



AYF COVID-19 Procedures & Protocols

(Updated 6/9/21)

Considering recent changes to vaccine availability and eligibility, the American Youth Foundation has updated our COVID-19 Procedures and Protocols for summer 2021. As always, our top priority is the health and safety of everyone in our Miniwanca and Merrowvista communities.

The AYF strongly encourages all staff and [campers 12 or older to be fully vaccinated](#) against COVID-19 before arrival to camp. We also recognize that younger members of our camp communities are not eligible for vaccination at this time. With their health in mind, some of the AYF COVID-19 precautions are more conservative than the recent CDC guidance issued for fully vaccinated individuals. We believe this is the best way to help create a safe bubble for our community and to lower the risk that COVID-19 enters camp.

Please carefully review this updated guidance for information on permitted activities, screening, and testing expectations prior to the start of camp.

Important Updates (as of 6/9/21)

- All campers are no longer required to participate in **daily symptom monitoring** using MyMedBot (more information on page 3) before arrival at camp.
- Fully vaccinated staff and campers no longer need to submit proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test prior to arrival at camp. Instead, they must **provide proof of vaccination** via their CampBrain account (more information on page 3) before they arrive at camp.
- Unvaccinated staff and campers must **provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test** via their CampBrain account (more information on page 3) prior to arrival at camp.
- Campers and staff are no longer required quarantine before arrival at camp. Instead, all campers regardless of vaccination status **must adhere to Low to Low/Medium Risk activities** outlined in the COVID-19 Risk Index (see infographic on page 2) for at least the 10 days before arrival at camp.

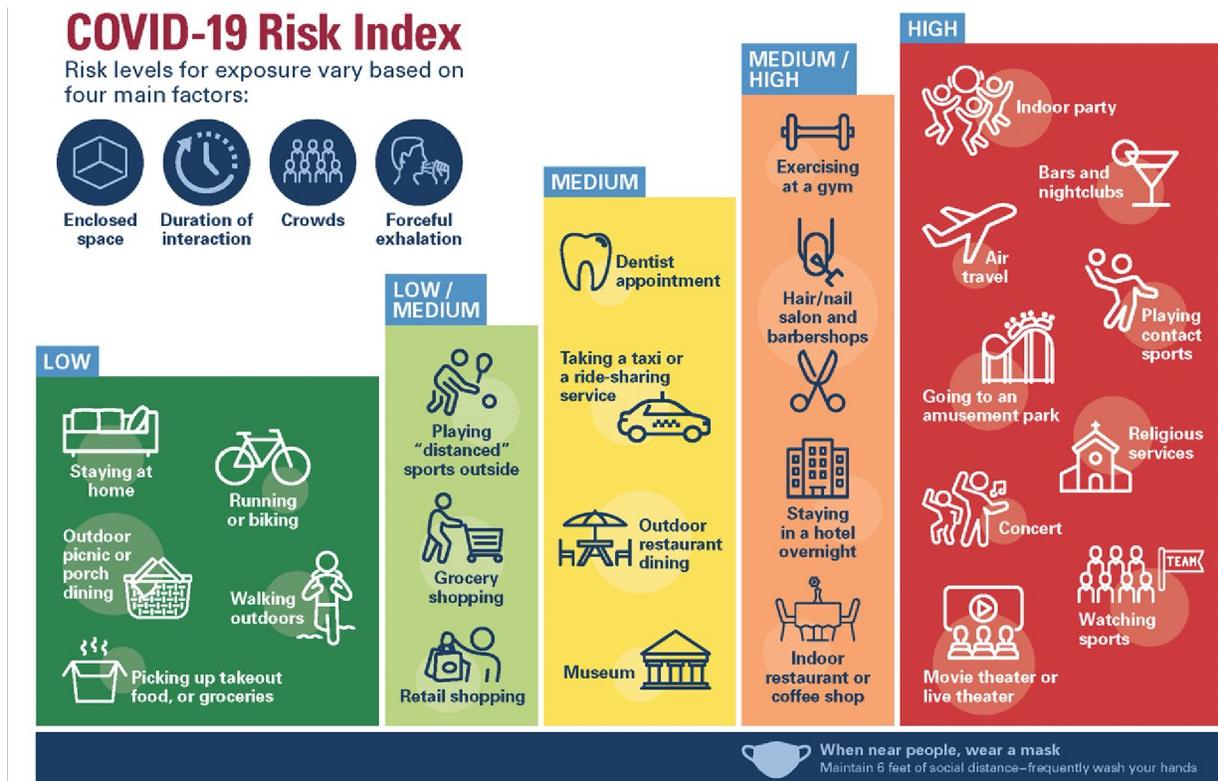
Pre-Camp Activities, Vaccination, and COVID-19 Testing Timeline

Camp	Final vaccination completed (2 weeks prior to camp)	Camper Safest Activities Start Date (10 days prior)	COVID-19 Test at home (3 to 5 days prior to camp)*	Camp Starts	Camp Ends
Miniwanca	June 13 or sooner	June 17	June 22 – 24	June 27	July 17
Merrowvista	June 27 or sooner	July 1	July 6 – 8	July 11	July 31

*applies only to unvaccinated campers

Activities Before Camp

- COVID-19 has an incubation period of 4-10 days, so limiting in-person interactions to only those you live with significantly lowers the risk of exposure.
- All campers and staff, *regardless of vaccination status*, will only engage in **Low to Low/Medium Risk activities** outlined in the two green sections of the COVID-19 Risk Index (see infographic on page 2) at least 10 days prior to the start of camp. All campers will wear masks when engaging in any activities outside their household.



At-Home Screening

- The AYF asks families to closely monitor their camper's health and immediately notify camp if they or another household member exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms, especially in the 10 days prior to arrival at camp.
 - COVID-19 symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Families are no longer required to log their camper's daily symptoms using the MyMedBot app in the 10 days prior to arrival at camp.

Pre-Camp COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing

- **Fully vaccinated staff and campers must submit proof of vaccination** before arrival at camp. The CDC defines fully vaccinated as two weeks after a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.
- **Unvaccinated staff and campers are required to submit a negative PCR test** conducted within the 3 to 5 days prior to arriving at camp. **For Miniwanca, this is June 20 to 24. For Merrowvista, this is July 4 to 8.** Please contact us if you need assistance in obtaining a COVID-19 PCR test.
- **A PCR test is not a "rapid test," also known as an antigen test.** PCR tests are more accurate than antigen tests, but it can take longer to receive your results (possibly 2 to 3 days). Please plan accordingly to make sure you receive your test results before Opening Day.
- After the COVID-19 PCR test is conducted, the camper should have **no contact with anyone outside of their household.**
- Families should upload their camper's proof of vaccination or negative PCR test results to their AYF account **before arrival on Opening Day.** If you do not think you will receive your test results before Opening Day, please email the Camp Director to discuss next steps.
- Families can upload a screenshot from their smartphones or computers, a PDF, or a scan or photo of the test results. Please make sure your camper's name is clearly visible on the proof of vaccination or test results.

Travel to/from Camp

- Under the current state guidelines, personal transportation is the only way staff and families can travel to camp. You will be responsible for driving your child directly to camp with minimal exposures for urgent stops only. More details regarding Opening

and Closing Days are provided in the [Merrowvista Camper & Family Handbook](#) and [Miniwanca Camper & Family Handbook](#).

- Campers and staff also need to have their own transportation to return home.

COVID-19 Testing at Camp

- Current guidelines require all campers and staff are tested upon arrival at camp and again on their fifth day at camp. Parents/guardians must sign and upload a COVID-19 testing/screening consent form to their CampBrain account prior to the start of camp.
- Additional tests may take place if the camper/staff or any close contacts have exhibited any COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

What additional COVID-19 precautions are campers and staff be expected to take while at camp?

Campers and staff will be placed in small living groups that will function as a “household,” staying in adjacent cabins, eating meals together, and doing many activities together. Masks will not always be required in these living groups.

Masks are required when a living group interacts with campers and staff from other groups.

Campers and staff who directly interact with them will be considered inside a bubble this summer. Any cabin leaders and staff in this bubble must stay on site for the entirety of their time at Miniwanca, including their days off.

Any local staff who are not able to live on site will be considered outside this bubble. They will be required to wear masks on site and will have very limited interaction with people inside the bubble.

How will the AYF monitor camper health?

At least once a day, all campers will have their temperatures checked and will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms. Our on-site medical staff will follow specific protocols if any camper or staff member has an elevated temperature or exhibits COVID-related symptoms.

How will the AYF handle non-COVID illnesses?

Health care staff will handle illness and injury at camp as they always have, while taking added precautions against COVID-19. We will work throughout the winter and spring to develop modified procedures at the health center, but likely it will look and feel much as it always has.

What if a camper needs medical care outside of camp?

We will aim to minimize trips to outside clinics when possible by using telehealth appointments. For medical needs requiring a local urgent care or emergency room, a brief assessment or treatment, such as an X-ray or sutures, we will follow appropriate COVID-19 safety protocol while off-campus and upon return to camp.

Extended off-site medical visits may result in a camper or staff member having to leave the community.

What will you do if someone shows COVID-19 symptoms?

If staff or campers exhibit any symptoms or have knowingly been exposed to anyone with COVID-19, they will be quarantined from others. They will not participate in any camp activities, go to the dining hall, or be present in other public places while test results are pending.

What will the AYF do if someone tests positive for COVID-19 at camp?

We will immediately contact families if someone at camp contracts COVID-19 during the summer.

The person diagnosed with COVID-19 will be isolated. Per CDC guidelines, the camper needs to be picked up by family and brought back home by private transportation.

The camper or staff member's living group will be quarantined from the rest of the camp community until COVID-19 test results are received. The living group may continue activities during that time, while they stay separate from everyone else.

Once the appropriate quarantine has passed and they received negative COVID-19 test results, they will resume normal activities with the rest of the campers and staff.

Do all AYF's guidelines still apply to people who have been vaccinated?

Yes, all in-camp guidelines apply to those with or without the vaccine. While we have heard that nearly all staff will be vaccinated against COVID-19 this summer, we know some campers in our community are ineligible to be vaccinated.

AYF closely monitors CDC guidelines and recommendations regarding COVID-19 vaccinations. AYF strongly encourages all eligible staff and campers to get vaccinated, as it is effective at protecting you from getting sick and it will help reduce risk for our entire community. As of April 7, 2021, the CDC continues to state the following:

“We know that COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness. We're still learning how effective the vaccines are against variants of the virus that causes COVID-19. Early data show the vaccines may work against some variants but could be less effective against others.

“We’re still learning how well COVID-19 vaccines keep people from spreading the disease. We know that other prevention steps help stop the spread of COVID-19, and that these steps are still important, even as vaccines are being distributed.”