

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES

Who are Wisconsin UMC Special Needs Campers?

Most of our campers are adults with mild to moderate developmental disabilities. Campers must exhibit good social behavior, have no major medical concerns, be at least 18 years old, and display appropriate behavior toward property, themselves and others. Staff to camper ratio is 1:3. If a camper requires more assistance or supervision a companion may be needed to accompany the camper (see “specialized”/wheelchair section).

Campers with “specialized” needs or those using Wheelchairs:

Some of our Camps can accommodate 1 or 2 wheelchair campers or those with highly specialized needs during most weeks. It is our experience that nearly all campers in wheelchairs require specific or specialized care. We require that wheelchair bound campers (or those requiring 1:1 care) bring their own (1:1) personal aid with them to camp. To help make this policy more affordable, the personal caregiver will come to camp at ½ the cost, meaning the camper will pay the regular rate and their aid will be charged an additional 50% of that rate. Their caregiver must be 18 or older and be someone who is familiar with the camper and can properly meet the needs of that camper. For those in wheelchairs, the person must be both physically capable of and trained in the techniques of transferring and lifting.

OUR FACILITIES ARE SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS.

ALCOHOL POLICY

The consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited.

PROPERTY DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION

Participants who, intentionally or unintentionally damage or destroy property not belonging to themselves, are financially responsible for repair or replacement of damaged or destroyed property. UMC staff and volunteers accept no financial responsibility for damaged or destroyed property.

MEDICATION DISPENSING

Medications are dispensed by the camp health care coordinator. Camp staff are not licensed to give injections. It is strongly urged that all medication routines or changes be well established 2 or more weeks before camper attends camp.

MEALS AND LODGING

Three meals are provided each day and a snack in the evening. These meals are part of the planned summer camp menu. Meals are shared in the dining hall by all groups visiting camp in any given week. The menu cannot be modified for individuals though we strive to provide a balanced and healthy selection of foods for campers of a variety of ages and needs.

If the camper has special dietary needs, you may request a copy of the menu for the week the camper will be at camp. Please keep in mind that our menu is subject to deliveries and occasional variation depending on local food deliveries, and shortages. Camp staff and volunteers are responsible for the needs of a group of campers at all times and cannot prepare additional meal supplements. You are welcome to send supplemental foods for your camper. These must be foods that can be heated/prepared by the camper or an Aid you send with the camper. A microwave and refrigerator will be available for these items. Food items must be clearly labeled with the camper's name.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All information provided to Camp must be complete and accurate to the best knowledge of the person completing the camper's application. Failure to provide accurate or complete information may result in immediate dismissal from any program. Parent, guardian, care staff, and/or person completing the application must provide immediate transportation home for the participant from any location should inaccurate and/or false information result in unknown safety (whether caused by behavioral, medical or ambulatory factors) for the camper, staff persons, other participants or persons in the community unless other arrangements are made with camp. No refund is available to the participant or their agent if the above is the case.

If known health and/or known behavioral concerns result in safety concerns for the participant, staff, other campers or persons in the community, the parent, guardian, care staff and/or person completing the application in cooperation with camp will provide/arrange to provide, transportation home for the participant. In this case partial refunds or credits to account may be available.

Consent and waiver signatures must be those of the legal guardian. The application will not be processed with unauthorized signatures.

The Medical History (Physical form) must be received by camp no later than 14 days prior to each camp. It must be completed and signed by a physician. Medical History/Physical must be completed within 12 months of the camp.