

Hidden Acres Summer Camp Most Frequently Asked Questions

What does it mean by “grade”? The grade your camper will be entering next fall.

How do I know which camp my child is eligible for?

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| • Pre-Primary | Kindergarten – 1 st grade |
| • Primary | 2 nd – 3 rd grade |
| • Junior | 4 th – 6 th grade |
| • Junior High | 7 th – 8 th grade (6th grade is not considered Jr High) |
| • High School, Timothy Team, Assistant Wrangler | 9 th – 12 th grade |

What time is check-in? Check-in is on Sunday from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

What if I’m late for check-in? Please come to the Welcome Center and we will help your camper find their cabin.

If you know in advance that you will be late, please let us know. If you are going to be later than 9 p.m., please wait and bring your camper after 8 a.m. on Monday morning.

What do I need for check-in?

- Money for balance due – cash, check made out to Hidden Acres, Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express
- Church voucher (if your church helps with a financial scholarship) – If you previously sent it in or your church sent it directly, we will already have it.
- Money for horse rides for 6th grade and up (\$15), optional
- Money for crafts, snacks and offering (unless you are using FunFangle – see more information on page 2)
- Medications – see page 5 “What if my camper has medications?”

What happens if I don’t bring my church scholarship voucher with me to check-in or mail it in prior to arriving at camp? You will be expected to pay the outstanding balance during check-in, and it will be your responsibility to collect the scholarship from your church.

Can my high school student drive to camp and check in without me? Yes. The entire balance on their account **MUST BE PAID IN FULL** prior to their arrival. Also, we will ask them to park their car where our summer staff parks. They will not be allowed to use their car during the week.

What if I need to pick up my camper early? Please let the counselor know on Sunday when you drop off your camper. In addition, please call the office two days prior to the pick up so we can send notes out in our mail to the counselor and the camper. We will have your camper in the Welcome Center with all their belongings when you arrive.

What time is pick-up? All camps end on Friday with the exception of Week 4, June 23-26, which ends on Wednesday, June 26. Closing and cabin awards for girls begin at 2:30 p.m. in the Chapel followed by the boys’ closing and cabin awards at 3 p.m. Enjoy cookies and juice in the Family Life Center following closing awards. You should be on your way home by 4 p.m.

What happens at closing and cabin awards? All the girls will gather in the chapel at 2:30 p.m. with the Girls’ Area Director sharing a little about the week. You may even get treated to a song or skit. The girls will then move outside

the Chapel into their cabin groups for individual awards. The boys will gather in the Chapel at 3 p.m. to share a little bit about their week. The boys will then move to the area in front of the bunkhouse for their individual awards.

What happens if I have more than 1 child at camp for cabin awards? Please tell the counselor at the awards for your first child that you have multiple children at camp and request for your child to be first to get their award. Then move on to your next child. Counselors will make every effort to allow you time to get from one child to the next.

Can my camper do the extra fun activities? Your camper must be in 6th grade or above to go on a horse ride (\$15). There is no additional charge for horse rides for a horse camper. All campers in 4th grade or above have the opportunity to use the climbing tower, zip line and giant swing at no charge. Pre-primary and primary campers will be able to go on a lead-me horse ride at no charge.

What is FunFangle? FunFangle is a virtual canteen card which allows campers to access their spending money from an online account for the Hidden Acres Canteen, Camp Store or crafts without having to use cash or a canteen card. Instead, campers will be assigned a wristband when they arrive for check-in and they will just swipe their wristband when they make a purchase. At least one week before your camper arrives at camp, you will need to go to <https://hiddenacres.funfangle.club/> to set up your camper's account, enter your credit card information and allocate funds to your camper. **THIS CANNOT BE DONE AT CHECK-IN.** Because this is a web-based program, parents can monitor how much is left on the camper's wristband and even add to it during the week. At week's end, you may choose to donate any remaining balance to our summer camp offering, re-allocate to another sibling coming later in the summer or request a refund.

What are canteen cards? If you prefer not to use FunFangle, you will have the option to purchase canteen cards in \$5 increments. The cards are given to the counselor who will keep them in their backpack so your camper will always have access to their cards. Your camper doesn't have to carry cash around, and they can use the cards to purchase anything at the Hidden Acres Canteen, Camp Store or even use it for their offering on the last day of camp. They are NON-REFUNDABLE, but can be used any time during the year or given to a sibling to use at camp anytime. We do urge parents to visit our Hidden Acres Camp Store during check-in or following the cabin awards to purchase more expensive items. The typical amount purchased for one week campers is \$25.

Will I be charged extra for the t-shirt that every camper receives? No. The t-shirt is included in your camp registration. All sizes are final on registration.

Is there a discount for registering early? Yes. A \$20.00 early bird discount will be **automatically** credited to your camper's account if the registration is received in our office on or before March 31st. Please **DO NOT subtract this from your \$85.00 deposit.** It is automatically deducted from your balance *after* the deposit has been received.

Are there discounts available? Members from the same family receive discounts in multiples of \$10 after paying full price for their first child. Example: 1st child, full price; 2nd child, \$10 off; 3rd child, \$20 off, up to a maximum of \$50.00 off for the 6th child or any additional children. In addition, if your child comes to two different camps this summer, you will receive a \$50 discount on the second camp.

What happens if my camper needs to cancel? The deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable within the year to another camp or camper in the same family only. Any payments made beyond the deposit will be refunded. In case of grave illness or death in the family, the entire payment can be refunded.

Is there a dress code? Yes.

Girls

- Straps at least 1.5 inches wide for tank tops
- No halter or cropped tops

- Modest shorts that come at least 2” past fingertips when standing
- One piece or two piece swimsuits that cover the stomach
- No low cut or form fitting clothing

Boys

- No underwear showing
- No form fitting clothing (such as tight fitting Under Armour)

What shouldn't my camper bring? Please DON'T BRING the following:

- Cell phones
- Computers/iPads
- DVD players
- Other electronics
- Pocket knives
- Hatchets
- Weapons of any kind
- Sparklers/fireworks

Can my camper bring a camera? Absolutely! Please be aware that they may get lost or damaged, so we suggest disposable cameras.

Can my camper receive mail, email or phone calls? **Please send ONLY LETTERS --- NO PACKAGES!!** We are requesting no packages for several reasons. 1) Our mail system simply cannot handle the large volume of packages that have come in recent years. 2) Food allergies are a growing concern, and we want to protect our campers who have food allergies. 3) Unfortunately, food in the cabins attract unwelcome guests. You can send your letters or leave them at the Welcome Center after you check your camper in for us to deliver. Please put your child's full name on it and add their cabin information when you check in so we can direct it to your camper. Camper email can be sent by going to www.Bunk1.com. Our pre-approval code is **HACAMPS2019**. There is a fee of approximately \$1.00 per email. Bunk1 is available Monday-Thursday until 10 p.m. Unless there is an emergency, campers will not be able to receive or make any phone calls.

Can I see photos of camp? Yes. Please go to www.Bunk1.com and use the invitation code of **HACAMPS2019** to check out our photo gallery. This is free, but you will need to create an account. Also check out our Facebook page at facebook.com/hacamps.

Can my camper request a bunk mate? Yes, if the request is made at least one week prior to the start of camp. We can't guarantee that we can accommodate any request or change if it is less than one week prior to the start of camp. We request that you limit your requests to **two** bunk mates. **We do not put large groups of friends together.** You must spell the requested name correctly in order for our registration system to recognize and place the campers together. For example, if you request CJ Smith, but his mom registers him as Chris J. Smith, our system will not recognize your request and place them together. Check with requested bunk mate's family to determine what name they used to register. Bunk mates **MUST be attending the same camp.** (*Ex: Junior Residential cannot be bunk mates with Junior Fishing; Junior Residential cannot be bunk mates with Jr High Residential*)

What if the weather gets stormy? Camp staff monitors the weather at all times and, when necessary, will notify staff and campers of threatening weather. During severe weather, campers are taken to a lodge, the Family Life Center or a basement facility around camp.

What is Timothy Team (T3)? The Timothy Team (T3) is a two-week camp for high school students (with the exception of Timothy Team, Week 6) who desire to serve our camp while learning to become more Christ-like in every aspect of their lives. T3 campers will follow their own custom curriculum with worship sessions and Bible studies that will replace attending nightly chapel sessions with our younger campers. They will learn about servanthood and discipleship. With

parents' permission, they may be allowed to travel to Westhaven Community, a retirement community in Boone, where they will visit with residents, read to them, and participate in a variety of other activities once or twice during their camp experience.

Why is the last session of Timothy Team only one week? All of Hidden Acres' summer camps end on July 12. Therefore, T3 campers who arrive on July 7 will only be with us for one week.

What should my camper bring? Please mark everything with your camper's name.

- Sleeping bag & pillow
- Bible
- Towels & washcloth
- Shampoo & soap
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Comb/brush
- Casual clothes (shorts, shirts, jeans)
- Underwear, socks
- Sweatshirt or light jacket
- Modest swimsuit
- Rain poncho or jacket (rain boots, if desired)
- Insect repellent with Deet & sunscreen
- Refillable water bottle to keep your camper hydrated
- Flashlight & batteries
- Tennis shoes & sandals
- Closed-toe shoes & jeans for horse rides
- Old clothes & shoes for creek walks (may need to just throw them away after the fun)
- Extra bag to store dirty clothes

What if my camper is attending a specialty camp? Your camper will need the following:

- Saddle Up, Horse Wilderness, Wrangler in Training, Assistant Wrangler, Horse Camp and Rough Riders - jeans, boots or hard-soled shoes
- Sports - appropriate shoes and clothing (no spandex or short shorts allowed)
- Airsoft - long sleeves, if desired (all other equipment is provided; *however, you may bring your own*)
- Fishing - fishing poles, hooks, simple tackle (bait is furnished)

What if my camper has medications? We have licensed medical personnel on-duty 24 hours a day to administer medications. At check-in, you will need to see the nurses and give them the following:

- Completed Medication/Health Information Form (available at check-in or on our website, if you prefer to fill it out early)
- Medications in their original containers (DO NOT fill the pill organizer; our nurses will do that)
- CLEAN empty weekly pill organizer for our nurses to fill with your child's medications

Do I have to furnish a copy of my insurance card? Yes. In the unlikely event that your camper must go to the doctor or emergency room, a copy of your insurance card saves time getting your child care when our nurses take your camper for medical treatment. These may be turned in with the registration form, uploaded with online registration or brought to

check-in.

What if my camper gets sick or hurt? Our nurses will contact you first, and if we can't reach you, we will contact your emergency contacts, which you listed on your registration form.

Do I need to send Tylenol or Ibuprofen? No. Our Health Center will supply those. However, make sure you have checked the box on the registration form allowing our nurses to administer over-the-counter medicine.

What if I feel my camper needs an extra counselor in their cabin? Please check the appropriate box on the registration form. We do not guarantee an extra counselor, but we will do our best. Make sure to explain in the Special Needs section why you believe an extra counselor is necessary.

What if my camper has food allergies? You will need to enter the allergies on the registration form and speak with our nurses at check-in. If you want to bring food for your camper with allergies, our kitchen staff will be happy to prepare it for your camper. Our kitchen staff can accommodate most common food allergies, such as gluten-free or dairy-free.

Do you have a lost and found? On the last day of camp, lost and found items can be claimed in the Family Life Center. Hidden Acres is not responsible for misplaced belongings. Any items remaining at the end of the summer camp season will be given to charity.

How is your staff chosen and hired? Each staff member is carefully interviewed prior to hiring and has been recommended by four references. We also run a background check on each staff member. It is our desire to hire staff who are trustworthy, spiritually mature and who are positive role models for children. Hidden Acres has one of the highest percentages of returning staff in Iowa. More than 150 young adults serve in staff positions for the summer, including counselors, kitchen, maintenance, wranglers, program specialists and office staff. Our summer staff is involved in daily Bible study and prayer.

What objectives guide our program development?

- To discover and meet spiritual needs
- To provide experiences unique to camp
- To practice Biblical patterns of socializing
- To have a great time

What is a typical day at camp? Times vary depending on age group, but this will give you an idea.

7:00 Rise & Shine	1:00 Swimming/Afternoon Activities
7:45 Flag Raising	5:30 Supper
8:00 Breakfast	7:00 All Camp Games
8:30 Chapel	8:30 Chapel
10:00 Cabin Devotions	10:00 Cabin Devotions
10:30 Morning Activities	10:30 Lights Out
12:00 Lunch	

How does a typical day vary if my camper registers for a specialty camp? Specialty camps (ex: horse, art, sports) will spend much of the morning after Chapel in their area of focus and then join up with the rest of the camp in the afternoon for free-time activities like swimming, climbing wall, crafts, etc.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Hidden Acres at office@hacamps.org.