



AYF COVID-19 Procedures & Protocols

(Updated 5/1/2022)

Important Updates

- Campers and staff must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken 48 to 72 hours before arrival at Miniwanca and Merrowvista.
- Upon arrival to Miniwanca and Merrowvista, the Health Team will administer a rapid antigen test to all campers and staff. If anyone tests positive, the Health Team will administer a PCR test.
- If a camper or staff is diagnosed with COVID-19 within 90 days of the start of camp, they must submit proof of a positive COVID-19 test.

COVID-19 Vaccination and Booster Requirements

Considering recent changes to vaccine availability and eligibility, the American Youth Foundation has updated our COVID-19 Procedures and Protocols for summer 2022. As always, our top priority is the health and safety of everyone in our Miniwanca and Merrowvista communities. Our COVID-19 Procedures and Protocols are aligned with current CDC guidelines and are subject to change as guidance evolves.

Before arriving at Miniwanca or Merrowvista, **all summer 2022 staff and participants are required to be fully vaccinated and against COVID-19 and have received their COVID-19 booster, if eligible.** This will ensure all campers/staff are up to date with their COVID-19 immunization.

- **Fully vaccinated** means a person is at least 2 weeks past their primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine (one injection of Johnson & Johnson or 2 injections of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines).
- All campers and staff 12 years or older who are **eligible to receive their COVID-19 booster dose must do so** before arrival at camp. Individuals are eligible for the booster dose 5 months after completion of the initial series (Pfizer, Moderna) and 2 months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
- All campers and staff must upload proof of vaccination and booster, if eligible, before arrival at camp.

- If boosters are authorized for campers 11 and younger before summer 2022 programs begin, the AYF will recommend those campers receive their booster, but it will not be required.

COVID-19 Prevention Protocols Before Camp

Our camper families' careful adherence to low-risk pre-camp activities in 2021 was a major factor in the good health of our program communities. We are counting on you to help make this happen again this summer. Please carefully review this updated guidance for information on permitted activities, screening, and testing expectations prior to the start of camp.

COVID-19 has an incubation period of 4 to 10 days. The AYF asks staff and camper families to limit their indoor, in-person interactions to only those they live with to reduce the risk of exposure.

Beginning 10 days before camp, all campers and staff will wear [well-fitted procedure or KN95 mask](#) when indoors outside the home. They will avoid high-risk activities including large indoor gatherings (parties, concerts, sleepovers), movie theaters, sporting events, dining indoors at a restaurant, etc. We ask anyone who lives with a camper or staff member to be mindful of the risk for COVID-19 exposure during this 10-day period and to consider the health of the overall camp community when choosing activities during this time.

At-Home Screening

Camper families should closely monitor their camper's health and immediately notify Miniwanca or Merrowvista if:

- the camper, staff member, or anyone they live with **exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms 10 days before arrival at camp**, including fever or chills, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
- the camper, staff member, or anyone they live with tests **positive for COVID-19 3 weeks prior to arrival at camp**.
- Anyone the camper or staff member lives with **exhibits COVID-19 symptoms within 1 week after camp arrival**, regardless of COVID test result.

Pre-Camp COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing

All summer 2022 campers and staff are required to participate in pre-program COVID-19 testing.

Each camper and staff member must upload a photo of a **negative COVID-19 test administered 48 to 72 hours** prior to arrival at Miniwanca or Merrowvista. At-home rapid antigen tests or PCR tests are accepted. **The camper or staff member's name and date of test**

must be written in ink on the test result and must be clearly visible in the photo. You will receive an email when you can upload this test result to CampBrain.

Free rapid antigen tests are available through the U.S. Government and [can be ordered online](#). If you have difficulty procuring tests for the required pre-arrival testing, please notify us in advance and we will work with you to locate a test.

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

Camp	COVID-19 Vaccination Dose 2 completed	Low Risk Activities Start Date (10 days prior)	COVID-19 Test at Home (48-72 hours before arrival)	Camp Starts	Camp Ends
Miniwanca Session A	June 12 or sooner	June 16	June 23 to 24	June 26	July 8
Miniwanca Session B	June 26 or sooner	June 30	July 7 to 8	July 10	July 29
Merrowvista Session A	June 19 or sooner	June 23	June 30 to July 1	July 3	July 15 or 22
Merrowvista Session B	July 10 or sooner	July 14	July 21 to 22	July 24	Aug. 12

Travel To Camp

All campers and staff traveling to Merrowvista or Miniwanca will wear a [well-fitted procedure or KN95 mask](#) for the entirety of the trip, including in airport or bus terminals and on the airplane or bus. This includes the AYF bus from St. Louis to Miniwanca and all airport shuttle pickups. Cloth masks are not sufficient for public transportation.

The AYF recommends travelers pack their own food, snacks, and a refillable water bottle. If travelers buy food or drink from restaurants while traveling, sit at least 6 feet away from others and only remove your mask for short periods of time to eat or drink.

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

Opening/Arrival Day Testing

The AYF Health Team will administer a rapid antigen test to each camper and staff member upon arrival during the registration process. The camper or staff member will remain in their vehicle while awaiting test results, approximately 15 minutes.

If the rapid antigen test is positive, the AYF Health Team will administer a NAAT/PCR test on site. The camper or staff will remain in their vehicle pending these test results, approximately 40 to 45 minutes.

If the camper or staff member's PCR test result is positive, they will be required to return home. Campers who arrive by bus or airplane will need to be picked up from camp as soon as possible. While awaiting pickup, any camper who tests positive will be isolated from other campers.

COVID-19 Infection Before Arrival

If a camper or staff is diagnosed with COVID-19 **within 90 days of the start of camp, they must submit proof of a positive COVID-19 test.** At-home rapid antigen tests or PCR tests are accepted. **The camper or staff member's name and date of test must be written in ink on the test result** and must be clearly visible in the photo.

At this time, campers or staff who have submitted a proof of a positive COVID-19 test before camp **do not need to submit a negative test result** before camp or be tested on Opening/Arrival Day. You will be notified if this changes.

COVID-19 Testing at Camp

If a camper or staff member or any close contacts exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, the AYF may test them during program.

If someone tests positive for COVID-19 during program, **they will be required to go home and may not be eligible to return to camp.** While awaiting pickup, the positive individual will be isolated from other campers and will be supervised by staff.

For 10 days after the camper or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, their living unit (village and/or cabinmates and leaders) will **not** quarantine or isolate from others. They will adhere to [current CDC guidance](#) and:

- Mask indoors when they are unable to distance and when they are with others outside their living unit.
- May be rapid tested for COVID-19 on Day 5.
- Be monitored for symptoms and be tested for COVID-19 if they become symptomatic.

If anyone else in the living unit tests positive during this 10-day period, the day of exposure returns to 0 and the living unit will follow the above guidance for another 10 days.