

Virginia 4-H Camp Pandemic Operational Procedures

updated 5/19/2021

The following procedures are universal across the state at all six 4-H Educational Centers.

Before Camp

-Staff will work with local public health authorities on Camp operations to ensure all health protocols are in place. Centers will review communicable disease plans and procedures for COVID-19 monitoring, symptoms, and response with the medical team and local health authorities prior to camp.

-Following best practices from the CDC, VDH, and in keeping with ACA recommendations 4-H Educational Centers will require one of the following to attend camp:

1. Proof of being fully vaccinated prior to the beginning of camp

OR

2. Proof of a negative COVID test (diagnostic or viral) within seven days of the beginning of camp *Note that either a molecular PCR test or Rapid Antigen test are acceptable.

a.. Nonprescription molecular COVID-19 tests that can be done at home as well as Antigen tests. Antigen (BinaxNow) can be purchased over the counter at retail pharmacies and Walmart. Please note using an at home test will require a photo with a time stamp.

Lucira CHECK-IT COVID-19 Test Kit - for more info, see www.lucirahealth.com -- test can be done on people 2 years of age and older
Cue COVID-19 Test for Home and Over the Counter (OTC) Use -- for more information, see www.cuehealth.com -- test can be done on people 2 years of age and older

b. Visit a medical provider and/or urgent care center to have a Covid-19 PCR test done

c. Resource link:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-testing/covid-19-testing-sites/>

The above is a link to COVID Testing sites in VA – you can choose your location and select type of testing (free, drive thru, etc...) All local Health Departments and some pharmacies are offering free testing to uninsured or underinsured. Follow the link above to see what is available in your area. All testing events set up for those Units coming out of school will continue as scheduled.

OR

3. Provide a 14 day symptom screening for the camper and family members. By utilizing the symptom screening, campers must restrict their close contact with those outside the family for the duration of the 14 day period. (see screening form and supplement)

Refund Policies

If your program at the 4-H Educational Center is cancelled by us, or by the state or federal government, fees will be fully refunded.

Between 2 weeks before and up to the day of camp, if for medical reasons youth are not admitted into camp, a refund minus the required deposit will be provided.

If youth have to leave camp once they have checked in due to an exposure, a partial refund will be prorated and granted.

Suggested Registration Periods

To allow for more time and planning, early registration and cut off times are requested. Opening registrations at minimum of 10-12 weeks prior to camp and closing registration 4 weeks before the start of the session is preferred. This time span allows for staff planning and making adjustments based on registration.

The suggested date for all Units to begin advertising for camp is the first week of April with registration soon to follow. This should give enough time to gauge interest within Units.

During Camp

Hand Washing

- Campers and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently and use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not possible
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available at all camp buildings and camp spaces
- Counselors will be essential in encouraging youth to practice good hand hygiene and will carry extra sanitizer

Face Coverings

- Campers and staff will be required to wear face masks at all times when indoors - with the exception of sleeping, showering, or eating and the situations listed below:
A group of campers and staff cohabitating in the same sleeping space are considered equivalent to a Family as defined in Executive Order 72: mask requirements do not apply **within that cabin space using social distance**. **Masks are required** in the presence of campers or staff outside their camp cohort/Family, or in an indoor public space that is shared with other campers or staff, or social distancing not available.
- Campers and staff will be required to wear face coverings outdoors when 6 foot social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Locations will be designated for mask breaks if necessary, where campers are allowed to remove their masks safely away from other camp participants. Masks will not be required for aquatic activities or on the firing line for shooting sports.

Cleaning & Sanitation

- Bathrooms
 - Bathrooms will be cleaned by 4-H Center Staff **at least** once per day

- Volunteers will have the opportunity and equipment for additional cleaning
- Volunteers and campers will be asked to avoid placing toothbrushes or toiletries directly on counter surfaces
- Bathroom sink use may be staggered depending on the facility or physical barriers such as plastic flexible screens, may be used between bathroom sinks if necessary
- Class Spaces & Supplies
 - Indoor classroom spaces will be cleaned daily by 4-H Center Staff
 - Supplies will be cleaned and disinfected between uses
 - If available each participant will be assigned their own supplies
 - Deep cleaning of supplies will be done at the end of each day
- Dining
 - Tables in the dining areas will be sanitized after each use
 - Tables will be assigned to groups for indoor dining and outdoor dining
 - Outdoor dining will be utilized when possible
 - Limit shared items such as condiment bottles and self-serve utensils
 - Meals will be pre-plated or packaged - no family style dining
- Frequently Touched Surfaces
 - These will be disinfected as often as possible. This will be done by 4-H Center Staff and Volunteers
 - No lids on trash cans to reduce exposure
 - When possible doors will be propped open or held open by staff/volunteers
- Public Camp Spaces
 - These areas will be disinfected as often as possible, along with equipment in these spaces, for example, rec equipment
 - Common camp activities i.e. rec time will take place in rotations by cohorts as to allow for appropriate sanitizing between groups

Social Distancing

- Maintaining **6 feet social distance** when possible is required
- Volunteers and staff are to set a good example for youth in this practice

To Support Social Distancing:

- Campers and Volunteers will be put into pods/cohorts before arriving at camp
- The cohorts/pods will consist of a small group of campers, with adequate adult supervision
- These cohorts/pods will stay together throughout the whole week - eating, socializing, and participating in activities together
- All activities, programs, and schedules have been adapted keeping social distancing in mind. When any camper or staff is traveling throughout the camp or near other cohorts, strict six feet of physical distancing and mask wearing must be observed from those not in their cohort regardless of vaccination status.
- Ten feet of distancing must be observed when engaging in singing, cheering, exercise, or other activities involving increased exhalation

- Staff may not have close contact with campers in multiple cohorts, with the exception of medical services or any event where close contact is necessary for the health or safety of a camper.
- Restrictions against staff having close contact with multiple cohorts would not include when staff is leading outdoor or indoor activities, so long as appropriate physical distancing is practiced and masks are used by all those present.

Keeping Camp Safe Best Practices

- No visitors will be allowed during Summer 2021
- No campers, teens or adult volunteers will be allowed to leave and return to camp, with the exception of medical emergencies
- Summer Program Staff **cannot be required** to stay on site all summer, but will be encouraged to follow all covid-19 precautions to keep our entire camp population safe.
- Signage will be posted throughout the facilities to remind campers and staff of handwashing, social distancing, and masks
- Daily health screenings including a temperature check and general health questions will be given to campers and staff each morning.

Temperature Check – Temperatures will be taken once a day. Any camper with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above may not stay at camp. We will ask the family to pick up their child. All daily screenings will include: asking if youth or staff are experiencing sore throat, new cough, diarrhea, vomiting, stomachache, or new onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

- We will have access to diagnostic testing for suspected COVID-19 cases and/or symptomatic individuals so next steps can be quick and appropriate. A positive COVID-19 test result will require the individual, and in most cases, to leave camp. A negative result could require further evaluation or could still require the individual to leave camp to prevent the spread of other infections or illnesses based on the guidance of medical health professionals.

After a Camp Group Leaves, Before a New Group Arrives

- Staff will clean and disinfect all facilities and equipment
- Staff will flush ventilation system (if applicable) for 2 hours prior to new campers arriving
- If we are notified after a week of camp of a COVID positive camper/leader, all exposed individuals will be notified, and we will participate/communicate with public health departments as directed.

Transportation

The procedures described below are universal across the state and will be followed regardless of parent drop off or bus transport. The stations described may need to be modified based on the needs of the Unit/City. Staggered arrival and drop-off times when

multiple units are attending will be implemented to limit contact between cohorts as much as possible.

Pick up and Drop Off Procedures at 4-H Educational Centers

Staff will greet you at the entrance to the 4-H Educational Center. Parents are asked to remain in the vehicles as staff will assist campers with luggage at the appropriate time. Parents will not be allowed in the cabin/lodge areas.

A “touchless” check-in will consist of three easy steps: *(Stations will be indicated along entrance way to camp)*

1. **Health Screening and Sign In**

Camp Staff will greet you at your car and will conduct a brief health screening including questions related to COVID. Staff will sign your camper into camp and ensure necessary waivers/paperwork are in order. Any camper experiencing the following symptoms before arriving to camp, will not be able to attend camp: fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose, lethargy or fever over 100.4 (F)

2. **Meet the Camp Medical Staff**

At this time you will be asked to turn in any over-the-counter and/or prescription medications **in their original containers**. You will have the opportunity to discuss any special needs your child may have. We ask that you are patient with this process as we strive to serve every camper as an individual to meet his or her needs. Campers who do not have any medications will move to the next station.

3. **Luggage Drop Off and Parent Departure**

Camp staff will assign your child to his/her lodge/cabin and their pack/pod for the week of camp

Families will be directed to the exit to allow campers to begin making friends and getting to know their cabin group for the week.

Pick up procedures will function in a similar fashion with parents asked to remain in vehicles.

1. Camp staff will greet you and get your information so your child will be ready at the 3rd station.
2. Camp medical staff will return any medications (if you have none to pick up you will move to the next station).
3. Camp staff will assist your child with their luggage and wish you a safe journey home.

Bus procedures

The above concept of stations would apply at bus pick up and drop off areas. Parents would remain in vehicles with volunteers/staff providing leadership at stations. Bus procedures (capacity and seating) will be determined by the County or City from which buses are contracted.

For Staff and Volunteers

Fully vaccinated people can:

- **Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic**

- **Must provide proof of vaccination to be exempt from pre-camp testing or 14 day screening**

Example of Typical Daily Schedule (times may vary but layout is similar across state)

Cohorts/pods will stay together traveling to meals, classes, and activities as a group throughout the week.

7:00 - 9:00 am	DailyHealth Screening, Breakfast, Flag Raising
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Program Class Rotations
12:00 - 1:30pm	Lunch Rotations, Break Time
1:30 - 4:30 pm	Continued Program Class Rotations or Rec activity rotations
4:30 - 6:00 pm	Dinner, Flag Lowering, Free Time Activity
6:00 - 9:00 pm	Evening Activity Rotations
9:00 pm	Ending reflection and return to cabins
9:30 pm	Cabin talks, prepare for bed
10pm	Lights out