 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 and emergency preparedness policies in their training sessions. As part of our DDID Training Modules, counselors also receive certification on CPR and First Aid.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Our calendar lists the scheduled activities for the day.

Each day other activities also occur throughout the day with morning circle, social games, outdoor games, trips to the park, movies, etc. Please be aware that your camper will be involved in these other activities throughout camp.

Please be aware that activities are subject to change due to weather, cancellation, and when activities run 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 canceled activity will be rescheduled for a later date. The Head Counselor will notify you of changes or cancellations to the scheduled calendar through the Remind App, at the sign in/sign out table, or through email.

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 and Group Lead know at least one day in advance.

I have read and understand the Achieving Dreams Summer Camp Policy.

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Signature **Date**

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.