

Responsible RestartOhio

Residential Camps



Requirements

Residential camps must follow relevant mandates for social distancing, masking, congregating, and responding to confirmed cases of COVID-19 as outlined in the [Director's Second Amended Order for Social Distancing, Facial Coverings and Non-Congregating](#). Guidance on the order is available on the [Responsible Restart Ohio: Social Distancing, Masking, and Congregating](#) page at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Masks should never be worn while swimming because wet masks can cause difficulty breathing. They also should not be worn by anyone unable to remove the mask without assistance; if they pose a choking hazard; if they result in increased face touching; or during nap time.

NOTE: Employers and businesses will likely be unable to determine whether or not employees and customers/patrons have been vaccinated. As such, they may choose to continue to require masking, social distancing, and/or other mitigation measures among all employees and customers/patrons, both vaccinated and unvaccinated.

Recommendations

Below are additional recommended best practices for residential camps.

General

- Organize the camp into the smallest group sizes possible, made up of staff and campers from a single sleeping quarter. Small groups should remain together, including at mealtime and during activities. Large group activities should not occur.
- Reduce maximum group sizes and staff-to-camper ratios: one staff member per nine camper children, no more than nine children in the group.

Registration and Pre-Camp

- Ensure that registration documents contain language and guidelines related to preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- Identify campers at higher risk for complications related to COVID-19 and encourage them to take additional precautions during the camp.
- Ensure CPR and AED trainings are up to date and include guidance with COVID-19 precautions.
- Ask staff and campers to record their temperatures for 14 days before camp. If a staff member or camper has a fever of 100 degrees or higher or any other COVID-19 symptoms, they should not attend camp.

At Drop Off and Pick-Up

- Arrange a modified drop-off and pick-up process to ensure social distancing. Involve only one parent or guardian.
- Create curbside check-in and check-out if possible, or stagger drop-off and pick-up times to reduce contact between families.
- Spread out registration or camp check-in areas should be to ensure safe social distancing.
- Designate staff members to walk each camper separately to designated room locations.
- Do not allow parents in the dorm.

Guidance for Sleeping Arrangements

- Limit the number of campers in sleeping areas to 10.
- Use physical barriers to break up larger buildings.
- Consider head-to-toe sleeping, especially on bunk beds.
- Ensure 6 feet between beds, if possible.
- Ensure campers provide all bedding, needed clothing, personal hygiene items, and any other items specified by camp coordinator. These items should be stored with the camper's personal belongings and should not be shared among campers.
- Clean and sanitize sleeping quarters once per day. Beds and mattresses should be cleaned once per week, or immediately upon a change in occupancy.
- Do not allow staff and campers to rotate among sleeping quarters. Staff and campers should limit interactions to those from the same sleeping quarters.

Operating Guidance

- If necessary, use temporary sinks to meet handwashing requirements. If a sink with soap and water is not available, provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Supervise campers to ensure safety and compliance.
 - Incorporate hand-washing:
 - Upon arrival for the day, after breaks, and upon returning from outside.
 - After using the restroom.
 - After contact with any bodily fluids or cleaning up spills/objects contaminated with body fluids.
 - After cleaning, sanitizing, or using any chemical products.
 - After handling pets, pet cages, pet objects, animals, fishing, or other related activities involving animals.
 - Before eating, serving, or preparing food.
 - Before and after administering medication.
 - When hands are visibly soiled.
 - Prior to departure.
 - Minimize time standing in lines and take steps to ensure that 6 feet of distance between the campers is maintained.
 - Stagger meals to hold them in isolated areas, such as cabins. Also, or alternatively, place barriers between groups in the dining area.
 - Use gloves to serve meals.
 - Plan activities that do not require close physical contact among multiple campers. If using tables, increase the distance between campers.
 - Limit the sharing of equipment and supplies between groups.
 - Clean and disinfect equipment between uses. Eliminate any activities that include equipment that is difficult to clean.
 - Follow all appropriate guidance for use of equipment and consult with manufacturer's guidelines for cleaning specialized equipment.
 - Cancel field trips off camp property.
 - Stagger employee break times throughout the day to limit the number of employees congregating in break areas or common areas and to accommodate cleaning procedures.
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Physical Environment

- Conduct rigorous cleaning throughout the day of all facilities used by campers and staff including bathrooms, common program spaces, offices, etc.
- Consider using temporary wall dividers to divide rooms into smaller spaces to serve multiple groups.
 - The smaller space should contain at least 35 square feet of space per camper.
 - The divider should be at least 6 feet in height and made from nonporous material or other material that can be sanitized
 - The divider should meet any requirements set by the Ohio Department of Commerce, local building department, state fire marshal, or local fire safety inspector.
- For indoor spaces, incorporate as much outdoor air as possible using open windows and fans. Mark off or tape a 6-foot barrier around the fan to keep the campers away.
- Stagger the use of any communal spaces, such as playgrounds, lunchrooms, bathrooms, and shower facilities.
- Maintain public restrooms and shower facilities as appropriate:
 - Ensure there are functional toilets.
 - Clean and sanitize public areas and restrooms in the morning and evening, with increased instances of cleaning and sanitation during peak usage times.
 - Use using EPA-registered disinfectants for cleaning, particularly on high- touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches.
 - Make sure supplies for handwashing, including soap and materials for drying hands, are fully stocked every time the bathroom is cleaned.
 - Restrooms and shower facilities should limit the number of users at any one time based on the facility size and social distancing guidelines.
- Shut down for deep sanitation any areas used by anyone confirmed to have COVID-19, if possible.
- In case of weather emergencies, move campers and staff to a secure area maintaining safe social distances when possible.