Who Can I Contact To Find a Special Needs Camp?

Resources for Children with Special Needs, Inc.
212-677-4650
www.resourcesnyc.org
Online Special Camp Guide

The American Camping Association
Contact them to find accredited special and mainstream camps
212-391-5208
http://www.aca-nynj.org/search-for-a-camp
Suggestions for Selecting a Camp

A summer spent at a day, sleepaway or travel camp should be a productive living and learning experience. It can be fun and healthy, and can provide an opportunity to develop new skills and friendships. A camp experience may have a great impact on a child’s life, so it is important for parents and caregivers to make a careful decision in choosing a camp. Not every camp meets the needs and abilities of every child. Since you are the consumer, you have a right to ask any question you wish so that you can better understand a camp program. Some of the questions you may want to consider are listed below.

You and Your Child

· What do you want for your child from a camp experience? Improvement in specific areas: language, reading, gross motor skills, social interaction, skills of daily living, etc.?
· What does your child want out of his or her camp experience? A good time? New friends? New skills?
· Is your child ready for a day camp?
· Is your child ready for a sleepaway camp?
· Has your child spent time away from home overnight at a friend’s or relative’s home?

Director and Staff

· Who is the director? What are his or her qualifications?
· What kind of screening process is used to select staff?
· What are the qualifications of the staff members: education, age, training? How are they supervised?
· If there is a remedial program, is it staffed by licensed professionals?
· What is the professional staff-to-camper ratio: senior counselors, waterfront staff, therapists, medical personnel?
· Who are the medical staff: doctor, nurse?
· What is the percentage of returning staff?

Camp Program

· What is the overall philosophy of the camp? What are the goals for the children?
· What is a typical day like? What are the activities? Do children have a choice of activities?
· Is one-to-one instruction provided for some activities?
· How is the waterfront program run? What are the qualifications of the waterfront staff? What are the safety procedures? How often do children swim?
· Are activities varied for different age groups and abilities?
· What do children do on a rainy day? Do they stay in camp or go to other facilities?
· What is the range of abilities and special needs of the campers?
· How does the program meet individual needs and differences?
· How are behavior problems handled?
· What is done to deal with a child’s fear or resistance to a particular activity, e.g., swimming, horseback riding, boating?
- What is the percentage of returning campers?

**Camp Setting**
- What is the overall appearance of the camp?
- What are the facilities like for indoor and outdoor sports and games? Are they accessible for children with physical disabilities?
- Where are the kitchen and dining areas? Do campers and staff eat together?
- Are buildings and equipment safe, well-lighted and in good repair?
- Do children sleep in tents? Cabins? Where are bathroom and shower facilities? Are they kept in sanitary condition?
- Is there plenty of equipment in good condition?
- How many counselors live in each of the cabins or bunks?

**Other Things to Consider**
- What is a typical menu? Who prepares the food? Are provisions made for special dietary needs?
- What medical facilities are available at the camp?
- Are there procedures for the administration of medication?
- What procedures are in place for medical emergencies?
- How does your child get to camp? Is transportation provided?
- Do staff members speak languages other than English?
- Is there a visitors’ day for parents? Are parents able to arrange a visit other than on visitors’ day? Are parents able to call? Are computers and email access allowed?
- If possible, visit the camps the year before you will be sending your child.
- How is information concerning children’s progress shared with parents and/or schools after the camp season?
- What can you as the parent share with the camp that will be helpful?
- What system exists for laundering of clothing?
- Do you want your child to be included with children without disabilities for all or part of the day?
- What payment options are offered by the camp (scholarship, sliding scale, payment plans)?
CAMP SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

If your child has a **developmental disability** you can ask about a financial aid program called “**Family Reimbursement**”. Call your **Developmental Disability Regional Office** and ask to speak to Family Support:

To find your local **DDRO**:
Call OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) or go to their website to find your local office:
**INFORMATION LINE** 1-(866)-946-9733
[http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd_contacts/contact_information](http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd_contacts/contact_information)

Look in your Yellow Pages or on the Internet under "**Fraternal Organizations**", sometimes these charitable organizations help. Some examples are: **Lions Clubs**, **Elks Clubs**, **Knights of Columbus**, **Kiwanis**

**American Camping Association** offers funding if your child will be attending an ACA accredited camp. Ask the camp if it is accredited by ACA, then call **212-391-5208** or **1-800-777-2267** and ask about the **SCOPE Program**.

**FACES: Funding for children with Seizure Disorders:**
**212-871-0245** ext. 113

**Autism Speaks:** (212) 252-8584 For children with autism spectrum disorders
LOW COST SLEEPAWAY CAMPS
(These are primarily mainstream camps: mostly children without disabilities
For more camps call: American Camping Association – 1-800-777-2267
212-391-5208

Fresh Air Fund: 212–897–8900
Kamp Kiwanis: 315–336–4568
Girls Quest: 212–532–7050
Catholic Youth: 212–371–1000 ext. 2065
Salvation Army Camps: 212–337–7200
Protestant Welfare Camps: 212–777–4800
Minisink: 212–368–8400
Vacamas & Top of the Pines: 973–838–0942, 877–428–8222
Wilbur Herrlich: 845–878–6662
Morry’s Camp: 914–592–3055
Friendship: 718–965–3695
Trail Blazers: 212–529–5113
University Settlement: 212–674–9120

NYC Mission Society: 212–674–3500
Berkshire Hills-Emanuel Camps (Copake,NY) (914) 693-8952;
www.bhecamps.com
Fiver (Earlville, NY) (212) 971-9562;
www.fiver.org
Holmes Presbyterian Camp (Holmes, NY) (845) 878-6383;
www.presbyteriancenter.org
John’s Boys and Girls Camp (Friendship, ME) (570) 426-7083;
www.jonsboysandgirls.org
Camp Johnsonburg Presbyterian Center (Johnsonburg, NJ) (908) 852-2349;
www.campjburg.org
Kiddie Keep Well Camp (Edison, NJ) (732) 548-6542;
www.kiddiekeepwell.com
Lake Delaware Boys Camp (Delhi, NY) (607) 832-4451;
www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com
Camp Lebanon- Baptist Camp & Conference Ctr. (Lebanon, NJ) (908) 236-2638;
www.camplebanon.com
Camp Ma-He-Tu (Bear Mountain, NY) (888) 262-4388;
www.campmahetu.org

North Shore Holiday House Camp (Huntington, NY) (631) 427-7630;
www.northshoreholidayhouse.org
Camp Olmsted (Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY) (845) 534-7900;
www.campolmsted.org
Camp Onas (Ottsville, PA) (610) 847-5858;
www.camponas.org
(Quinipet (Shelter Island Heights, NY) (631) 749-0430;
www.quinipet.org
Camp Sandy Cove (High View, WV) (410) 287-5433;
www.campsandycove.org
Surprise Lake Camp (Cold Spring, NY) (212) 924-3131;
www.surpriselake.org
Top at Tradewinds Lake (Windsor, NY) (212) 529-5113;
www.vacamas.org
Camp Victory Lake (Hyde Park, NY) (718) 291-8006;
www.campvictorylake.org
YMCA Camp Bernie (Port Murray, NJ) (908) 832-5315;
www.campbernie.org
YMCA Camp Chingachgook (Kattskill Bay, NY) (518) 656-9462;
www.chingachgook.org
Fairview Lake YMCA  
(Newton, NJ)  
(973) 383-9282;  
www.fairviewlake.org

Greater NY YMCA  
(Hugenot, NY)  
(845) 85 8-2200;  
www.ymcanyc.org/camps

YMCA Camp Hi-Rock  
(Mt. Washington, MA)  
(413) 528-1227;  
www.camphirock.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camp Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHRC Camp Anne</td>
<td>83 Maiden Lane, 9th Fl. New York, NY 10038</td>
<td>212-780-2500</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ahrcnyc.org">www.ahrcnyc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Akeela *</td>
<td>3 New King Street White Plains, NY 10604</td>
<td>866-680-4744</td>
<td><a href="http://www.campakeela.com">www.campakeela.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen</td>
<td>56 Camp Allen Road Bedford, NH 3110</td>
<td>603-622-8471</td>
<td><a href="http://www.campallennh.org">www.campallennh.org</a></td>
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<td>AMAC *</td>
<td>25 W 17th Street New York, NY 10011</td>
<td>212-645-5005</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amac.org/program/camp.htm">www.amac.org/program/camp.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clover Patch</td>
<td>55 Helping Hand Lane Glenville, NY 12302</td>
<td>518-384-3000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cloverpatchcamp.org">www.cloverpatchcamp.org</a></td>
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<td>Empire State Special Needs Experience, Inc.</td>
<td>725 LaRue Rd. Spencer, NY 14883</td>
<td>607-589-4800</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lionscb.org">www.lionscb.org</a></td>
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<td>HASC *</td>
<td>5902 14th Ave. Bklyn., NY 11219</td>
<td>718-686-5930</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hasc.net/camp">www.hasc.net/camp</a></td>
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<td>Hemlocks-Easter Seals</td>
<td>PO Box 198 Hebron, CT 06248</td>
<td>860-228-9496</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ct.easterseals.org">www.ct.easterseals.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hidden Valley</td>
<td>633 Third Ave. 14th Fl. New York, NY 10017</td>
<td>212-897-8900</td>
<td><a href="http://www.freshair.org">www.freshair.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope</td>
<td>PO Box 670 Carmel, NY 10512</td>
<td>845-225-2005</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cbfny.org">www.cbfny.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Huntington *</td>
<td>56 Bruceville Rd. High Falls, NY 12440</td>
<td>866-514-5281</td>
<td><a href="http://www.camphuntington.com">www.camphuntington.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Loyaltown</td>
<td>189 Wheatley Rd. Brookville, NY 11545</td>
<td>516-626-1000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ahrc.org">www.ahrc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Merry Heart-Easter Seals</td>
<td>21 O'Brien Rd. Hackettstown, NJ 07840</td>
<td>908-852-3896</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eastersealsnj.org">www.eastersealsnj.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Hudson Valley</td>
<td>PO Box 197 Esopus, NY 12429</td>
<td>845-384-6620</td>
<td><a href="http://www.esopuscamps.com">www.esopuscamps.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pa-Qua-Tuck</td>
<td>PO Box 677 Center Moriches, NY 11934</td>
<td>631-878-1070</td>
<td><a href="http://www.camppaquatuck.org">www.camppaquatuck.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramapo for Children *</td>
<td>PO Box 266 Rhinebeck, NY 12572</td>
<td>845-876-8403</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ramapoforchildren.org">www.ramapoforchildren.org</a></td>
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<td>Round Lake *</td>
<td>21 Plymouth St. Fairfield, NJ 07004</td>
<td>973-575-3333x145</td>
<td><a href="http://www.roundlakecamp.org">www.roundlakecamp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Summit *</td>
<td>322 Route 46 West, Ste. 210 Parsippany, NJ 07054</td>
<td>973-732-3230</td>
<td><a href="http://www.summitcamp.com">www.summitcamp.com</a></td>
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Sun ‘N Fun
1555 Gateway Blvd.
West Deptford, NJ 08096
856-629-4502
www.thearcgloucester.org

Sunrise at Warwick
PO Box 349
Warwick, NY 10990
845-986-1164
www.campwarwick.com

Wagon Road
431 Quaker Rd.
Chappaqua, NY 10514
914-238-4761
www.childrenaidsociety.org

YAI/MAC *
460 W. 34th St. 11th Fl.
New York, NY 10001
212-273-6298
www.yai.org/camping