

ICE CAMP FAQ's

How are you able to plan for Ice Camps this year?

As you know in your churches, planning and making decisions for anything months out (sometimes even a week out) is very tough given the current state of the pandemic. So as of now, we are planning for Ice Camps as if all guidelines will remain the same.

It is very possible that things could either tighten up or loosen up as Ice Camps get closer, so we will just remain as transparent as possible to let you know how we are making adjustments to compensate. And of course, if your group decides to cancel for pandemic-related purposes (people in your group get sick, restrictions make it not possible to come, your elders ask you not to come, etc), we will be gracious in granting a refund.

But our hope is to paint a realistic picture of what it will look like for your group while you're actually on campus. And if any of our policies are too loose or too restrictive for your liking, we want to give you (and your students' parents) plenty of time to consider whether they'd like to opt in or out of the weekend. But even with certain restrictions in place, we are confident that the weekend will still be a lot of fun. Having run 5 weeks of summer camp and over 14 weekends of fall programming, we know that camp is still a blast!

How will the schedule and programming look different?

Group Dynamics

As a rule of thumb, we are going to keep church groups together as a "family" or "cohort" throughout the weekend, and limit intermixing between groups. Because church groups will be travelling in vehicles together, sleeping in the same room, and sharing bathrooms, each will group will essentially be functioning as a family. We know this is different than how we've programmed things in year's past, but this model is what helped us pull off 5 COVID-free weeks of summer camp. And as an added benefit, we know that your group will grow much closer together this year due to more time spent together.

Chapel Sessions

As of now, each weekend is limited to 200 attendees, which is about half of a normal year. Chapel sessions will still be held indoors, but limited to about 100 people at a time. Like many churches, we are adopting a "two service model" to keep large group sizes down and to enable others to spread out to more of campus at one time. So, there will be still be four sessions throughout the weekend, but your group will either come to the "A" sessions or "B" sessions. The content of both sessions will be identical.

Dining Hall

Similarly, the dining hall capacity will be limited as well and we will rotate groups through two separate meal times. This will make wait times even shorter and help free up more space around campus for activities since other groups will be eating while you are doing activities.

Activities

All-campus free time and all-group games in the gym are two aspects of programming that we are planning to forgo this year. All of the same activities like tubing, dodgeball, broomball, and volleyball will still be offered, but just for one church group at a time. We have a list of over 20 different activities that we can run during Ice Camp, and each group will get to select 8 or so from that list that they would like to be scheduled for. When it gets closer, we will email your group a list of available options and you can mark down your preferred activities. We'll then put together a master schedule so that each group gets to rotate through their activities, meals, and chapel sessions in a safe, spread out way.

Will people need to wear masks the entire time?

Because each youth group will be functioning as a family, we will not require groups to wear masks when they are with each other. Some of the only times that people will have to wear masks is while they are entering the chapel or dining hall, walking through a public lobby, or buying something from the coffee shop or camp store.

Will we need to do a health screening?

Each church will be responsible for conducting a health screening for each student BEFORE they board the van/bus. Miracle Camp will supply a health screening checklist, but each church is responsible to line up a volunteer health professional from their congregation or community to conduct the screening. Students should show up to the church and remain socially distant until they pass through the screening. If a student is showing symptoms or exhibiting a fever, they need to be screened out before they spend a couple hours in an enclosed space with other students. Upon arrival to Miracle Camp, each group will be asked to turn in their health screening forms before any students get out of the vehicle.