



Special Health Needs

Crossways actively works to welcome all campers. Occasionally, the medical needs or overall comfort needs (including mental, emotional, physical needs) of a camper are out of the scope of what the camp community is able to safely provide in the rustic camp environment. In order to serve and welcome campers of varying needs, the following steps are taken and considerations made.

Our Summer Health Coordinators are equipped to handle basic first aid and routine medication distribution. Their backgrounds and experiences vary, but their minimum qualifications are completed certifications in Wilderness First Aid. Summer Health Coordinators receive additional camp-specific training and provide healthcare under the direction of the camp's licensed healthcare provider. When a participant has health needs beyond the routine scope of camp healthcare, camp leadership consults with the supervising licensed healthcare provider as needed to determine whether appropriate staffing, accommodations, or additional support are necessary for safe participation.

- **Camp Director & Camper Family Consultation**

Held either over the phone or in person, a consultation with the camp director is a time for gathering information on the care and needs (including both medical and mental, emotional, physical needs) of potential campers prior to enrollment. This conversation should include medication routines, medication storage, use and storage of medical equipment, and facility set up and limitations. This consultation should be held prior to enrollment in camper programs.

- **Camper Aide**

Is the camper family able to provide a qualified aide (ages 18 or older) to attend camp programs that can self sufficiently manage any medical needs out of the scope of camp staff? If able, the aide must be willing to abide by all camp policies and undergo a background check prior to arrival and stay on camp property.

- **Additional Contacts & Emergency Communication**

Camp may require additional contact information for emergency communication, including a direct phone number for a camper's primary doctor in cases of emergency when parents or guardians are unable to be reached.

Occasionally, after consultation with the family, review of the participant's needs, and consideration of available accommodations, staffing, and support, Crossways may determine that we are not able to safely meet a participant's needs within the camp environment. In those cases, we will work with the family to determine whether additional accommodations can be arranged or whether participation should be postponed until those supports are available. Our goal is always to provide a safe, successful, and positive experience for every participant.

If you believe your camper may benefit from additional planning or support, please contact the Site Director to begin a conversation **prior to registration**. This conversation helps us determine how we can best support your camper and ensures families have clear information before making enrollment decisions.

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