

CAMP 2025: KEY DATES AND INFO



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CAMP FORMS CHECKLIST

As soon as possible, and **before May 15th**, complete the following forms online through your [Household Portal](#) account!

- Look for the checklist symbol throughout this Handbook for details about preparing for camp!**

Forms to Complete

- Camper Photo upload
- *Camper Information Form
- *Agreements & Waivers
- *Behavioral & Mental Health
- Authorized Adults
- Insurance Card upload (available January 1st)
- Camper Medical Form (available April 1st)
- Transportation Form (available April 1st)
- Class Selection Form (**available June 2nd**)

Please Note: an * indicates a required form that must be submitted in order for your camper to enroll.

TRANSPORTATION

One of our core values is Community. As such, we value and encourage any moments when parents/guardians can be a part of our process alongside their campers. Check-In and Check-Out days are a great example of how we apply this unique philosophy. We are proud of our facilities, our staff, and our program and we want families to experience them together! We encourage families to drop-off and pick-up their campers at camp when possible so you can be involved in helping

campers move-in/out of their bunks, you can see the connections and growth they have made first-hand, and you can connect directly with staff and Camp Directors about your questions and needs.

We know it is not always possible for in-person pick-up and drop offs, so we do offer convenient transportation from designated areas in Philadelphia, New York City, and Northern New Jersey. You can indicate your transportation needs on your camper's registration.

The cost of camp-provided transportation is updated each year. The rates are:

- Transportation on the camp bus from NYC or West Orange, NJ will cost \$75 each direction. **A caregiver must be present at camper dropoff.**
- Transportation to/from Philadelphia International Airport or the Philadelphia 30th Street Train/Bus Station will cost \$40 each direction. These are the **only** pickup locations available in the city of Philadelphia. **Campers arriving this way MUST have a cell phone or be accompanied on their travel by an adult with a cell phone.**

ARRIVAL

Driving Your Camper to Camp

Please plan to arrive at Appel Farm Arts & Music Center between 2pm and 4pm on Check In Day. We are not able to accommodate earlier check-ins.

Dropping Your Camper at the Appel Farm Bus:

You may want or need to have your camper ride the Appel Farm Bus from either Manhattan, NY or West Orange, NJ, for an additional fee*. Please ensure that you have properly filled out your camper's Transportation Form! If your camper is not registered for the Camp Bus before May 15th, we cannot guarantee a seat for them. Caregivers must check in with an Appel Farm staff member before leaving any camper drop off or pickup location. The bus will arrive on camp at Appel Farm between 2 - 4pm on Check In Day. More detailed information will be sent in the weeks leading up to your camper's Check In Day.

Appel Farm Bus from Manhattan: Location TBD

Please arrive at the Appel Farm Bus pickup location **no later than 10:30am** on your Check In Day. Appel Farm staff members will be stationed outside the bus.

Appel Farm Bus from West Orange:

1 Rooney Cir, West Orange, NJ 07052, ShopRite

Please arrive at the Appel Farm Bus pickup location **no later than 11:30am** on your Check In Day. Appel Farm staff members will be stationed outside the bus.

*Campers participating through a third-party partner organization (GOTO, 1199 Anne Shore, or Summer Search) should register for the Appel Farm Bus *first* with your partner organization, and *then* with Appel Farm Arts Camp.

Camper arriving to Philadelphia via plane, train, or commercial bus

Campers requesting transportation from a transit center in Philadelphia should plan to be picked up between 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Eastern on their Check In Day. Campers who arrive earlier than this time will be asked to wait at their pickup location for the camp driver. Appel Farm Arts Camp is not able to provide an alternative pickup time.

Campers traveling to camp by themselves **MUST** bring a cell phone and charger in order to keep in touch with camp during their trip. **Please program the camp phone number (856) 358-2472 in their phone, and send your camper's cell phone number to camp along with their itinerary.** Please also ensure that your camper has cash or a card to make purchases while they are en route. We will collect any money, passports, cards, SIM cards, or other valuables when they arrive at camp and will store them in the camp safe until their departure.

Unless otherwise arranged, an Appel Farm counselor will meet your camper inside the baggage claim area for their flight/train/bus. They will be wearing an Appel Farm t-shirt, and will be holding a sign with your camper's name and the Appel Farm logo. If your camper is traveling as an "unaccompanied minor," please let us know so our counselor can try to obtain a pass to meet your camper at the

gate. Please note that this is not always possible, in which case, our counselor will meet your camper at the baggage claim area for their flight.

All travel information must also be included on the Transportation Form in your Household Portal account. Please forward a copy of your camper's itinerary to camp@appelfarm.org. **Your camper's pickup is not confirmed until you receive a confirmation email from camp@appelfarm.org.**

DEPARTURE

Picking up Your Camper from Camp

Please plan to pick your camper up between 9:30am and 11:00am on Check Out Day. We are not able to accommodate earlier check-outs on this day. **Campers picked up after 11:00 AM may incur a \$75 Late Pickup Fee.**

Picking up Your Camper from the Appel Farm Bus:

You may want or need to have your camper ride the Appel Farm Bus to either West Orange, NJ, or Manhattan, NY for an additional fee*. Please ensure that you have properly filled out your camper's Transportation Form! **If your camper is not registered for the Camp Bus before May 15th, we cannot guarantee a seat for them.** Caregivers must produce a government-issued photo ID before any camper will be allowed to leave with them. More detailed information will be sent in the weeks leading up to your camper's Check In Day.

Appel Farm Bus to West Orange:

1 Rooney Cir, West Orange, NJ 07052, ShopRite. Please arrive at the Appel Farm Bus pickup location **no later than 12:00pm** on your Check Out Day.

Appel Farm Bus to Manhattan:

Location TBD Please arrive at the Appel Farm Bus pickup location **no later than 1:30pm** on your Check Out Day.

*Campers participating through a third-party partner organization (GOTO, 1199 Anne Shore, or Summer Search) should register for the Appel Farm Bus *first* with your partner organization, and *then* with Appel Farm Arts Camp.

Camper Departing Philadelphia via plane, train, or commercial bus

Families may arrange to have their camper picked up or dropped off at a transit center in Philadelphia, PA for an additional fee. Please ensure that your Transportation Form is filled out with as much detail as possible, including their flight, bus or train number, and arrival and departure destinations. **Please ensure that you have pre-paid for any baggage fees that your child may incur.**

Campers requesting drop off at a transit center in Philadelphia should schedule their departures between 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Eastern. Campers who depart later than this time will be dropped off at their transit center between these hours and need to wait independently. Appel Farm Arts Camp is not able to provide an alternative or earlier drop off time.

All travel information must also be included on the Transportation Form in your Household Portal account. Please forward a copy of your camper's itinerary to camp@appelfarm.org. **Your camper's pickup is not confirmed until you receive a confirmation email from camp@appelfarm.org.**

ONCE YOU'RE HERE

CHECK-IN DAY: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

On Check-In Day, families and campers will arrive on site and move through different stations completing paperwork and health screenings, confirming class choices, and moving into the bunks!

Session	Check In Date
4 week, 5 week, 2 week 1	June 29
3 week, 2 week 2	July 13
1 week	July 27

Specific instructions and guidelines regarding the flow of the day will be emailed to families in the week leading up to your camper's Check In Day.

After you finish moving them into their bunk, it will be time for your camper to join the rest of their bunk for a very important Bunk Meeting and campus tour at 5:00 PM on the dot! Give your camper one last hug, snap a family photo in front of one of our murals, and say "see you soon!"

VISITING DAY: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

July 12 and July 26

On Visiting Day, families and guests of campers are invited to pick their camper up (or remain on camp) for some quality time! Campers may leave camp with an authorized 21+ year old adult to visit local restaurants, spend the day at the mall or the beach, or simply relax. Guests may also choose to remain on site, where they can bring a picnic lunch, participate in a variety of workshops, or take a dip in the pool! Please do not bring your camper food or drinks to store in the bunk or the kitchen. Campers must be signed back into Camp and all visitors must depart before 5:00 PM.

- BEFORE VISITING DAY: Please RSVP for Visiting Day using the Transportation Form in your Household Portal! Let us know if you'll be staying on camp or taking your camper off site. You may also give permission for another adult to take your camper off camp for the day.
- If you cannot attend Visiting Day, please ensure that you've indicated this on your Transportation Form. Camp will reach out to you to schedule a 15 minute phone call with your camper.

CHECK-OUT DAY: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Please do not arrive before 9:30 am- we will not be ready for you!

Please be prepared to provide a Photo ID to sign your camper out.

Campers picked up after 11:00 AM may incur a \$75 Late Pickup Fee.

Session	Check Out Date
4 week, 5 week, 2 week 1	July 12
3 week, 2 week 2	July 26
3 week, 1 week	August 2

Campers will not be permitted to leave camp with anyone other than a caregiver with custody unless we have written permission from a legal guardian indicating who can take their camper off camp. Please include permission on your camper's Authorized Adults form.

Specific instructions and guidelines regarding the flow of the day will be emailed to families in the week leading up to your camper's Check Out Day. **Don't forget your: canteen balance, medicine, artwork, cameras, instruments, dance shoes, etc.!**

Check-Out: Bus/Transportation

If you are not picking your camper up at Appel Farm and they are taking camp transportation, your camper's Bunk Counselors will sign them out, pick up your camper's medicine, look through lost and found, and help your camper pack their belongings, artwork, cameras, and instruments. **Please be prepared to show Photo ID at the designated pickup location, or include permission on your Transportation form for our staff to drop your camper off at their designated transit station to navigate check-in independently.** Look for an important email from Camp regarding your transportation and end-of-session details!

CAMPER SHOWCASES

As part of their major classes, 4 week campers will work toward a final performance or exhibition at the end of their session. Families are invited to join us for these formal performances and exhibitions during the last week of each session. An exact schedule of performances and exhibitions will be available on your session Check-In Day. Cast lists and information about which shows your camper is in will be released on Visiting Day.

Please understand that your camper will be involved in required camp activities before and after each show, and plan to arrive at Camp no more than 15 minutes before your camper's scheduled performance. After the show, there will be a few minutes to meet up and talk with your camper outside the performance space before the next camp activity. Please do not visit with your camper at the bunk, or take your camper off camp before or after performances.

Performances do not mark the end of the session — campers are not meant to depart camp until Check-Out Day. Families who are visiting for performances should make plans that allow their camper to fully participate in our closing ceremonies and important end of camp procedures that will help your camper transition out of camp and experience more closure.

One & Two Week Camper Showcases

Our One and Two Week sessions are experience-based, exploratory programs that are not designed to culminate in a final work or presentation of work. While both the One and Two Week programs will have Showcase opportunities, they are not required and campers may opt in or out of them. We are happy to invite guests to campus for these showcases, and when possible they will be livestreamed and/or recorded, and become available for download after the camp season.

Performance Videos

All Showcases, some Friday Night Concerts, and some other occasional performance opportunities are filmed by our Documentarian, and digital recordings will be available for download following the summer season.

SHOWCASE SCHEDULE

Session(s)	Showcase Dates
2 week 1	July 11
4 week & 2 week 2	July 25
1 week	August 1

A more detailed schedule with times and showcase names will be emailed to you before camp starts.