



Camper Policies and Procedures

Revised Winter 2022

*Mission Statement*

Eastern Orthodox Youth Camp (EOYC) strives to recognize Christ within each of us and to enhance our relationship with God, The Church, and each other.

*Purpose*

EOYC seeks the well-being of everyone through Faith based religious education; Fellowship in an inter-Orthodox setting; and fun in a playful environment.

EOYC is committed to promoting a camp environment that is free of discrimination. We affirm every person is made in the image of God and will be loved. Every interaction with each other will be offered in love and free from judgment.

*Camper Eligibility*

EOYC campers are children ages 7-17. Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis and will be evaluated by the EOYC Board of Directors.

A child must be 7 prior to the first day of camp.

Graduating seniors who will not be 18 by the start of EOYC in the next camp year may choose to remain a camper another year. EOYC Counselors must be 18 prior to the beginning of camp.

*Camper Safety*

All EOYC staff and counselors will have completed training in a youth protection program to promote a safe environment. Additionally, EOYC will collect health forms, insurance information, and a "consent to treat" form to help ensure the safety of all campers and in case of a medical emergency.

*Special Needs Children*

EOYC will make every possible effort to provide reasonable accommodations for the safety and enjoyment of all children. Parents of special needs children should contact the camp director at the time of enrollment to ensure that it is possible to meet the child's needs while at EOYC.

*Registration of Children*

An online EOYC registration and health form must be completed at least two weeks before the beginning of camp. An additional late fee will be charged to camper registrations received after this deadline.

An orientation packet will be sent and will include a welcome letter, packing list, and camper policies and procedures.

*Illness*

For the protection and health of all children and staff, EOYC cannot accept children with the following symptoms:

1. Elevated temperature
2. Diarrhea or vomiting
3. Undiagnosed rash
4. Sore or discharging eyes or ears, profuse nasal discharge.
5. Diagnosed contagious diseases such as strep throat or chicken pox.

6. Other contagious diseases.

If any of these symptoms are detected while at camp, the parents will be notified to pick up their child.

*Immunizations*

Anyone attending EOYC, either camper or staff must confirm that they are vaccinated and are "up to date" on the following immunizations: Mumps; Measles; Rubella; Polio; Tetanus; Diphtheria; Pertussis and Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib). We strongly recommend a Tetanus booster and the COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible.

A medical exemption may be granted by the EOYC Board of Directors. To apply for the exemption, the parent of the individual must provide a written explanation/rationale along with a letter from a licensed and board certified physician indicating why immunizations are medically contraindicated.

*Medications*

All medications needed by a child during camp must be delivered to the camp nurse in the original container that shows:

1. Prescription number,
2. Name of medication,
3. Date filled,
4. Physician's name,
5. Child's name, and
6. Directions for dosage.
7. A note of written consent signed by the parent should accompany the medication explaining the times the medication should be given.

**All medication (both prescription and over-the counter) will be stored with the camp nurse.**

Additionally, parents should inform the camper's cabin counselor of all medications and schedule.

Over-the-counter medications may be distributed by the camp nurse with parental permission.

*Zero Tolerance Policy*

Eastern Orthodox Youth Camp exercises a Zero Tolerance Policy in regards to the possession of illegal, dangerous or potentially dangerous objects or substances. Such items may include, but are not limited to alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, vaping devices, weapons, and pornographic materials. The discovery of any such items may lead to the immediate dismissal of the individual along with any applicable legal action. The parent(s) will be notified of the policy violation and the parent will be responsible for picking up their child.

The *Zero Tolerance* policy applies to both campers and staff.

*Telephone Policy*

Campers are **not** allowed to have mobile phones during the week of camp. If a phone is found, it will be confiscated by the counselor and returned to the camper at the end of camp.

*No Bullying Policy*

EOYC will not tolerate any form of bullying or hazing. Physical violence will NOT be tolerated at any time. The No Bullying policy also includes the banning of any form of pranking, practical jokes, or any other detrimental humor.

Counselors who observe bullying are asked to intervene, discuss the situation with the camper(s) involved, and then disclose the incident to either the Camp Director, Assistant Camp Director, Camp Priest, or Cabin Chief. Additional incidents of bullying or inappropriate behavior may result in the dismissal of a camper from EOYC. The parent(s) will be notified of the camper's dismissal and will be responsible for picking up their child.

*Bag Check*

Upon arrival to the cabin, each camper's bags will be checked to enforce compliance of the Zero Tolerance Policy. The camper is required to be present for the search in order to ensure proper respect for privacy. The parents/guardians of the camper are welcome to be present during the inspection but are not required. It is required that one of our staff observes; usually this will be the other Cabin Leader.

We reserve the right to inspect the property of any individual present at EOYC at any time during the camp week.

*Misconduct*

Campers are instructed and praised for appropriate behavior or language. Corrective methods chosen for inappropriate behavior and language will be constructive and educational. Discipline methods can include talking about the situation, separation from the situation, and natural consequences.

**If a camper's misconduct persists after multiple attempts at intervention, the camper may be dismissed from EOYC. The parent(s) will be notified and expected to pick up their child if he/she is dismissed. If for some reason, the parent is unavailable to pick up the dismissed camper, the parent must notify the Camp Director or Camp Chaplain at Check-in and designate someone who may pick up their child in their stead.**

*Camper drop-off/pick-up*

Campers may not be dropped off prior to the scheduled check-in time. If a child needs to be dropped off late or picked up prior to the dismissal of camp, arrangements must be made with the Camp Director.

*Visitors*

All visitors must contact the Camp Director or Camp Chaplain at least 48 hours in advance of the desired visiting time to schedule a visitation. Upon arrival, the visitor must check-in with the Camp Director when arriving. The visitor will receive a visitor's pass to wear while at camp. It is important that we follow the youth protection program guidelines and this requires that all adults at camp complete the

required training promoting a safe environment. Adults who have not completed this training are designated as visitors and must sign in/out of camp and be designated a “visitor.”