

Golden Empire Council COVID-19 Field book

The objective of this Field Guide is to provide educational materials for camp staff to reduce potential exposures to and spread of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes COVID-19. This information is consistent with the health and safety recommendations and ongoing monitoring efforts stated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and recommendations made by the Boy Scouts of America and American Camp Association. This plan also implements the Guidance for Overnight Camps put out by the California Department of Public Health on May 13, 2021. These guidelines will remain in effect through September 2021 unless otherwise indicated by the California Department of Public Health or the County Health Department.

General Steps

Vaccinations are not required for campers but are highly encouraged. We also encourage that everyone who is not eligible or able to receive a vaccine be tested before arrival.

Masking will be required indoors regardless of physical distancing and outdoors when 6 feet physical distancing may not be maintained at all times. Campers should choose those with two to three layers of permeable fabric. Campers should bring enough masks for 7 days. Face masks should only be put on and taken off with clean hands.

Campers and staff should avoid touching their faces when possible.

It is important for campers and staff to understand and follow the following before coming to camp:

1. Early identification of ill persons
2. Staying home while ill
3. Cough and hand hygiene etiquette
4. Encouraging the use of hand sanitizer

Pre-Screening

Offering pre-screening before campers and staff head to camp will give insight into each individual's health status prior to arrival. We will be requiring all troops and staff to submit a Pre-Screening Form when they arrive at camp. We will also be performing another medical screening when campers and staff arrive at camp.

The Pre-Screening Form must be completed before travel to camp begins and will ask for the following from each individual going to camp:

- Self-screening for the presence of symptoms 72 hours before arrival. (fever of 100.4 °F or greater, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.)
- Before driving camp, campers will do an additional pre-screening with their youth. Any youth with symptoms will need to stay home
- When campers arrive at camp, staff will complete an additional screening. Groups that have anyone in their group that have more than 2 symptoms will all be sent home.

Campers and staff that are flagged during the screening at arrival will not be allowed to stay at camp.

ONGOING PROCEDURES

Each morning, campers will conduct daily symptom checks each morning for each person in their group.

If any camper or staff starts to exhibit symptoms, we ask that they avoid contact as much as possible as they make their way to the camp health officer. When someone suspected of having symptoms of COVID-19 are brought before the health officer, they must follow these steps:

1. Ask the individual if they have any COVID-19 symptoms:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.
2. Next, check the temperature of the individual according to camp processes using an appropriate thermometer. Clean the thermometer with an alcohol wipe (or isopropyl alcohol on a cotton swab) between each camper or staff member.
3. If camper or staff is suspected to have COVID-19 based on this assessment, isolate individual by separating symptomatic individuals by at least 6 feet. The area for individuals with symptoms should be at least 6 feet away from other areas of the health center or in a separate room. Health staff should wear an N95 respirator (for aerosol generating procedures) or face mask, a face shield or other eye protection, disposable gloves, and a disposable gown (if conducting aerosol generating procedures) while working with individuals who have a suspected case of COVID-19.
4. Notify camp management, parents/guardians, and appropriate healthcare providers in accordance with guidance from your local health officials, following the communication guidelines in this document.

RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT OF CASE(S) OR PROBABLE CASE(S)

If a staff member or camper is identified as having a potential or confirmed case of COVID-19, isolate the individual in the Medical Lodge. If this takes place at a different venue, identify a shaded area away from others that they can wait. Camp leadership will consider the following:

- Consider if a camper or staff member warrants further clinical evaluation, and if so, make arrangements to do so, either in-person or via telehealth.
- If camper or staff member does not require immediate clinical evaluation, isolate the individual until appropriate return to home transportation can be arranged.
- If camper or staff member does not require immediate clinical evaluation
- Make arrangements with camp administration and counselors to have the person's belongings moved
- Clean the person's sleeping areas according to CDP and procedures outlined in the Cleaning and Disinfection section of this Field Guide.
- Consider testing options and notification of State and local officials.

It is crucial to carry out "contact tracing" immediately to determine the potential or confirmed case's contacts with other campers or staff members over the previous two or more days. Assessing and informing those with potential exposure is a fundamental control strategy for minimizing spread within a group or camp population. CDC defines close contact as interactions within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes. Contact tracing should be carried out by trained staff (e.g., public health staff, community health workers, trained volunteers) in conjunction with the local health department. However, camp health staff can utilize general principles of contact tracing to begin closely monitoring other potentially exposed individuals.

In cooperation with the local health department, camps might be asked to assist with contact tracing. Key CDC suggestions for contact tracing include:

- Always follow established core principles of contact tracing.
- Conduct contact tracing with only trained staff or trained volunteers. Training should be conducted prior to the start of camp.
- Identify contacts quickly and ensure they do not interact with other campers or staff members.
- Communicate with local and state health officials and all camp stakeholders.
- Monitor key components of contact tracing programs and improve performance as needed.

GENERAL STEPS FOR PREVENTION AT OUR CAMPS

HAND HYGIENE

When to Wash or Disinfect Hands – Campers and General Staff

- Before eating food (e.g., when entering the dining area)
- Upon entering your tent
- After being in contact with someone who may have been sick
- After touching frequently touched surface (railings, doorknobs, counters, etc.)
- After using the restroom
- After using common items, such as sports equipment, computer keyboards and mice, craft supplies, etc.
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose

HOUSING POLICY

When possible, we recommend that each camper have their own tent at camp, rather than sharing as they normally would. If this isn't possible, we ask that each troop do their best to spread campers as far apart as possible. Campers sharing a tent should alternate directions that they are sleeping in so that campers are lying "head to foot" so that half of the campers heads are on one side of the tent and the other half are on the other. In both situations, limit housing access to only individuals who reside in that cabin or tent; avoid having visitors and parents entering the cabin at drop off and pickup periods in the residential spaces. For those staying in cabins, if all people inside are not vaccinated, a mask must be worn while inside.

All residents should use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol or wash their hands with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds, upon entry to their cabin or tent. Avoid sharing common items (cups, bedding, etc.) as well as the sharing of individuals' items. Cabins and tents should be cleaned routinely. Refer to the Cleaning and Disinfection section of this guide. Handwashing should be done often by each camper.

BATHROOMS

- Avoid sharing common bathroom supplies (towels, soap, toothpaste, etc.). Instruct campers to bring their own bathroom supplies and a container for toiletries to be stored in for the duration of camp (for example, a bathroom tote or a 1-quart clear plastic bag labeled with their name).
- Campers should keep personal items in their bag or tote and store their bag or tote in a designated area.

FOOD SERVICE

Though we plan on Food Service being similar to what it has been in the past, it will be different in a few key ways. First, salad bars will not be open as they normally have. To make up for this, we will be making sure to always offer seconds for each meal as well as offering more healthy options in the serving line. While indoors, campers will need to wear a mask and stay distanced from each other.

We believe that by holding to these guidelines, we will be able to offer Scouts the best experience possible while keeping everyone safe. We thank for your patience and help in keeping to these guidelines.