



# Summers at Southern Parent Handbook

*Revised April 2026*

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# Welcome Letter

Welcome to **Summers at Southern Camps** – where adventure, learning, and friendship come together for an unforgettable summer experience.

Summers at Southern offers co-ed day and boarding camps designed to **inspire, challenge, and engage**. Each year, campers are encouraged to explore their interests, develop new skills, and build lasting friendships through hands-on learning and shared experiences.

Our themed camps give participants the opportunity to **dive into their passions, uncover hidden talents, and build confidence** along the way – ensuring a summer filled with growth, discovery, and fun.

Located in **Camp Hill, Alabama, our 320-acre campus** provides the perfect backdrop for exploration and community. Roughly 300 acres of our property remain wooded and undeveloped, offering campers a true connection to nature. With **expansive forests, hiking trails, and outdoor learning environments**, campers are encouraged to explore, observe wildlife, and engage in hands-on adventures that build appreciation for the natural world.

Campers also enjoy access to two fishing ponds, an indoor swimming pool, dining hall, on-campus dorms, indoor and outdoor rifle ranges, football and baseball fields, and two gymnasiums – all designed to support a **safe, exciting, and well-rounded camp experience**.

At Summers at Southern, **camp is more than a place – it's a community**. Whether your camper joins us for one session or multiple sessions, they will be welcomed into a supportive environment that fosters courage, creativity, and confidence.

We look forward to a summer filled with laughter, learning, and **lifelong memories**.

Warm regards,

**The Summers at Southern Team**

# Focus, Purpose, Mission, Goals & Outcomes

*Summers at Southern is guided by a clear focus, a meaningful purpose, a lasting mission, defined goals, and intended outcomes.*

## Focus

We focus on creating a fun, welcoming environment where campers explore the outdoors, try new activities, build friendships, and learn through hands-on adventures. Every day is designed to encourage curiosity, teamwork, and personal discovery.

## Purpose

Our purpose is to inspire campers to recognize their strengths, step into new challenges, and form meaningful connections. We exist to help young people grow into confident, capable, and compassionate individuals who carry the lessons of camp into their everyday lives.

## Mission

Our mission is to deliver enriching programs that challenge campers, build skills, and highlight each camper's strengths. Through STEM learning, outdoor exploration, and leadership development, campers gain confidence, strengthen resilience, and discover the excitement of trying something new.

## Goals and Intended Outcomes

- **Safety First:** Maintain a physically and emotionally safe environment.
- **Challenge:** Encourage campers to try new activities that build confidence.
- **Leadership and Responsibility:** Develop accountability and leadership through daily responsibilities.
- **Build Character:** Model and instill key values through regular reinforcement.
- **Outdoor Engagement:** Prompt participation outdoors and foster a respect for the environment.
- **Belonging and Friendship:** Create a supportive camp community where campers connect with each other and feel included.

# Rights and Dignity for Campers

At Summers at Southern, every camper has the right to feel safe, valued, and included. We are committed to creating a camp environment where respect, kindness, and fairness guide every interaction.

## Our Commitment to Campers

- **Respect for Diversity:** We celebrate the unique backgrounds, talents, and experiences that each camper brings to our community.
- **Non-Discrimination:** All campers are treated with fairness and dignity. Discrimination or harassment of any kind is not tolerated.
- **Safety and Well-Being:** The physical, emotional, and social well-being of each camper is our top priority.
- **Open Communication:** Campers are encouraged to express themselves respectfully and share their thoughts or concerns with staff.
- **Fairness and Equity:** Every camper is given the opportunity to participate fully, try new activities, and succeed on their own terms.

Our staff model inclusive behavior and guide campers in practicing respect and empathy toward one another. Through ongoing training, staff are equipped to recognize individual differences and ensure every camper feels supported and included. At Summers at Southern, **respect isn't just a rule – it's a daily practice.**



# Camper Code of Conduct

At Summers at Southern, we strive to create a community built on respect, safety, and positivity. Every camper is expected to follow this code of conduct to help ensure a fun, inclusive, and memorable experience for all.

## Respect for Others

Be kind and courteous to campers, staff, and visitors. Use appropriate language – no swearing, namecalling, or bullying. Listen to staff instructions and follow them promptly. Appreciate differences and help create a welcoming environment.

## Respect for Property and the Environment

Take care of camp facilities, equipment, and supplies. Keep your space organized and respect others' belongings. Help keep buildings, dorms, and activity areas clean, and dispose of trash properly.

## Safety and Responsibility

Stay with your assigned group or counselor unless given permission to leave. Follow all safety rules and guidelines for every camp activity. Avoid rough play or unsafe behavior, and report concerns to staff immediately.

## Positive Participation

Join activities with a positive attitude. Be on time, prepared, and supportive of others. Show teamwork, cooperation, and good sportsmanship.

## Behavior Expectations

Campers are expected to refrain from bullying, fighting, harassment, discrimination, or leaving camp property without permission. Campers must also follow all camp policies regarding substance use, weapons, and other safety regulations.

## Consequences

Violations may result in a warning, loss of privileges, parent/guardian notification, or dismissal from camp without refund for serious or repeated offenses.

***By attending Summers at Southern, campers agree to uphold these expectations, respect others, and contribute to a safe and positive camp environment.***

# Day Camp Programs



## KIDS SUMMER CAMP

FUN AND ENGAGING ACTIVITIES  
FOR BOYS & GIRLS IN RISING  
3<sup>RD</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADES

### STEM

JUNE 15 - JUNE 19  
8AM - 5PM

#### Focus Areas

- ✓ Chemistry
- ✓ Sound and Light
- ✓ Robotics
- ✓ Agriculture (bees)
- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ CrunchLabs

### NATURE'S WONDERS

JUNE 22 - JUNE 26  
8AM - 5PM

#### Focus Areas

- ✓ Wildlife
- ✓ Land and Forest
- ✓ Aquatic Ecology
- ✓ Sustainability & Agriculture
- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ Outdoors-based camp

174 Ward Circle, Camp Hill, AL 36850  
[southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern](https://southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern)

Sierra Vickrey,  
Assistant Camp Director  
256-790-9202



# Boarding Camp Programs



## TEEN SUMMER CAMP

LEADERSHIP-BASED BOARDING  
CAMPS FOR BOYS & GIRLS IN  
RISING 9<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES



**SOUTHERN SURVIVAL**  
JULY 5 - JULY 11  
OVERNIGHT CAMP

### Focus Areas

- ✓ Advance your Scout Skills
- ✓ Navigation
- ✓ Primitive camping
- ✓ Learn self-resilience
- ✓ Scenario missions
- ✓ Hands-on missions

**OPERATION LEADERSHIP**  
JULY 12 - JULY 26  
OVERNIGHT CAMP

### Pathfinders Experience

- ✓ Army
- ✓ Navy
- ✓ Air Force / Space Force
- ✓ Marine Corps
- ✓ Coast Guard
- ✓ Engaging, hands-on activities

174 Ward Circle, Camp Hill, AL 36850  
[southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern](http://southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern)

Sierra Vickrey,  
Assistant Camp Director  
256-790-9202

# Financial and Administrative Information

## Tuition and Fee Information

A non-refundable \$25 application fee is due at submission. This is a one-time fee per camp season. Once a camper is accepted, families will receive a tuition invoice. Camp tuition and fees must be paid in full by the start of camp.

## Required Documents Checklist

Below is a checklist of the **required documents** that must be completed and turned into camp administration **prior to the start of camp**:

- Camper Birth Certificate
- Camper Social Security Card
- Camper Insurance Card (front and back)
- Physical Exam (within the last 12 months)
- Parent/Guardian Driver's license
- Custody Documentation/Parenting Plan (if applicable)
- Pet Friendly Campus Acknowledgement Form
- General Camp Activities Permission Form
- Camping Permission Form (only for Southern Survival)
- Paintball Permission Form (only for Southern Survival and Operation Leadership)
- Marksmanship Permission Form (only for Southern Survival and Operation Leadership)
- Whitewater Rafting Permission Form (only for Operation Leadership)
- Chattahoochee Rafting Waiver (only for Operation Leadership)
- Physical Training Permission Form (only for Operation Leadership)

## Liability Statement

Southern Preparatory Academy's Summers at Southern camp program holds itself to the highest standards, especially in safety and supervision. While we follow established safety procedures, participation in camp activities carries inherent risks that cannot be fully eliminated. By enrolling their child, parents/guardians acknowledge and accept these risks. The camp, its staff, and affiliated personnel are not responsible or liable for injuries, accidents, or other incidents during camp activities, transportation, or related events, except as required by law.

# Camper Eligibility

## General Eligibility Requirements

All campers must:

- Meet the grade requirements for their selected week/program.
- Provide a physical exam completed within the last 12 months.
- Participate safely in group and individual activities, with or without reasonable accommodations.
- Demonstrate age-appropriate behavior, self-control, and cooperative group participation.
- Maintain emotional and mental stability appropriate to camp life.
- Be able to independently perform self-care tasks such as dressing, bathing, and eating (**boarding programs only**).

## Program Specific Requirements

### STEM Camp (Rising 3rd-8th Graders)

- Must be able to participate in classroom and hands-on learning activities for extended periods of time.
- Must be able to follow instructions and work independently and collaboratively.

### Nature's Wonders Camp (Rising 3rd-8th Graders)

- Must be able to participate in outdoor activities, including guided hikes.
- Should be comfortable with heat/sun exposure, insects, and light physical activity.

### Southern Survival Camp (Rising 9th-12th Graders)

- Must be able to participate in extended outdoor activities, including day and overnight experiences.
- Should be comfortable with rugged natural environments and weather exposure.
- Must demonstrate safety awareness and follow instructions during higher-risk activities.
- Should be emotionally prepared for overnight stays and group living conditions.

### Operation Leadership Camp (Rising 9th-12th Graders)

- Must be in good physical health and able to complete structured physical and tactical exercises (e.g., able to walk/run a mile).
- Must demonstrate discipline, respect, and teamwork skills appropriate for leadership development and military-style instruction.
- Must demonstrate safety awareness and follow instructions during higher-risk activities.
- Should be emotionally prepared for overnight stays and group living conditions.

# Required Permission Forms

Prior to the start of camp, parents/guardians must submit all required permission forms. Most forms grant permission for campers to participate in specific camp activities, which vary by session. Additionally, our campus is pet-friendly, and parents/guardians must acknowledge this policy through the **Pet Friendly Campus Acknowledgement Form**.

## Required for All Campers

### Pet Friendly Campus Acknowledgement Form

Our campus allows staff to bring their pets (primarily dogs) to campus. This form confirms that families are aware of the presence of pets and have communicated this to their camper, and informed staff of any concerns (e.g., allergies, anxieties, etc.).

### General Camp Activities Permission Form

This form gives parents an overview of camp activities and associated risks, and allows consent for age and session appropriate participation.

## Required Activity Permission Forms (*as applicable*)

Some camp activities require written permission in order for campers to participate. These activities vary by camp week, based on the theme and scheduled programming.

**Campers may only take part in these activities if the corresponding permission form is submitted.** If a form is not provided, the camper will not participate in that activity.

**Below is a list of required activity permission forms by camp week.**

### Southern Survival Camp

- Camping Permission Form
- Paintball Permission Form
- Marksmanship Permission Form

### Operation Leadership Camp

- Paintball Permission Form
- Marksmanship Permission Form
- Whitewater Rafting Permission Form
- Chattahoochee Rafting Waiver
- Physical Training Permission Form

***All forms must be completed and returned to Summers at Southern via email at [summers@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:summers@southernprepacademy.org) prior to the start of camp.***

# Contact Information

## Camp Director – Dalis Smith

Point of contact for all questions related to camp operations, scheduling, and camper support during camp sessions.

- [dalis.smith@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:dalis.smith@southernprepacademy.org)
- 256-827-9556

## Assistant Camp Director – Sierra Vickrey

Point of contact during the application process and **for emergencies** during camp.

- [sierra.vickrey@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:sierra.vickrey@southernprepacademy.org)
- 256-790-9202

## Director of Engagement – Jenifer Isbell

Point of contact for **payments and billing**.

- [jenifer.isbell@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:jenifer.isbell@southernprepacademy.org)
- 256-675-6260

## Camp Nurse – Sara Kelly

Point of contact for any health-related questions and medication concerns.

- [sara.kelly@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:sara.kelly@southernprepacademy.org)
- 256-537-0043

## Family Engagement Coordinator – Nichol Morgan

Point of contact for coordinating air travel, managing arrival/departure plans, and answering travel questions.

- [nichol.morgan@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:nichol.morgan@southernprepacademy.org)
- 256-796-1284

## Social Media

For photo updates during the summer follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

- **Facebook:** Summers at Southern Camps | Southern Preparatory Academy
- **Instagram:** @summersatsouthern | @southernprepacademy

## Website

For more information about the Summers at Southern program please visit our website:

[www.southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern/](http://www.southernprepacademy.org/summers-at-southern/)

# Drop-Off and Pick-Up Information

## Drop-Off/Arrival Day

### STEM and Nature's Wonders Camp

- Drop-off takes place at the **Dixon All Faith Chapel** between **7:30AM – 8:00AM**.
- A parent/guardian **MUST** sign in their camper on the attendance sheet **DAILY**.

### Southern Survival and Operation Leadership Camp

- **Check-in:** Sunday before the first day of camp, between **1:00pm – 3:00pm** in **Dixon All Faith Chapel**.
- A parent/guardian **MUST:**
  - Sign in their camper on the provided check-in sheet.
  - Visit the nurse to turn in medications, discuss any allergies and dietary needs, and campers will undergo a brief health screening.
  - Verify all payment and registration paperwork is completed.
- Once check-in is complete, campers will be escorted to their designated dorms and may begin settling in before orientation activities begin.

## Pick-Up/Departure Day

### STEM and Nature's Wonders Camp

- Pick-up takes place at the **Dixon All Faith Chapel** between **5:00pm – 5:30pm**.
- A parent/guardian **MUST** sign out their camper on the attendance sheet **DAILY**.

### Southern Survival and Operation Leadership Camp

- **Check-out:** Saturday after the last day of camp, between **10:00am – 12:00pm** on **the quad behind Headquarters**.
- A parent/guardian **MUST:**
  - Sign out their camper on the provided check-out sheet.
  - Visit the nurse to receive camper's medications.

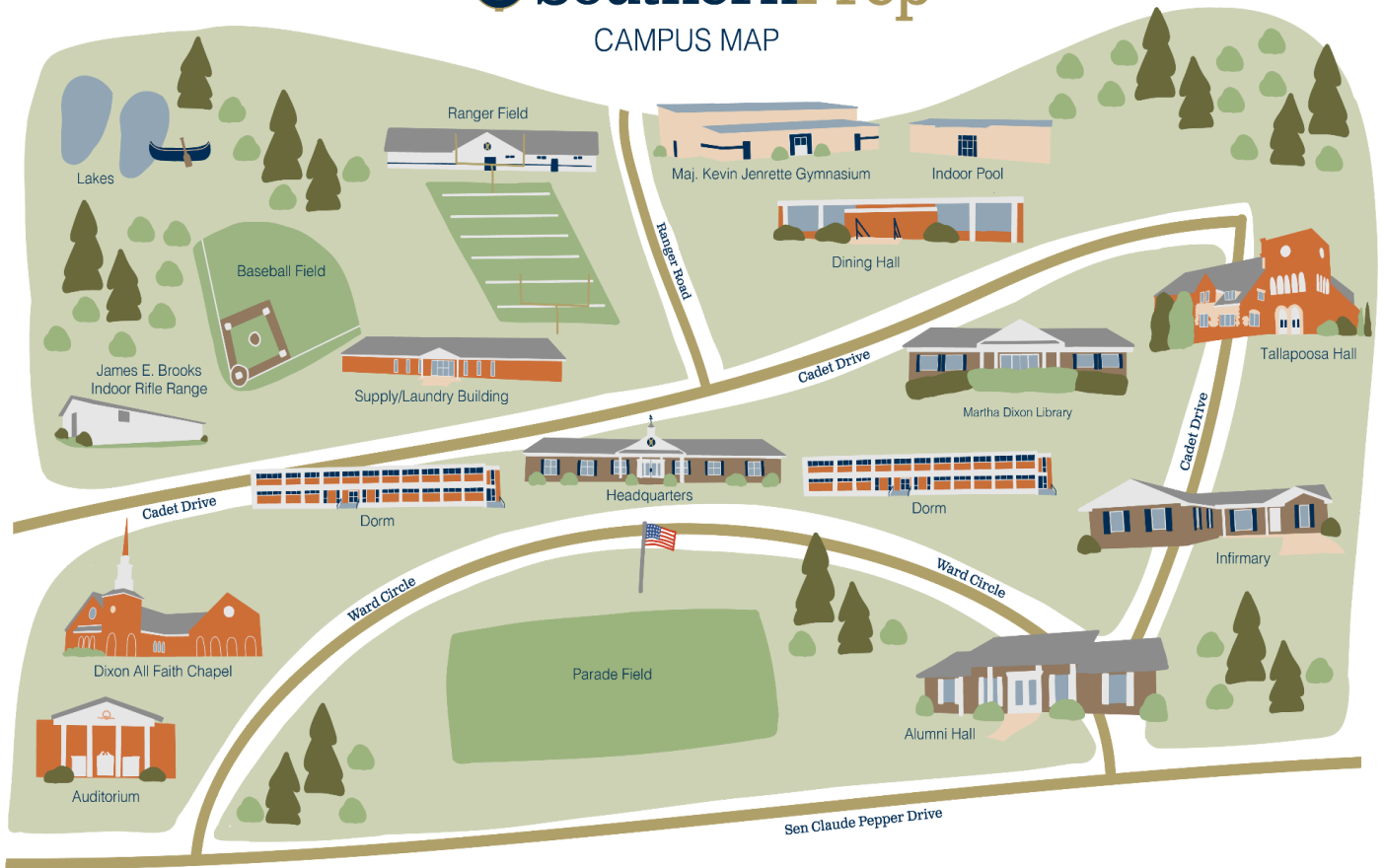
*\*\*If a parent or guardian anticipates being late for either drop-off or pick-up, they must notify the Camp Director as soon as possible. When arrangements are communicated in advance, reasonable accommodations can be made to support adjusted drop-off or pick-up times.*

# Camp Map



## SouthernPrep

CAMPUS MAP



# Transportation – Day Camps Only

Summers at Southern offers an **optional shuttle service** for **day campers only**, with routes serving **Lee County** and **Tallapoosa County**. Shuttles operate each morning and afternoon to provide transportation before and after camp hours.

## **Cost (per family):**

- \$5 per one-way trip
- \$10 daily maximum
- \$50 weekly maximum

## **Important Note:**

**All times listed below are shuttle arrival times. Shuttles will depart exactly 10 minutes after arrival.** Parents and guardians should plan to arrive **before the scheduled time** to ensure campers are safely checked in and out to avoid delays for other families or camp activities.

## **Auburn and Opelika Shuttle**

### **Morning Pick-Up**

- 7:15 AM – Aldi (2400 Frederick Rd, Opelika)
- 7:30 AM – Publix at Cary Creek (2900 E University Dr, Auburn)

### **Afternoon Drop-Off**

- 5:30 PM – Publix at Cary Creek (2900 E University Dr, Auburn)
- 6:00 PM – Aldi (2400 Frederick Rd, Opelika)

## **Alexander City, Dadeville, and New Site Shuttle**

### **Morning Pick-Up**

- 7:15 AM – Aldi (1061 Highway 280, Alexander City)
- 7:30 AM – Lake Martin Funeral Home (16797 US-280, Dadeville)

### **Afternoon Drop-Off**

- 5:30 PM – Lake Martin Funeral Home (16797 US-280, Dadeville)
- 6:00 PM – Aldi (1061 Highway 280, Alexander City)

## **Reeltown Shuttle**

### **Morning Pick-Up and Afternoon-Drop Off**

- 7:25 AM – Dollar General (31 Lovelady Rd, Tallassee)
- 5:30 PM – Dollar General (31 Lovelady Rd, Tallassee)

**Shuttle services are not available for boarding campers.**

# Air Travel

Summers at Southern offers airport shuttle services to and from the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) **on designated travel days only** and for an **additional fee**. The shuttle cost for taking your camper to and from the airport is \$40 each way. This would be \$40 for departure and \$40 for return. Please note that last-minute shuttle requests **cannot** be guaranteed. There is an additional **\$75 fee** associated with transporting **unaccompanied minors**.

**Air travel is available only for campers attending boarding camps – Southern Survival and Operation Leadership.**

## **Parent/Guardians are responsible for:**

- Booking all airline tickets for their camper.
- Communicating air travel information with the Family Engagement Coordinator.
- Ensuring their camper arrives safely at the airport for departure and is picked up safely upon return.

Please email all flight details, including the confirmation number and both departure and arrival itineraries, to the Family Engagement Coordinator, Nichol Morgan, at [nichol.morgan@southernprepacademy.org](mailto:nichol.morgan@southernprepacademy.org) ***no later than 7 days before your camper's arrival.***

## **Summer 2026 Designated Travel Days**

### **Southern Survival Camp**

- Arrival: July 5, 2026
- Departure: July 12, 2026

### **Operation Leadership Camp**

- Arrival: July 12, 2026
- Departure: July 25, 2026

All flights must be scheduled to **arrive and depart between 12:00pm and 4:00pm CST** on designated travel days. Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging **alternative transportation** if flights are booked **outside this time window**.

# Camper Communication

At Summers at Southern Camps, we are devoted to preserving the true spirit of summer camp. Our programs give campers the chance to connect with nature, build meaningful friendships, and grow essential life skills. To support this enriching environment, we limit personal device use during camp hours while ensuring families can stay in touch when needed.

## Cell Phones

Campers **are permitted to** bring their cell phones to camp; however, they are expected to keep them off and refrain from using them during camp activities unless a staff member specifically instructs otherwise. This ensures campers remain fully engaged and present in all camp experiences while still having access to their phones during appropriate times.

## Mail and Packages

We encourage family and friends to write to campers during their time at camp. Please keep in mind that mail delivery may take several days. If you'd like, you may also bring a pre-written letter to check-in, and our staff will deliver it to your camper during the week.

Packages are welcome; we simply ask that you notify camp staff in advance if you plan to send one. This allows us to help ensure your camper receives it in a timely manner and helps us manage deliveries efficiently. Please be mindful of when packages are sent in relation to the end of your camper's session to help ensure they arrive while your camper is still at camp.

Mail and packages can be sent to the camp office at the address below:

Southern Prep Academy  
Attn: **Camper' Name**  
174 Ward Circle  
Camp Hill, AL 36850

# Homesickness

## What is Homesickness?

Homesickness is a normal reaction to being away from home, most common among boarding campers. It usually occurs in the first few days and can include sadness, crying, or mild anxiety.

## How We Support Campers

Our trained staff help campers adjust through activities, mentorship, and connection. If homesickness is intense or prolonged, we will contact parents to provide support together.

## Your Role Matters

Your attitude matters. Recognize your own feelings of missing your child, but try not to pass on worry or anxiety. Positive encouragement helps your camper feel secure, confident, and ready to enjoy camp.

## Questions or Concerns

If you have any concerns about your camper's adjustment or well-being, please contact the Camp Director.



# Medication Process and Health Care Access

## Turn-In and Pick-Up of Medications

**Turn-In:** Upon arrival, parents/guardians must turn in all camper medications (including prescriptions, over-the-counter items, vitamins, and other health-related products) to the **Camp Nurse**. The nurse will review each medication, confirm dosage and administration instructions.

**Pick-Up:** At the end of camp, all medications will be returned directly to parents/guardians or authorized individuals by the Camp Nurse during check-out.

**Inhalers:** Even if your camper rarely uses an inhaler, please bring it. Camp activities and outdoor environments can affect breathing differently than at home.

**Important Note:** Medications must be in their **original containers** with the camper's name and physician's directions clearly labeled. Campers on psycho-therapeutic medication must be on a **stable prescribed dose for at least three months** prior to arrival.

## Administration and Storage

All camper medications are stored in a **locked cabinet within the campus infirmary** to ensure safety and proper handling. Medications are **administered only by the Camp Nurse or qualified camp personnel** in accordance with physician instructions.

## Health Care Access at Camp

Our **on-campus infirmary**, staffed by a **registered nurse**, provides medical support and care throughout each session. The nurse administers medications, offers first aid, and monitors camper health daily.

In addition, Summers at Southern is staffed with team members **certified in First Aid and CPR**, ensuring prompt and appropriate care for minor injuries and health needs.

In the event of an **emergency**, our trained staff will follow established safety procedures, contact emergency services if necessary, and immediately notify the camper's parent or guardian.

# Camper Illness Policy and Camper Health Communication

## Camper Illness Policy

- **If a Camper Becomes Sick Before Camp:** Parents/guardians should notify camp staff if their campers is ill or experiencing symptoms of a contagious illness. Campers **should not attend camp** until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours without medication.
- **Day Campers:** If a day camper becomes ill during camp hours, they will be cared for by the Camp Nurse until a parent/guardian can be contacted. Parents/guardians are expected to pick up their camper promptly if requested to do so.
- **Boarding Campers:** If a boarding camper becomes ill, the Camp Nurse will assess them and determine if they can remain at camp or need to go home. Campers with contagious illnesses or symptoms that prevent participation in daily activities may be required to return home until they are well enough to rejoin camp.

## Camper Health Communication Guidelines

The Camp Nurse or Camp Director will notify a parent/guardian as soon as reasonably possible if a camper experiences any of the following:

- Any illness or injury requiring off-site medical evaluation or emergency services
- Fever above 100.4°F
- Persistent symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, or severe pain
- Head injury, suspected concussion, or a significant fall
- Any injury requiring splinting, immobilization, or care beyond basic first aid
- Any condition that affects participation in camp activities
- Treatments that require monitoring, follow-up, or temporary activity restrictions
- Known or suspected exposure to a communicable illness

Camp staff will always attempt to **contact parents/guardians using the information provided on the camper's application**. Phone calls will be used as the **primary form of communication**. If unreachable, staff may leave a voicemail and send a text or email, and additional emergency contacts may be called as needed.

**In urgent or emergency situations**, the Camp Nurse or Camp Director will notify parents/guardians immediately once the camper's situation has been stabilized and deemed safe.

# Alcohol, Drug, Nicotine, and Weapons Policy

The **possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana (in any form), nicotine products (in any form),** or related paraphernalia is **strictly prohibited** at camp. Campers may not use or be under the influence of these substances while on camp property or participating in any camp activity.

All **prescription and over-the-counter medication** must be turned in to the Camp Nurse at check-in. Campers may not carry or self-administer medication unless specifically approved for medical necessity. Misuse or sharing of medication is strictly prohibited.

**Weapons of any kind are not permitted** on camp property, at camp events, or during camp travel. The only exceptions are tools or equipment used for **approved and supervised camp activities** (e.g., marksmanship, outdoor skills). These items are **provided by the camp**, stored in **secure locations** when not in use, and may only be handled **under direct supervision** of trained staff.

## Inspection and Drug Testing

Summers at Southern **reserves the right** to inspect a camper's belongings if staff have **reasonable suspicion** that the camper is in possession of **prohibited substances or weapons. The camper will be present during any inspection.** If there is reasonable suspicion a camper is **under the influence**, the camp **reserves the right to administer a drug test. Refusal to comply** will be treated as a positive result. Any prohibited items found will be **confiscated and not returned.**

## Consequences of Policy Violations

Violation of this policy will result in **immediate disciplinary action.** This may include parent/guardian notification, **removal from camp without refund**, and referral to **law enforcement**, if warranted.

# Personal Property and Debit Card Policy

## Personal Property Policy

Campers are expected to take full responsibility for safeguarding their personal belongings. Summers at Southern is **not responsible for the loss, theft, or damage** of any personal property brought to camp. This includes, but is not limited to, clothing, electronics, money, jewelry, sports or fishing equipment, and other valuables.

To prevent the loss or damage, we recommend that campers:

- **Bring only essential items** needed for camp activities.
- Leave valuables at home whenever possible.
- Clearly label all personal belongings with their name.

Lockers with locks are provided in dorm rooms (boarding campers only) for convenience, but this does not change the camp's liability policy. Campers are encouraged to use these lockers to keep their items secure during their time at camp.

## Debit Card Policy

Summers at Southern operates a **cashless system** for all purchases at the **Camp Canteen**, where campers can buy drinks, snacks, and candy during their time at camp.

Parents/guardians have the option to securely upload a **debit or credit card** to our Square Point of Sale system. **Cash and gift cards are not accepted.**

Campers may make purchases **only for their own personal use**; buying items for others is not permitted. We recommend a **deposit of \$25 per week** to maintain an adequate balance. Parents/guardians are responsible for maintaining sufficient funds on the card. Campers without a card in the Square system will **not be allowed to make canteen purchases.**

*By attending Summers at Southern, all campers and parents/guardians acknowledge and accept all of the policies described above.*

# Dress Code

## Shirts

Each camper will receive official **Summers at Southern shirts** to wear while at camp. These shirts should be worn as **daily** camp attire unless otherwise specified by camp staff. Campers will be **allowed to keep one shirt** and return the rest at the end of camp.

## Shorts

Campers must wear **loose-fitting shorts** that allow for comfort and freedom of movement during activities. Shorts must reach **fingertip length** when standing with arms extended downward. Only **solid colors in black, navy, or gray** are permitted – no patterns or designs. Athletic-style shorts are acceptable if they meet these guidelines. **Form-fitting styles** (such as compression or spandex) **are not permitted**.

## Shoes

Campers should wear **comfortable, sturdy shoes** suitable for walking, running, and playing. **Tennis shoes or hiking shoes** are encouraged. **Expensive or designer shoes are not recommended**, as they may be damaged during camp activities.

## Swimsuits

**Male Campers:** Swimsuits must be **fingertip length and loose-fitting**.

**Female Campers:** Swimsuits must be **one-piece** and provide **full coverage** in all areas. Two-piece or revealing swimwear is **not permitted**. A **bottom cover (e.g., swim shorts or similar)** must be worn during all aquatic activities.

## Jewelry

For safety and security reasons, campers should **leave all jewelry at home**. It can be lost, damaged, or cause injury during activities.

## General Guidelines

Camp is an active, outdoor experience – clothing will likely get dirty or worn. Campers should bring **durable, inexpensive clothing** suitable for outdoor activities. Please **be mindful of the specific camp session(s) your camper is enrolled in** and ensure they are dressed appropriately for the activities offered. Campers who do not comply with the dress code may be issued camp-owned clothing that meets these standards.

# Daily Schedules - Day Only

Below is an example schedule for our **day camp** without an off-campus trip. Since our camp hosts a variety of specialized programs, the schedule may differ each week.

<b>STEM and Nature's Wonders</b>	
7:30 AM	Drop Off Begins
8:00 AM	Drop Off Ends
8:15 AM	Activity Block 1
9:45 AM	Morning Break
10:00 AM	Activity Block 2
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:20 PM	Activity Block 3
1:50 PM	Afternoon Break
2:05 PM	Activity Block 4
3:35 PM	Group Recreation Activity
5:00 PM	Pick Up Begins
5:30 PM	Pick Up Ends

*If a parent or guardian anticipates being late for either drop-off or pick-up, they must notify the Camp Director as soon as possible. When communicated in advance, accommodations can be made to support adjusted drop-off or pick-up times.*

# Daily Schedule – Boarding Only

Below is an example schedule for our **boarding camp** without an off-campus trip. Since our camp hosts a variety of specialized programs, the schedule may differ each week.

<b>Southern Survival</b>	<b>Operation Leadership</b>
	5:30 AM – Wake Up
	6:00 AM – Physical Training
7:00 AM – Wake Up	7:00 AM – Hygiene Time
7:30 AM – Breakfast	8:00 AM – Breakfast
8:15 AM – Morning Activities	9:00 AM – Morning Activities
11:30 AM – Lunch	11:30 AM – Lunch
12:30 PM – Afternoon Activities	12:30 PM – Afternoon Activities
4:00 PM – Recreation Time	3:20 PM – Recreation Time
5:30 PM – Dinner & Free Time	5:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Evening Activities	6:00 PM – Evening Activities
8:00 PM - 9:30 PM – Call Home	
9:00 PM – Hygiene Time	
10:00 PM – Lights Out	

# Packing List – Both Day & Boarding Campers

## Day Campers

Day Campers are encouraged to bring a backpack each day to camp with a water bottle, snacks, hat, sunglasses, beach towel, swimsuit, and change of clothes inside. Summers at Southern provides sunscreen and bug spray, but campers can also bring their own.

## Boarding Campers

### Clothing and Footwear

- 8 pairs of underwear (8 sports bras - females only)
- 8 pairs of athletic shorts (navy, black, or gray; not form-fitting & fingertip length)
- 8 pairs of athletic socks
- 5 short sleeve shirts
- 1 pair of athletic shoes
- 1 pair hiking boots (required for Southern Survival, optional otherwise)
- 1 swimsuit

### Bedding & Towels

- 2 bath towels, 1 beach towel, & 2 wash cloths
- 1 sleeping bag (required for Southern Survival, optional otherwise)
- 1 blanket (optional; we provide them as needed)
- 1 pillow (optional; we provide them as needed)

### Toiletries & Personal Care

- Shampoo & Body Soap
- Deodorant (no aerosol)
- Shower caddy (highly recommended)
- 1 pair of shower shoes
- Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Feminine hygiene products (females only, as needed)
- Bug spray & sunscreen (no aerosol)

### Miscellaneous

- Water bottle
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- 1 pair of khaki shorts (*Operation Leadership Camp only*)
- 1 brown belt (*Operation Leadership Camp only*)
- 1 pair of water shoes or old sneakers (*Operation Leadership Camp only*)

# Packing List – Boarding Campers Only

## Optional Items

- Fishing Rod
- Watch
- Photos from home
- Small Fan
- Stationery
- Flashlight or Headlamp
- Electrolytes or Flavored Water Packets
- Small Plastic Snack Box with Lid

## What to Leave at Home

- Cash
- Caffeine Pouches
- Energy Drinks
- Sunflower Seeds
- Gum
- Alcohol
- Illegal Drugs
- Tobacco and Nicotine Products (including vapes and pouches)
- Knives
- Weapons

# Camp Living – Boarding Campers Only

## Dorm and Room Assignments

Summers at Southern houses campers in dorm-style accommodations, designed to provide comfort and privacy. **Male and female campers are assigned to separate dorm buildings.**

Whenever possible, we aim to provide each camper with their own personal room to enhance privacy and personal space. Room assignments are carefully made by camp staff to ensure a safe and supportive living environment for all campers.

Campers are expected to respect their dorm space and fellow campers, keeping their rooms tidy and following all dorm rules established by camp staff.

## Laundry Services

Campers are assigned a **laundry number** before camp begins, which must be **clearly marked on all clothing and personal items** (including towels, wash cloths, linens, etc.) using a permanent marker or iron-on/stick-on label.

Laundry services are available **twice per week**. Campers will receive detailed laundry guidelines upon arrival. Summers at Southern provides the following items:

- Bed linens
- Pillow
- Laundry bag
- Padlock with key

All issued items must be returned at the end of camp. **Any lost or unreturned items may incur additional charges.** Items provided by Summers at Southern will be marked by staff. Additionally, campers' names should be marked on all personal belongings.

**Please note:** Summers at Southern is **not responsible for lost, misplaced, stolen, or damaged items.**