

## YMCA Camp Lowe Frequently Asked Questions

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>Registration Info</b>	
<b>When and where do I register?</b>	<i>Camp Lowe has arranged for in-person registrations at several local libraries, the YMCA and at Camp Lowe. For details see our parent registration letter.</i>
<b>If my child attended camp last summer, why do I still need to supply another physical?</b>	<i>At the end of each camp season, all records are kept in a storage facility and a new record is created each season.</i>
<b>My child is enrolled in the YMCA After-School program, why do I still need to fill out paperwork for camp?</b>	<i>While both programs are operated by the YMCA, they are licensed under two separate authorities: Dept. of Early Education &amp; Childcare, and the Lancaster Board of Health. We can not interchange folders.</i>
<b>Financial</b>	
<b>Do you accept Childcare Vouchers?</b>	<i>Yes. <u>You</u> will need to have your voucher provider issue the summer camp voucher to the YMCA.</i>
<b>What is your Refund Policy?</b>	<i>A two-week written notice is required for refunds. Once the session has begun, refunds will only be made for medical reasons. Documentation from a physician is required. Please note that the \$50.00 deposit is not refundable for any reason.</i>
<b>How and where do I make payments?</b>	<i>Final payments can be made on-line, once we have a complete camper file. Payments can be made in person at the YMCA or mailed to the YMCA. If you would like to make a payment while at the camp, please note that we can only accept checks. Sorry, no cash or credit transactions can be processed at the camp. Please make these types of payment at our main facility.</i>
<b>When are payments due?</b>	<i>A deposit of \$50.00 per session is due at the time of registration. Final payments are due 3 weeks prior to session.</i>
<b>Is Financial Aid available, and how do I apply?</b>	<i>Yes, through the generosity of our members and other local sources, the YMCA does offer a limited number of scholarships. To apply, please contact Laurie Sleeper at 978-343-4847 x 208 by May 31.</i>
<b>What if I am late picking up my child from camp?</b>	<i>Parents are charged a late fee of \$1.00/minute late fee for all late pick-ups.</i>
<b>Medical</b>	
<b>What if my child needs to take medicine while at camp?</b>	<i>Medications Must be hand delivered to the Health Care office by the parent or guardian. A Med order must be on file with the camp.</i>
<b>My Child had a physical last year, do they need another one this year?</b>	<i>A current physical must be submitted at the time or registration.</i>

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<b>Food</b>	
<b>Lunch- Does Camp Lowe provide lunches for the children?</b>	<b>No.</b> Campers need to bring lunch from home. Campers <u>should not</u> bring any lunches that need to be <u>heated or refrigerated</u> .
<b>Does camp provide snacks for the children?</b>	No, It is strongly recommended that campers bring snacks such as apples and other nutritious items from home.
<b>What about water and other beverages?</b>	Camp does have a water fountain available and recommends that campers bring along a refillable water bottle. There is also a Gatorade machine on site for \$1.00/drink.
<b>What is your policy regarding Peanut and other Nut Allergies?</b>	Camp Lowe recognizes this allergy among children, but can not provide a Nut-Free eating area. We encourage parents to educate their children about their allergy and to communicate any concerns to the camp administration.
<b>Transportation</b>	
<b>Bussing- Is transportation available to and from camp?</b>	Yes, Camp Lowe offers transportation from several surrounding communities for a nominal fee. A sibling discount is available and advance transportation arrangements are required.
<b>Do I need to wait with my child at the bus stop?</b>	Yes, Parents need to wait with their children at the bus stop both morning and afternoon.
<b>What if I would like for my child to get off the bus unsupervised?</b>	Children 12 and over may get off the bus unsupervised <b>ONLY</b> if the camp office has a written release from the parents on file. Camp does not allow non-written, verbal permission.
<b>Can my 12 year old supervise my 8 year old off the bus?</b>	No.
<b>How come Camp doesn't check ID's at the bus stop?</b>	We do verify that there is an adult waiting at the stop for the child, but because of the number of children getting off at the stop and the traffic concerns, we are unable to check ID's.
<b>What happens if I fail to meet my child at the bus stop in the afternoon?</b>	In order to stay on schedule for the rest of the stops, the bus can only wait a few moments. The bus will then continue on the route (With your child on board) and YMCA staff will make every effort to contact you or an emergency contact to alert you that the bus will finish the route and then transport your child and the bus monitor to the YMCA in Fitchburg. Parents will be able to pick up their child at the YMCA upon showing a valid photo ID. <b><u>A late fee of \$15.00 will be charged.</u></b>
<b>What to Bring</b>	
<b>What type of shoes should my child wear to camp?</b>	Children should wear sneakers, as we are very active and to help protect feet from rocks, poison ivy etc. Flip flops are not recommended.
<b>What clothing items should I pack for my child?</b>	Each day, campers should bring: Shorts, T-shirt, sneakers, bathing suit, towel, hat, and a sweat shirt.
<b>What about Sun Block and Bug Spray?</b>	Parents should apply both products at home prior to sending their child to camp. It is recommended that parents send extra to be reapplied throughout the day as needed by the camp staff. A note from home is required.

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<b>What Not to Bring</b>	
<b>Can my child bring their own Sports Equipment</b>	<i>Camp Lowe asks that campers only bring their own baseball gloves (if they want) as well as any personal safety equipment such as shin guards, mouth guards etc. Otherwise please leave all balls, bats etc. at home. Be sure to label personal belongings and keep in mind that the YMCA is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items.</i>
<b>What about cell phones and iPods?</b>	<i>The YMCA recognizes parents desire to maintain contact with their children, however we do require campers refrain from using the phones while at camp and on the bus. This may include turning off the phone and leaving it in the office during the day. If a parent or child must call one another, they may do so through the office phone <b>978-537-8477</b>. iPods and other personal music devices are not part of the camp program and should be left at home as we prefer to have our campers be alert and attentive to one another and more readily to interact.</i>
<b>Required legal statement</b>	<i>Persons may not bring any hunting or fishing equipment: Knives, guns, bows/arrows etc., or any illegal substances.</i>
<b>Other Important info</b>	
<b>What about rainy days?</b>	<i>Camp is open rain or shine. Unless there is a thunder-storm or other potentially hazardous weather, we will still operate our program outside. Thus, children should dress for outdoor, rainy activities and should bring a rain coat or poncho.</i>
<b>Who is able to pick up my child from camp?</b>	<i>Parents must complete an Emergency Contact form at the time of registration. Only persons listed on this form may pick up from the camp. They must have a valid photo I.D. at time of pick-up.</i>
<b>What if I forgot to list someone on my child's contact list?</b>	<i>We can only release to persons on this list. You will need to come in to the office and add them in person. No exceptions.</i>
<b>Is there an open house for new campers?</b>	<i>Yes, there will be an Open House and tours available on Saturday June 7th, from noon to 3:00pm.</i>
<b>How does Camp Lowe screen its employees to make sure my child is safe?</b>	<i>Camp Lowe is licensed by the Lancaster Board of Health and accredited by the American Camp Association, and follows national guidelines established by YMCA of the USA. Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires camps to comply with 105 CMR 430.090</i>
<b>What is 105 CMR 430.090?</b>	<i>At a minimum the operator shall require for each camping season, the following with regard to each staff person: A. Prior work history for previous five (5) years including, a name, address and phone number of a contact person at each place of employment. B. Three (3) positive reference checks from individuals not related to the staff person. C. Self-reporting of any felony conviction. D. Obtain criminal offender record information and juvenile report (CORI/Juvenile Report) from the Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board (CHSB). E. Sex offender registry information (SORI) check from the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB).</i>

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