



2021 Independent Lake Camp COVID-19 Health & Safety

For this summer ILC will be operating as a controlled campus. The following describes the control points involved.

CAMPERS

- Pre- arrival Behavioral Guidelines & negative COVID test required

We will need all of our families to participate in the goal of keeping our camp community as healthy as possible. We will be sending out reminders before camper arrivals to limit any higher risk activities for the 10 days before your camper joins us at ILC, as well as doing a daily health check. Families can start preparing now by not planning any group gatherings/parties/trips for that time. Families will be asked to have their camper COVID tested in the days leading up to camp and the results of that test must be negative for the camper to attend that session. Results will be checked by camp and any camper with a positive test will need to coordinate with camp to reschedule their arrival plans. During the days between the camper's PCR test and their travel to camp, we are asking for them to self quarantine. ***Family support will be essential to camp starting as healthy as possible.***

Camper families must fill out a **COVID Pre-Arrival Screening Form** in the two weeks prior to their arrival.

In an effort to minimize illness at camp, we ask that you check on the health of your camper daily and refrain from high risk exposures beginning 10 days prior to their camp start date. The best camp sessions start with healthy campers, and this begins at home. If your camper has any of the following symptoms prior to camp, we expect you to notify our office to reschedule their session for the upcoming summer:

- Fever over 100.4
- New loss of taste or smell
- Vomiting / Diarrhea
- New undiagnosed respiratory symptoms

- Testing

We have partnered with an impressive company called OpenClear that will be coordinating all of our COVID testing. Our COVID testing protocol is comprised of the following three tests:

1. An at-home saliva collection test kit (for lab-based RT-PCR) that will be mailed to your home in the week prior to your arrival.
2. An on-camp rapid antigen test upon arrival.
3. An on-camp nasal swab for lab-based RT-PCR.

Keep in mind, even though our COVID mitigation plan involves three COVID tests, we want to minimize any other illnesses that look similar to COVID. This is why we ask our families to take steps in sending us a healthy camper, regardless of their COVID vaccination status. Children should refrain from attending any unnecessary gatherings in the time leading up to camp (sporting events, parties, play dates, sleepovers, etc). They should avoid any indoor unmasked exposure outside the immediate family (even with vaccinated people) and practice diligent hand hygiene.

- Vaccination

While completing the Pre-Arrival Screening form, families will see that there is a place to enter any camper vaccination information. **While not required, we are encouraging all campers that are eligible to get vaccinated.** The CDC recommends that everyone 12 years and older get fully vaccinated against COVID-19. More information about how to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine is found [here](#). If a camper is either partially or fully vaccinated, they will still have to go through our COVID Testing Plan with OpenClear.

- Camper arrival

Families will receive detailed arrival procedures including being assigned a drop off time bracket. The staggered arrival will allow control of flow through our health check stations (COVID test, temperature reading, questionnaire with nursing staff). Anyone being picked up by camp will be required to keep their mask on in the van/bus and will go through all the health checks upon arrival at camp. Parents who wish to enter camp will need to show their 'proof of COVID-19 vaccination card' prominently around the neck in a lanyard. MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR EVERYONE WHO WILL BE COMING ON CAMP GROUNDS.

- Cohorts

Campers will be COVID tested within the first few days of being at camp and will be kept in small groups until the results of the second test are received. We are in contact with medical professionals at multiple testing companies in order to secure the most up-to-date resources for both regular screening and as-needed testing. For those families who have been with us before, our first few days at ILC will look a little different than it has in the past. Campers will be with their bunk Cohorts for meals, activities, and downtimes. We will have extended Check-It-Out Days where cohorts will get to experience all that ILC has to offer throughout the two days so when it comes time to choose their primes they will really know what activities they will want to sign up for. Additionally, all meals will be served and consumed with the camper's cohorts in designated eating areas.

- Quarantine procedures

In the event that someone receives a positive test result, we are prepared to re-test them to confirm that finding and then work closely with that camper's family to formulate the best plan of action. The preferred option will be for the camper to return home for at least 10 days before returning to camp. We will have quarantine bunks available to separate any positive individuals who need to stay on camp for any length of that time.

- Pre-arrival test: Campers with a positive test result will be contacted for next steps, including re-testing and delay of arrival OR providing doctor proof that the child is recovered & cleared from a prior COVID infection.
- Arrival test: Campers with a positive test will be retested and then sent back home to be cleared by their doctor.
- Post-arrival test: Campers with a positive test will be moved to a quarantine area under the care of our medical staff until arrangements can be made to send them home. All campers in close contact with that camper will be retested.

- Masks

Campers are asked to pack **10 washable masks** with their name on them (and/or a box of disposable masks if they prefer). Mask wearing will be followed in accordance to current CDC & state requirements. Campers will be told when they need to be wearing masks and when they don't. In general, people do not need to wear masks when distanced outdoors- which is great since camp is mostly outdoors! Campers will be instructed on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette & mask wearing.

STAFF

- Staff vaccinations & testing

We have been supporting our staff regarding their vaccinations and plan for all our staff to be vaccinated by the time camp starts. Staff will be required to have negative COVID PCR test results before campers arrive.

- Staff training

We have extended our staff orientation training period and have included COVID related meetings to prepare them for this summer. Our counselors are essential in the operations of making camp a fun and safe place for our campers. The messaging to our staff is that the health and safety of our camp community is their number one priority this summer and anything that may risk that will be re-assessed and altered as necessary. We thank our staff in advance for their dedication to this concept.

- Staff Hiring

We have changed our staffing strategies this year to anticipate possible challenges with international travel restrictions from certain countries. We have been addressing any challenges we encounter and are happy with our progress.

CONTROLLED CAMPUS

- Visitors

Our goal is to minimize anyone from coming onto our campus. Our existing protocols already limit deliveries to the front gates and dining hall loading dock only. We will limit any contact with these vendors to select staff only and have masking & sanitizing rules in place. We will have protocols in place for anyone who must come onto camp including requiring vaccination/negative test records and abiding by clearly communicated procedures.

- Trip Day

We have decided that we will not be taking trips off camp this summer.

- Performance Day

We understand clearly how incredible performance day is for the kids, for the parents, and for ILC. As long as we continue to feel confident in low transmission rates, we are planning to hold this very special day with some health constraints in place. CDC data shows promising findings regarding transmission rates of vaccinated individuals. If parents are vaccinated, wearing masks, & outside, we see Performance Day as a possibility. Only fully vaccinated visitors will be allowed onto our camp property. Visitors will need to show their 'proof of COVID-19 vaccination card' prominently around the neck in a lanyard. There is something extremely special and important about our parents getting to experience this day and see what campers have accomplished throughout the session.

CLEANLINESS

- Disinfection & Sanitation

ILC has been ahead of the curve by already using electrostatic sprayers as an enhanced method of disinfecting surfaces and areas with a chlorinated solution, effective as infection control. The electrostatic charge assists with the disinfectant sticking to surfaces in a more efficient and comprehensive manner of application. We have been very happy with its performance in prior years and will be increasing its usage this summer. Our housekeeping staff

will be trained on cleaning & disinfecting procedures throughout camp and concentrating on any high touch areas of concern.

- Culture of good hygiene

Using hand sanitizer is not something new at ILC. We have already been requiring use of hand sanitizer by everyone before every meal. We will be extending hand sanitizer and hand washing requirements as part of our culture. Hand sanitizer will now be available in bunk and activity areas. Campers and staff will be taught to wash or apply sanitizer to hands, rub together, including back of hands and fingers, about 20 seconds. We will be including good hand washing training to our camper bunk meetings on the first day of camp. We also have printed hand-washing reminders for all sinks on camp and our leadership team are prepared to be reminding everyone of good health habits throughout camp.

- Airflow

We will maximize outside activity time, which is the best part about summer. We will also increase fresh airflow through buildings. All of our cabins have new screens so that windows can stay open. We are excited to take advantage of additional dining space provided by the new outdoor BBQ & dining patio.

RESOURCES

- We are an American Camp Association accredited camp. The ACA provides us with resources tailored to summer camps with advisement from the CDC and third party specialists. We are also a member of the Wayne County Camp Alliance allowing us to collaborate with other camps in our immediate area. There are many people working towards the same goal of a safe and happy camp experience this summer. Our evolving plans will reflect the most current information from these sources as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Health, other camp & health professionals and testing experts.

The bottom line is that summer 2021 will be so important for our kids in so many different ways. We will be ready and we will stay true to our solutions driven model to deliver an incredible program for our campers. It is time to reconnect, reengage and regain the value of a summer camp experience.