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# Camper Application Process

— Austin Sunshine Camps —  
Summer 2022

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# Program Changes for 2022

1. Starting in 2022, camp will be **10 days and 9 nights long!** By extending the length of time campers stay with us each summer, we can deepen our impact.
2. Families will have the choice to put their child in one of three cabins: **boy, girl, or all-gender.** By offering a third gender option, we're allowing campers to be their full, authentic selves at camp.
3. And, we're **back** at Lake Travis for summer 2022!
  - a. Campers **ages 8-11 will be at Zilker Park**
  - b. Campers **ages 12-15 will be out at the Lake**

# Application Process Overview

In order to be eligible for camp, campers must **either** meet the free or reduced school meals [income eligibility guidelines](#) **or** be in foster care.

This summer, we have a [4-step process](#) to apply for camp.

1. Ask a teacher, counselor, therapist or family friend to complete a **camper readiness assessment** for your child.
2. The ASC team will review your child's readiness assessment and if it is determined that your child is ready to come to a 10 day overnight camp, we will reach out to you and give you the link to register your child for camp.
3. You complete an application on our online portal.
4. Sometime throughout the school year, your family (your child and at least one parent/guardian) must attend **at least one** programming event before camp begins.

# Step 1 - Camper Readiness Assessment

- Because of the important change of extending camp to **10 days and 9 nights** for summer 2022, **ALL** campers (including returning campers) will need to have a short evaluation filled out by a non-family member (such as a teacher) to ensure camp readiness prior to registering.
- Step 1 of the application process is to ask a teacher, counselor, therapist or family friend to complete the Camper Readiness Assessment for your child.
  - By ensuring camp readiness, we can make sure all campers feel safe and excited to be at camp for the full 10 days.
  - This person should not be related to your child, and should know your child well enough to answer questions such as “this child adjusts well to new teachers/adults in their lives.”

## Step 2 - Camper Readiness Review

- The Austin Sunshine Camps program team will review your child's readiness assessment.
- If it is determined that your child is ready to come to a 10 day overnight camp, we will reach out to you and give you the link to register your child for camp.
- We will also provide recommendations and support for you to help prepare your child for summer camp, for this summer if they are invited to attend, or for a future summer if they are not invited to attend.

## Step 3 - Complete Registration

- You complete an application on our online portal. This application takes between 30 minutes and 1 hour, and includes medication information, releases, and income verification.
- We will review your application and let you know if you are approved within three weeks!

# Step 4 - Follow up and School Year Event

- We will keep in touch via email and text message about camp. Be sure [programs@sunshinecamps.org](mailto:programs@sunshinecamps.org) is on your “safe” email list so our emails don’t go to your spam!
- ALSO, sometime throughout the school year (can happen before you apply), your family (your child and at least one parent/guardian) must attend **at least one** programming event before camp begins. Visit [HERE](#) to learn more and to get on our mailing list if you aren’t already!



JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	JUNE
1/17: Family Day Camp @ Zilker Lodge	2/12-2/13: Family Weekend Camp @ Zilker Lodge	3/12-3/13: Family Weekend Camp @ Zilker Lodge	4/9-4/10: Family Weekend Camp @ Lake Travis	6/1: Camp Kickoff Party
1/26: Family Night @ Zilker Lodge	2/21: Family Day Camp @ Lake Travis	3/14: Family Day Camp @ Lake Travis	4/20 Family Night @ Zilker	
		3/23: Family Night @ Zilker Park		

# Attend a School-Year Family Event

- ALSO, sometime throughout the school year (can happen before you apply), your family (your child and at least one parent/guardian) must attend **at least one programming event** before camp begins.
- Visit [HERE](#) to learn more!

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