



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CAMP CHIEF OURAY

DAY CAMP

PARENT HANDBOOK



Updated January 2025

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IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS IN THE 2025 OVERNIGHT CAMP PARENT HANDBOOK

1. Applications/Enrollment: Updated guidelines for the 2025 lottery process
2. Additional Options: There will be two additional options available for day campers: a beginner horseback trail ride and the aerial adventure course at Snow Mountain Ranch. Please see this section for more information about age and height requirements.
3. Discipline: Updated behavior expectations and discipline policy for 2025
4. Lost and Found: Updated lost and found policy for 2025

WELCOME TO CAMP CHIEF OURAY

Camp Chief Ouray (CCO), established in 1908, has grown to be a premiere overnight camping option for youth from all over the United States and the World. We are committed to developing five core values in everything we do: Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Faith. CCO is a part of the YMCA of the Rockies, located at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, CO (elevation of 8,750 feet). YMCA of the Rockies is a non-profit organization managed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Mission Statement

YMCA of the Rockies puts Christian principles into practice through programs, staff and facilities in an environment that builds healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Goals of Camp Chief Ouray

Our goal is to offer challenging experiences to build leaders through life-long skill development in a safe, imaginative, natural setting. We instill confidence through independence and interpersonal skills. We challenge our campers to discover their true selves.

Diversity, Inclusion, and Global Innovation Statement

The YMCA of the Rockies will reach out to and welcome all people and organizations of good will and ensure that the rich gifts of diversity are reflected and respected at all levels.

Our Commitment to All People

We will serve a diverse population, inclusive of all people of good will. Reflecting our Christian Mission, we will be inclusive and welcoming of all people of good will. Our activities and facilities will be inclusive, accessible, and available to the diverse worldwide community we serve.

YMCA of the Rockies Core Values

CCO programs focus on our core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith.

Camp Chief Ouray History

Founded in 1908 by the Denver YMCA, Camp Chief Ouray was originally built on a site located near Lake Granby. In 1979, the camp was incorporated into the YMCA of the Rockies and moved to its present site. The first summer session at our present site was in 1980 and we celebrated 110 years in 2018. Camp Chief Ouray is dedicated to helping youth grow in spirit, mind and body.

Accreditation and Licensure

Camp Chief Ouray is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) and is visited regularly to assure compliance with the ACA standards. We are also licensed by the State of Colorado Department of Social Services and are visited every year by their representative for license renewal. CCO is an Accredited Youth Program and non-profit partner with Leave No Trace, Inc. (LNT), an organization dedicated to outdoor ethics. By promoting the seven principles of Leave No Trace alongside the Core Values of the YMCA, Camp Chief Ouray can ensure that camp stays beautiful and fun for future generations. We instill Leave No Trace ethics in all parts of camp, from our dining hall to our backcountry trips. We believe that every child deserves a high-quality and nature-filled camp experience.

Staff

Camp Chief Ouray is staffed with a year-round Camp Executive, Summer Camp Director, Leadership & Trips Director, Program Director and Business Manager. They are joined on a seasonal basis by qualified, passionate, and responsible staff with a minimum age of 18.

Camp Chief Ouray understands the importance of positive role models for today's young people. We carefully recruit, select, and maintain staff for their enthusiasm, maturity, skills, and ability to display our core values for our campers.

Staff members are chosen through a detailed application and interview process. All staff backgrounds are checked against the Central Registry for Crimes Against Children and the Colorado or Federal Bureau of Investigation in accordance with Colorado licensing requirements.

Each staff member undergoes an extensive and professional training program together in preparation for our campers' arrival. We emphasize group dynamics, child development, hands-on teaching methods, and safety and health including certification training in First Aid, CPR and Wilderness First Aid.

We also work with our insurance provider to focus in on Child Abuse Prevention training and YMCA of the Rockies is certified through Praesidium, which is an organization that ensures our policies pertaining to child abuse prevention are not only written but practiced daily for the safety of our participants.

Scholarships

In keeping with our Mission Statement, Camp Chief Ouray is open to all children regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, faith, or ability to pay.

Camp Chief Ouray's programs strive to create an environment that not only allows children a fun week in a beautiful mountain setting, but also helps children develop important life skills such as confidence, independence, teamwork, perseverance and empathy. Furthermore, our programs foster an environment where children can succeed in groups by learning the value of getting along with others who are different from themselves. Children are granted this all-important opportunity to unite with peers while experiencing nature at its finest.

Camp Chief Ouray offers scholarships with the hope that no child will miss the chance to spend a terrific summer building memories, meeting new friends, and learning from new experiences. These scholarships are made possible through the generous donations of many caring people. We invite you to be a part of spreading camp magic to those who could not otherwise afford it. Your monetary donation, of any size, can really make a difference! Contact the camp office or visit our [website](#) to learn more about donating to our Campfire Circle Scholarship Program.

We accept scholarship applications on an ongoing basis and there is no deadline to submit an application. Please do not let the cost of summer camp prevent your camper from an experience at CCO. Thanks to the continuous generous support of our donors, we are able to offer a variety of ways to help offset the cost of a week of summer camp for anyone interested.

To apply for a Campfire Circle Scholarship, click [here](#). You can also submit the scholarship application online by registering first and then completing the 'Scholarship Application (optional)' under 'Forms and Documents' of your [CampInTouch](#) account.

Wish List

Camp Chief Ouray appreciates donations of any of the following items that could enhance our program or facility:

- Art and Craft Supplies
 - Markers, colored pencils, graphite pencils
 - Playdoh
 - Friendship bracelet string, yarn
 - Construction paper, cardstock
 - Stickers
- Yard Games
- Sports Equipment (balls, soccer goals, etc.)
- Musical Instruments
- Books (all reading levels, non-English language books are welcome)

How to get to Day Camp

Four miles west of Tabernash, turn off of Highway 40 into the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch property. Turn right at the first intersection and look for the Day Camp Building on your left. Follow this [link](#) to see the exact location on Google Maps.

APPLICATIONS/ENROLLMENT

For the 2025 season, Day Camp enrollment will be done through a lottery system. Applications for the 2025 CCO Day Camp Lottery will open on February 10th at 9:00am MST and will close on February 21st at noon (12:00pm) MST. You may apply using your [CampInTouch account](#).* You can apply any time within these dates/times to be entered into the lottery. By applying, you are indicating your interest in enrollment in our day camp, this does not guarantee enrollment.

REMINDER: Campers must be 5-14 years of age to attend their first day of camp per our Colorado Child Care License.

Please ONLY apply for the session(s) in which you would like your camper(s) to be enrolled in. For example, if you only want your camper(s) to be enrolled in one session, only apply for the one session that is your top choice. There will be a question on the application to indicate your backup choices if your top choice session is unavailable. If you would like your camper(s) to be enrolled in multiple sessions, you should apply for multiple sessions. Once the application is closed, families will be sorted into groups (2024 enrolled, 2024 waitlisted, members, new locals, and new non-locals) and assigned a lottery number within their group. We will process applications by group in the order listed above. If there is space available in the session(s) applied for, the camper(s) will be enrolled, and the deposit will be processed. If there is not space available, we will check to see if there were backup sessions listed in the application and will try to enroll in order of preference. If there is not space available in a session, campers will be placed on the waitlist. Once each group has been processed fully, we will send out confirmation emails to families to indicate if campers have been enrolled, waitlisted, or both. All groups will receive confirmation emails by the end of the business day on February 28th. For more information about the lottery process, please visit [campchiefouray.org](#)

After the lottery application closes (February 21st), the next opportunity to apply will be March 1st. There is no guarantee that spots will be available at this time and your camper's name may be placed on a waitlist. A select number of spots will be held for Snow Mountain Ranch property guests. To inquire if any spots saved for SMR guests are available during your stay, please contact the Program Director, Emma Marshall, at emarshall@ymcarockies.org or 970-887-2152 ext. 4144.

FINANCIALS

Payment Policy

Your statement can be found on your [CampInTouch](#) Account under the Financial Management tab. This will indicate your base camp fee, session number and dates, additional options, any appropriate discounts or scholarships, and deposits. If there are any errors, please contact the office.

Financials (continued)

All payments must be in the camp office seven days prior to arriving. Camp Chief Ouray reserves the right to cancel any registration if the balance due is not received by seven days prior to the start of the program.

Cancellation Policy

If you need to cancel your camper's registration, please contact us as soon as possible so your camper's spot can be given to another waiting camper.

- Refunds will be made if cancellations are made with at least seven days' notice, unless there is a balance due. Payments will be rolled over to other weeks the camper is registered for.
- Cancellations with less than seven days' notice will be charged a \$30 cancellation fee. There will be no refunds if a child goes home early in cases of illnesses that happen at camp, disciplinary action, bullying or homesickness.
- Missed days during a session will not be refunded or credited.
- Refunds will be issued for medical reasons only with written verification from a physician.

CAMP FORMS

There are several MANDATORY forms you will find in your [CampInTouch account](#) (<https://campchiefouray.campintouch.com/v2/login/login.aspx>) Please be sure to have the following forms completed as soon as possible and no later than 7 days prior to your camper's arrival to camp. These forms will be saved electronically and not in hard copy format.

*** Please note we reserve the right to cancel your camper's registration if none of the required forms have been submitted by 3 days before the session is scheduled to start and we have not received any communication from the parent or guardian. ***

Physician's Examination (upload pdf)

It is essential that this form be completed and returned to the camp office 30 days prior to your camper's session. This form is available on your [CampInTouch](#) account. We encourage you to upload it but if that is not possible email or fax it to the office. This information will be saved electronically and not in hard copy format.

The health needs of our campers are diverse, ever-changing, and demanding. Having health forms in hand prior to your camper's arrival for thorough review by our health care staff is critical. **Colorado state law requires each camper to have a physical within 24 months**

of your camper's last day at camp. The physical form must be completed, signed and dated by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner including the examiner's address and telephone number or by state law the camper cannot attend camp.

Medications and Homeopathic Treatments

- Colorado state law stipulates that only medications prescribed by your health care provider may be dispensed at camp. The medication section acts the same as a prescription when completed properly by your provider. This does mean that your physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner must complete this section in the same manner that they would write a prescription. Make certain that the lower Doctor's signature section is entirely completed, signed and dated. Please read further information listed below regarding your camper's medications:
 - a) **Any medications** your camper takes, including but not limited to, any maintenance medications; behavioral disorder medications; antibiotics; herbal/homeopathic medicines; vitamins; eye/ear drops; inhalers; epinephrine "epi" pens, etc. must be listed (including dosage) on the **Medications Form (upload PDF)**. Any prescribed medication or non-prescription, over-the-counter medication **MUST** be noted properly in the Medications Form. Please send all medications to camp in their original container noting the RX number and physician name.
 - b) **Medications added or changed:** For any medication prescribed or changed for your camper, you will need to bring the medication in the original pharmacy container noting the Rx number and physician name. If this is not possible, you or your health care provider will need to provide us with a prescription.
 - c) **Over the counter (OTC)** medications for the common cold, stomach ailments, headaches, cuts and abrasions are stocked in our Health Center and administered by our Health Center staff according to our camp physician's standing orders and the permissions you indicated on the camper's Health History. Contact the camp office if you need more specific information.
 - d) **Homeopathic Treatments:** per Colorado State Law regarding Resident Camps, homeopathic treatments must come with parental and physician consent in the original container.
 - e) **All medications and homeopathic treatments are required to be turned into the Health Center staff during check-in. The Health Center Staff or other delegated staff with medication administration training will administer all medications.** The only exceptions are inhalers and epi pens which require an additional form. All emergency medications must be checked in with the Health Center Staff at check in and will then be placed in the camper's backpack with the pocket labeled.

Immunization Record (upload pdf)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) lists all required vaccines you can view [here](#). If your camper is not up to date on all required vaccines, you will be required to submit a medical or non-medical exemption which you can learn more and gather the form [here](#). The update to required vaccines and exemptions applies out of state campers as well. **Campers who are missing required vaccines and do not have a medical or non-medical immunization record, will not be able to attend under any circumstance.**

Childcare Licensing requires camper's immunization record be on the provided Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Certificate of Immunization or *approved certificate* even for out of state campers. Dates may be written on the form provided in your

[CampInTouch](#) account or a copy of your camper’s official record may be uploaded.

States/cities with CDPHE-approved Certificates of Immunization or official school documents

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- California
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York City
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Philadelphia
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wyoming

Healthcare Authorization (submit electronically)

This form would accompany your camper to the medical center, giving permission. Make sure you sign and date the bottom. We have a limited coverage camper health insurance policy for campers without insurance. We will file with our carrier to cover any expenses up to the limits of the policy. This policy is of no cost to you.

Health History (submit electronically)

This form is required by Childcare Licensing.

Camper Code of Conduct and Behavior Policy Acknowledgement (submit electronically)

This form must be completed by campers and parents/guardians. This establishes expectations of conduct while participating in our programs

Information for Counselors (submit electronically)

This is a “fill in the blank and submit” form that is given to your camper’s counselors before they arrive. Please give the counselors as much information as possible to make your camper’s experience the best it can be.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT CAMP

Health Care on Check-In Day

Make sure your camper’s Health History, Physician’s Exam, Immunization Record and Healthcare authorization are completed in your CampInTouch account prior to check-in. All campers will receive a health screening. This consists of, but not necessarily limited to; a lice check, temperature check, and questions regarding your camper’s current health condition.

All medications and homeopathic treatments brought to camp must be turned in to the Health Center staff in the original container at check-in. The only exceptions allowed by Colorado state law are an inhaler and an epinephrine “epi” pen, which will be decided on by the camp nurse.

When to leave your camper at home

Camp Chief Ouray follows the guidelines set by the Colorado Department of Public Health. The “How Sick Is Too Sick” public guidance document can be found [here](#).

Illness

If a camper becomes ill during camp time, they will be made as comfortable as possible in the CCO Day Camp Office or the CCO Health Center. Parents/guardians will be contacted as soon as possible. If parents/guardians cannot be contacted, campers will be kept isolated until picked up. In case of severe illness, the camp nurse may be called to evaluate the camper. Campers may be removed from their group and isolated in the CCO Health Center. We reserve the right to contact EMS if necessary. If a child has thrown up or has had diarrhea within 24 hours of their day of camp, they will have to wait a full 24 hours before they will be admitted to camp.

Injury of a Child

The child will be treated according to the standards of one of the nationally recognized providers of First Aid/CPR. The camp nurse may also be asked to evaluate injuries and provide guidance. Parents/Guardians will be notified at check-out or by phone if appropriate. If emergency transport is needed, the parents/guardians will be called. Medical emergencies will be taken to the Middle Park Medical Center. Medical emergencies cannot be transported in a YMCA of the Rockies vehicle. Ambulance service is provided by Grand County Emergency Medical Service.

Health Care Facilities and Staff

Our program is designed with camper health and safety in mind. We have a well-equipped Health Center at camp with two registered nurses and one Health Center assistants in charge of medications and first-aid needs. Our health care staff are seasonal and reside in the Health Center during each camp season between the last week in May through Labor Day (until the overnight camp season ends). They may be contacted during this time. The year-round administrative staff can make notations regarding specific health needs for your camper's records during the remainder of the year.

Emergencies and Billing Procedures

Middle Park Medical Center is a 15-minute drive away and utilized for emergency services. It offers 24-hour care and consultation. The Middle Park Medical Center is fully staffed 24 hours a day. Transportation to and from the clinic is provided by our camp staff for non-emergency trips. Ambulance service is provided by Grand County EMS for emergencies. A staff member will be with your camper at all times during their transport and throughout their entire clinic visit.

- Your camper usually is seen through the emergency room portion of Middle Park Medical Center.

The following are the clinic billing procedures should your camper need emergency services provided outside of the CCO health care team:

- Your insurance company will be directly billed by the clinic. As the primary provider, you will receive statements. It is **your responsibility** to get payment to the clinic according to their terms. If your camper is seen in the emergency room, you will receive a physician's fee statement and an emergency room fee statement separately. If seen in the clinic portion, all procedures are on one statement. If ambulance transportation was provided, a separate fee statement for the Grand County EMS will be mailed to you.
- Fees charged will vary depending upon the medical services provided. **Emergency room fees are substantially higher than the clinic fees.**
- In non-emergency cases, you may wish to take your camper home. You are welcome to discuss this option with our camp nurse.
- Pharmacy services will be provided by the local City Market Pharmacy. If your camper requires prescribed medication, the pharmacy staff will bill your insurance directly whenever possible. If the pharmacy cannot bill your insurance company, the prescription

cost for your camper will be charged to the Camp Chief Ouray account. The prescription receipts for individual charges will be mailed to you. We request re-imbusement payment upon receipt (checks payable to Camp Chief Ouray).

Infectious Disease Plan

Safety is a priority for us at CCO. We are committed to keeping campers and staff safe and will follow guidelines from our local, state, and federal entities. CCO will adjust our protocols along with advice from our attending physician and other health care providers.

Children with Special Needs or Accommodations

We make every effort to serve all children in our programs. Participation by special needs campers will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Parents should contact the CCO office prior to their camper's program to ensure the best possible experience for your camper. There will also be an option on the camper application to indicate interest in discussing your camper's needs with the program director prior to their day camp session.

Staff to Camper Ratio

5-6 year-olds	1:7 one staff member for every seven campers
7+ year-olds	1:10 one staff member for every ten campers
Mixed ages	1:7 one staff member for every seven campers

Our staff and campers are instructed to follow "the rule of three or more" at all times; meaning no camper will be left alone with a staff member or another camper. Campers will always be with at least two other people (one staff and one other camper or two staff).

Sunscreen

We ask that you apply sunscreen to your camper before camp. Please send sunscreen with your camper, it must be labeled with their first and last name. The camp carries a supply of sunscreen to be used when needed, it is [Rocky Mountain Sunscreen SPF 50](#).

Transportation

Day Camp Staff may use a YMCA 15 passenger minibus to transport campers to a program activity area on Snow Mountain Ranch property (ex: hiking trails, reservoir, etc.). The drivers of these buses have motor vehicle background checks, they must pass a written test and a practical driving test by a trained proctor and must also be cleared by our insurance company to drive. Safety regulations include only fitting the number of people per seats available, wearing seat belts (if equipped), driving the posted speed limit, and only loading and unloading away from traffic. For more information about our driver training program and procedures, please contact the office.

Visitors

CCO Day Camp does not allow visitors to visit during the day camp program. Exceptions can be arranged a minimum of 24 hours prior to the day of a visitor if the Program Director is informed and they approve the visitor (for example, behavioral/mental health discussions and/or observations). Visitors will need to provide a photo ID upon arrival at the office, sign in and provide their current address and reason for visiting the center. Any visitors must be accompanied by a staff member if entering program areas.

Colorado Childcare Services

Licensed facilities make every effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for children. Unfortunately, on rare occasions, an incident of physical or sexual abuse may occur. If you believe that your camper has been abused, you should seek immediate assistance from the county Department of Social Services. The telephone number to report child abuse in Grand County is 970-725-3331.

Childcare services play an important role in supporting families, and strong families are the basis of a thriving community. Your camper's education, physical, emotional, and social development will be nurtured in a well-planned and well-run program.

For additional information regarding licensing or if you have concerns about a childcare facility, please consult the Colorado Division of Childcare at 1575 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203-1714, 303-866-5858. Child Abuse Reporting

Counselors are mandated reporters and are trained to recognize and prevent child abuse. We will report any suspected child abuse to the Department of Human Services.

Contact with Summer Camp Staff Outside of CCO

We encourage and believe camp fosters lifelong friendships. As a safety measure for both campers and staff, communication outside of camp is prohibited. Please monitor your camper social media activity and mail to ensure we are keeping campers and staff safe.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

All CCO staff are trained in emergency procedures and guidelines to follow in the event they are needed. Counselors carry whistles and cell phones/radios at all times in case of an emergency. They are trained to get campers to safety, account for all individuals, ensure the most effective and safe means of first aid and/or response, and communicate with the camp office as soon as possible. For any emergency that requires transportation to an alternate location and/or early check-out, parents/guardians will be contacted with reunification instructions.

Fire

In case of a fire, all campers will be accounted for and brought to a designated location on property. Parents/guardians will be notified by phone. If danger is imminent, campers and staff will be evacuated by bus to the designated evacuation center. Reunification instructions will be shared with information on how to pick up campers if needed. Campers will only be released to individuals with a valid ID and on the authorized pick-up list for the camper.

Lost Child

All CCO staff are trained in our lost child emergency procedures during staff training. In the event of a lost camper, staff will immediately conduct a hasty search of the area and contact the camp office. A complete search of the grounds will be conducted if the camper is not found during the hasty search. Snow Mountain Ranch staff and law enforcement will be contacted for support if needed. The Camp Executive and/or designated Emergency Manager will make the decision as to when to call the camper's parents to inform them of the situation.

Natural Disaster

In the case of flood, tornado, or other severe weather, the most conservative action possible will be taken. Staff will move children to the most protected location possible until help can be summoned. If danger is imminent, campers and staff will be evacuated to the designated evacuation center and parents/guardians will be contacted. Reunification instructions will be shared with information on how to pick up campers if needed. Campers will only be released to

individuals with a valid ID and on the authorized pick-up list for the camper.

Threat to Security or Armed Intruder

In the rare chance that there is a threat to CCO security or an armed intruder, camp staff will use radios and/or cell phones to contact the camp office to call 911. Staff are trained to follow emergency procedures of “run, hide, fight” in that order and remain in a safe location to shelter in place until law enforcement arrives and gives an all clear in person. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately once it is safe to do so.

Inclement Weather

Our programs are primarily outdoors. Outdoor programs will continue whenever possible. Campers should be prepared for rainy, windy, or cloudy days. When lightning or hailstorms approach, groups take cover at the nearest shelter and use rain gear. If lightning is near and groups are in the open, counselors are trained to teach children to spread out, squat with feet together on the ground, and cover their heads with their hands. Counselors are also trained to teach children to cover their heads with their backpacks in hailstorms and to take shelter in windstorms. Groups will take shelter inside on extremely cold days for which children are not prepared.

ATTIRE & HYGIENE WHILE AT CCO

Campers should wear clothing appropriate for an active lifestyle at summer camp, including closed-toed, closed-back shoes. Flip flops/sandals are permitted only for water-based activities. All clothing, hair, and accessories should not become a safety hazard for participants. For safety reasons, we do not allow the wearing of tank tops at CCO, all shirts must have sleeves to protect against sunburn.

CCO is a community focused on uplifting the core values of caring, respect, responsibility, and faith. To help maintain an inclusive and welcoming community, clothing or attire with inappropriate language, offensive graphics and/or logos, references to alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco are absolutely forbidden. Some program areas or activities may have additional dress code requirements, for example wearing long pants while riding a horse. If clothing does not reflect the principles and values of CCO or presents a safety hazard for you as a participant, you will be asked to change. Campers are also expected to maintain their personal hygiene throughout their time at CCO.

PACKING

What to Bring

Be prepared for changing weather; clothes that will layer (T-shirt, sweatshirt, jacket, shorts under sweatpants) are great. Campers will need the following daily:

- A backpack to carry everything (campers travel around the property throughout the day)
- Water bottle (labeled with name)
- A lunch and snacks (please avoid packing nut products)
- Closed toed shoes
- Rain gear
- Sunscreen (must have child’s name on it)
- Hat
- Sunglasses

- Lip balm (preferably with sunscreen)
- Hand sanitizer (optional, must have child's name on it)

It is strongly suggested that all camper items are labeled and carried in their backpack.

What Not to Bring

The following items are prohibited to be brought by campers: alcohol, nicotine products, drugs, weapons, pocketknives, expensive items, money, sports equipment, pets, or electronics.

We strive to offer children a unique outdoor experience. Please help support us in this mission by not allowing campers to bring cell phones, digital cameras, iPads, smart watches or electronic games as they detract from the experience. We realize in this age of instant connectivity that it may be uncomfortable if your camper does not have their cell phone with them. If you need to contact your camper, please call the camp office, and we will discuss the best way to connect you with them. We strive to have campers disconnect electronically so they can not only reconnect with nature but also with themselves. Check out this [Ted Talk](#) on the value of disconnecting while at camp.

CAMP CHECK-IN/OUT

Parents/guardians must sign their camper(s) in before they may participate in the Day Camp programs for the day. There will be two options to check in, a drive through lane where parents/guardians remain in the vehicle, or a park and walk-up option. More information about the drive-through or parking options will be provided in the email you will receive one week prior to your camper's session.

On Monday, there will a series of stations, including a temperature check, health screening, and lice check (we will need to access each camper's scalp in order to conduct the lice check properly). Any campers arriving with medications or homeopathic treatments need to be prepared to hand them over to the Health Center staff in their original containers. Both the parent/guardian and camper must talk with the nurses when turning in medication. We make every effort to make this check-in as efficient as possible, but you should plan on spending approximately 10-15 minutes at check-in on Monday.

We do ask that you plan to say goodbye by 9:00am, as most children will be at camp by that time, and the groups will begin their camp expectations and relationship building activities.

You are required to sign out your camper(s). If someone other than the parents/guardians listed on registration will be picking up your camper, please make sure you fill out the "Authorized to Pick-up" form in your CampInTouch account. A child will only be released to their parents/guardians or other authorized adult with a photo identification (i.e.: driver's license, passport, etc.).

Late Arrival/Pick-Up

Please make every effort to be on time in the morning so your camper(s) can participate in the full program. We will make every attempt to join a late arrival with their group. This may not be possible if a group is hiking or away from the main camp.

Pick-up time is between 4:00-4:30pm at the Day Camp building. If you need to pick your camper(s) up early, please let us know at check-in so we can have your camper(s) ready. You can also call the CCO office if you cannot notify the staff at check-in.

If the camper is not picked up by the designated time, we will wait 15 minutes and then begin to contact parents/guardians. If the camper is not picked up by 4:30pm, the parents may be charged \$1.00 per minute if they are late. If we are unable to contact an authorized person to pick up the camper, we will continue to hold the camper until such a person is reached. *We reserve the right to contact social services if a camper has not been picked up within 15 minutes after the scheduled pick-up time or have contacted the CCO office.*

Our staff will keep a list of authorized pick-up information for each camper. **You are required to show your ID to sign out your camper(s).**

Camp store

The camp store is only open during check-in and check-out on specified days. Items such as Nalgene water bottles, hats, and apparel will be available for purchase. **We do not have a store or snack shop open during camp.** Camp fees include a camp T-shirt.

CAMP LIFE

A Day Camp session is Monday-Friday.

Camper drop-off: 8:00am-9:00am

Day Camp programming: 9:00am-4:00pm

Camper pick-up: 4:00pm-4:30pm

Groups

Our Childcare License is for children ages **5 to 14** only. Your camper must be at least five years old on their first day of camp. Providing fraudulent information about your camper will result in immediate, non-refundable dismissal of the child from camp.

Campers enrolled in Day Camp will be split into groups by age. Each of the nine groups will have ten campers and two counselors. You will receive your camper's group assignment when you check-in on the first day of the camper's session. We try our best to put campers in an age group where everyone is within a year apart in age.

You may make a group request for up to **one** other camper within the Forms and Documents section of your CampInTouch account. Requests should be mutual between campers and should not be more than twelve (12) months apart in age. Requests must be submitted seven days before your camper's session starts. We do not guarantee placement for group requests. Please note that group assignments are not made until the week before your camper's session begins.

Activity Information

We will have a wide range of activities scheduled for your campers throughout the week that may include archery, riflery, hiking, outdoor survival, rock climbing, sports & games, and arts & crafts. Please see below a list of possible activities. Some activities will be done within their age groups, others with all groups combined and a few will be elective style, where campers get to choose which activities they would like to participate in. This is called FOCA (freedom of choice activities) and they will sign up for them on Monday.

Media Policy

We strive to offer campers a unique outdoor experience without technology so they can reconnect with nature and themselves. In the rare instance that media is included in programming to provide instruction and/or visual guidance, it will be limited to no more than a

few minutes.

Additional Options:

Beginner Trail Rides

Horseback trail rides will be offered on a limited basis for campers ages 7+ for an additional \$85 fee. Spots will fill on a first come first serve basis. You can indicate your interest in a trail ride in your application as an additional option. Campers who participate in the beginner trail ride will spend Thursday morning at our overnight camp barn and complete an approximately 30-minute trail ride. Please contact the office if you would like to add a trail ride to your camper's session or to inquire about availability. Campers must wear closed-toed shoes and long pants; helmets will be provided.

Snow Mountain Ranch Aerial Adventure Course

An Aerial Adventure Course, run by Snow Mountain Ranch staff, will be offered on a limited basis for campers who meet the minimum height requirement of 4 feet, 9 inches (4'9"). The maximum weight is 250lbs. All participants must pass the thirty-minute ground school at the beginning of the session. You may indicate interest in your camper participating in the aerial adventure course in your camper application. This option will take place on Friday mornings; campers are encouraged to wear long pants or something that would be comfortable under a harness.

Potential Day Camp Activities

This is not an exhaustive list of all activities that may be offered but is provided to give an idea of the activities that campers may participate in.

- Archery
- Hiking
- Rock climbing
- Campfire Creations
- Outdoor Survival/Education
- Nature Walks
- Sports and Games
- Board and Card Games
- Arts and Crafts
- Mini-Golf
- Playgrounds
- Talent Show
- Science
- Library
- Roller Skating
- Team Building Activities
- Water Based Activities
- Social and Emotional Learning Activities
- Performing Arts

Meals and Snacks

You will need to provide your camper's lunch, snacks and drinks for the day. We ask that you pack nutritious lunches, snacks and drinks for your camper each day. Please avoid sending your child(ren) with nut products as we have many campers/staff with severe nut allergies.

Food Allergies

Life-threatening allergies must have a treatment plan submitted in the camper's CampInTouch account. This plan MUST be completed and *signed by the child's physician*.

Theme Days

Each Friday, campers and staff are welcome to dress up to match the session's theme. It is not required, and we encourage everyone to use clothing items or other objects that they already own.

Lost and Found

Camp Chief Ouray is not responsible for lost or damaged items. We will do all that we can to

ensure that your camper returns with all of the items brought to camp. **Please be sure to mark ALL of your camper's belongings with their full name (not just initials).** Be sure to send older, non-valuable items with your camper. There is a lost and found bin the day camp building that you are welcome to visit during check-in or check-out times.

It is your responsibility to contact the CCO office if you believe one of your camper's belongings was lost, even if the item has the camper's name on it. Due to limited storage, CCO will only keep the items one week after the end of Session 9 at which point all items will be donated.

BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE POLICY

The YMCA is responsible for ensuring each person's right to achieve our goals within the camp setting. To do so, the YMCA requests the understanding and application of this proactive disciplinary policy.

1. Every person has the right to be safe and healthy within their environment, including freedom from verbal, physical and mental abuse and bullying.
2. Everyone has the right to an opinion and to be heard constructively and positively.
3. Every person has the right to be respected and treated fairly in a civilized manner.

Campers will participate in a wide variety of activities that may be somewhat challenging and stressful. Campers may experience many difficult situations such as being cold, hot, wet, tired or even irritated with themselves and/or other group members. These conditions resemble real life situations and will provide opportunities to practice emotional recognition and regulation skills. Campers are expected to respect the rules and policies set by Camp Chief Ouray for the protection of the individual, the group and the environment. Campers will be expected to take care of themselves and others and cooperate with the counselors. Campers will be expected to comply with the group expectations as set and discussed on the first day of programming.

In order to provide an enriching summer camp experience in a natural setting, we ask that campers do not bring or use electronics while at camp. Exceptions will be made for any electronics required for health needs (blood sugar monitors, communication devices, etc.). Racism, discrimination of any kind or any use of derogatory terms against any person will not be tolerated. Other unacceptable behaviors during any Camp Chief Ouray program include, but are not limited to, theft, physical fighting, vandalism, sexual harassment or behavior, and possession, use or sale of tobacco, vaping, alcohol and/or drugs. Engaging in one or more of these behaviors is grounds for immediate dismissal from a program without refund and may prevent me from returning to Camp Chief Ouray in future summers.

The YMCA staff will do their best to redirect any negative behavior and resolve any issues to achieve a positive outcome for all involved. Camp Chief Ouray will utilize restorative justice practices to approach conflict; focusing on repairing harm through dialogue of involved parties and emphasizing accountability and restoration of relationships. Parents/guardians will be notified immediately if issues arise regarding camper behavior. If positive outcomes cannot be achieved, the YMCA reserves the right to suspend or terminate the camper from our program. Camp fees will not be refunded nor credited for behavioral dismissal.

Discipline Action Progression/Consequences

We have high but reasonable expectations about our camper's behavior. If a child's behavior becomes disruptive enough to disturb the experience of other campers and staff, a decision may be made to remove the camper from our program. In keeping with our 'for all' focus and ensuring the physical, emotional and psychological safety of all our campers and staff, racism or any use of derogatory terms against any person will not be tolerated.

Every situation is handled as a unique situation. We believe in utilizing restorative justice practices and building empathy in our community. Should a camper choose to repeatedly disrupt the experience of other campers and staff, the following action steps may be taken.

1. Conversation between camper and counselor with administrative staff, verbal warning
2. Logical consequences of behavior are put in place, such as supervised space and time away from other campers
3. If behaviors continue, we will contact parents to get insight on the situation. We believe parents know their camper best, so having your help to identify language you use at home, or how you help with behavior development, will help your camper stay at camp.
4. Conversation between camper, counselor, administrative staff and camp director. Using the insight from a parent call, we use this information to help create a behavior contract outlining acceptable/unacceptable behavior, alternative positive behaviors, and consequences.
5. Parents will work with camper and camp director to revise and address behavior contract
6. Meeting with camper, counselor, camp director, parent/guardian: camper dismissed from camp for the remainder of the camp session
7. Suspension from camp (time frame indefinite; TBD based on safety of other children and positive behavior changes). Those who do not comply will be sent home at parents/guardians' expense and with no refund.

Parent/Guardian Conferences

A request for a conference concerning your camper's behavior may be directed to the Program Director. We welcome your feedback.

Withdrawal from the Program

Camp Chief Ouray reserves the right to remove a camper from the program for reasons of delinquency in payment of fees, or an inability of camper or parent/guardian to adjust to the activity program or discipline/behavior management policies. Such removals are to be determined by the staff and the Camp Executive Director.