



# **2026 DIScover Summer Camp Parent Handbook**

**Danvers Indoor Sports  
150R Andover Street, Danvers, MA 01923  
978-777-7529**

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## **SUMMER CAMP CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Facility Address:**

Danvers Indoor Sports  
150R Andover St.  
Danvers, MA 01923

### **Office Phone:**

978-777-7529

### **Camp Director:**

Alexa Richards                      [Alexa@danversindoorsports.com](mailto:Alexa@danversindoorsports.com)

### **Assistant Camp Director:**

Faith Lee                              [Faith@danversindoorsports.com](mailto:Faith@danversindoorsports.com)

### **Website:**

[www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp](http://www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp)

### **ABOUT DIS:**

Danvers Indoor Sports is a state-of-the-art indoor sports facility and includes 7 turf fields, 5 basketball courts, concession areas, arcade games, party/event rental space, on-site fitness center, conference room and more! DIS is dedicated to providing clients of all ages a safe environment in which to be active year-round.

This camp must comply with regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and be licensed by the Local Board of Health.



Dear families,

We are excited that you have chosen DIScover Summer Camp for your child this summer!

The two main goals of DIScover Summer Camp are:

- 1) Provide a safe and fun environment for all children. By training our camp staff and maintaining a pristine facility, we ensure that camper safety is our number one priority.
- 2) Encourage and foster character-building play. During team building and sport related activities, campers engage and participate in play that builds qualities such as sportsmanship, honesty, respect, integrity, tolerance and inclusion.

It is our pleasure to welcome you to DIScover Summer Camp 2026 – lets DIScover the fun together!

Sincerely,

Alexa Richards, Camp Director

Faith Lee, Assistant Camp Director

## **STAFF INFORMATION**

All camp staff members are recruited through our Camp Director and follow a qualifying process in order to ensure the safety and development of each child. DIScover Summer Camp is licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Health and the Town of Danvers. All staff employed by the camp meet the requirements set forth by the previously mentioned institutions.

In addition, each staff person and volunteer shall have a background free of conduct that bears adversely upon his or her ability to provide for the safety and well being of the campers. Upon review of both CORI and SORI checks, the Director shall determine whether each staff person's and volunteer's conduct will disqualify that person from employment or service at the camp. Upon further request, parents of campers have the right to know camp policies, procedures in regard to this.

## **CAMPERS**

### **GENERAL:**

DIScover Summer Camp is an indoor summer recreational day camp for children ages 5-12 and CITs ages 13-15. Decisions regarding a camper's attendance will be made by the Director and Danvers Indoor Sports senior management. Please fully fill out all forms in our Camper Forms packet so that our staff can be educated about your camper. This helps us provide the best possible experience for your child.

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY:**

Danvers Indoor Sports and DIScover Summer Camp does not discriminate on any basis. DIS provides recreation and summer camp opportunities to all people regardless of religion, race, sex, marital status, disability, cultural heritage, political beliefs, national origin, or sexual orientation.

### **CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS/DISABILITIES:**

Danvers Indoor Sports will request and review information given by the parent related to the child's participation in the program. Identification of specific accommodations required to meet the needs of the child, which would include a change or modification in the child's participation in regular activities, would be reviewed. In addition, identification of any special equipment, materials, ramps or aids will be discussed. If such accommodations will cause undue financial burden on Danvers Indoor Sports, the parent will be notified in writing. Every effort will be made to accommodate each camper. Please inform us of any special circumstances that may influence your child at camp.

**Campers:**

DIScover Campers are ages 5-12 years olds. Each day, they will be split into smaller age appropriate groups for certain game and activities (ex: 5-8 year olds and 9-12 year old). We will do our best to honor any special requests regarding being grouped with certain friends, but nothing is guaranteed.

**CITs:**

CIT campers are teens ages 13 through 15 who are interested in learning about leadership and are ready to take on more responsibility at DIScover Summer Camp. These campers will have daily training with the DIScover Camp Senior Staff through conversations and group challenges focused on leadership, inclusion, communication and teamwork. These training sessions will prepare them to assist the DIScover Coaches in the afternoon of each camp day where they will shadow and assist a Coach. CIT campers will have a 50% discount for the camp week they attend and must attend a minimum 2 weeks.

**DAILY RULES & EXPECTATIONS****SCHEDULE:**

Our DIScover Summer Camp staff will lead all games and activities with help from the Director, and CITs (when applicable). A wide variety of activities will be done throughout the day including sports, arts & crafts, STEM, teambuilding, and more. Feel free to ask camp staff specific questions about your child's schedule.

DIScover Campers are ages 5-12 years olds. Each day, they will be split into smaller age appropriate groups for certain game and activities (ex: 5-8 year olds and 9-12 year old). We will do our best to honor any special requests regarding being grouped with certain friends, but nothing is guaranteed.

**SAMPLE SCHEDULE:**

- 8:00AM - Before Care Drop off (must register in advance, additional fee)
- 9:00AM - Drop Off - Supervised Free Play (basketball, scooters, hula hoops)
- 9:15AM - Welcome Announcements
- 9:20AM - Tag Games
- 10:00AM - Sports
- 10:30AM - Snack
- 11:00AM - Team Building Challenge
- 11:30AM - Group Games
- 12:00PM - Lunch
- 12:30PM - Choice

- 1:00PM - Arts & Crafts or STEM (Half Day & JR Mini Clinic Dismissal)
- 2:00PM - Sports
- 2:30PM - Sports Free Play
- 3:00PM - Pick Up
- 3:00-4:00PM - After Care (must register in advance, additional fee)

**THEME DAY THURSDAY & FUN FRIDAY:**

Every Thursday and Friday will feature a special theme that our activities will be centered around. Campers are highly encouraged to wear theme-related attire or costumes on designated days - get creative & have fun! Just remember to keep it safe and leave any prop weapons & accessories at home. Campers must still always wear sneakers. It’s recommended to bring a change of clothes, too. We will do our best to communicate those days during pickup. Please see the list below to find out which themes will take place during your camper’s week at DIScover Summer Camp.

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>THEME THURSDAY</u>	<u>FUN FRIDAY</u>
Week 1:	6/15-6/19	Make Tye Dye Day	Wear Tye Dye Day
Week 2:	6/22-6/26	Super Hero Day	Sports & Stem: Game Lab
Week 3:	6/29-7/2 (no camp 7/3)	Party in the USA	No Camp - Happy 4th of July
Week 4:	7/6-7/10	Favorite Athlete Day	Olympics
Week 5:	7/13-7/17	Mermaids & Pirates Day	Scavenger Hunt
Week 6:	7/20-7/24	Curious Creatures Live Reptile Show	Star Wars Day
Week 7:	7/27-7/31	Sonic Day	In the Game: Peabody
Week 8:	8/3-8/7	Minecraft Day	Carnival Day
Week 9:	8/10-8/14	Super Mario Day	Tropical Luau
Week 10:	8/17-8/21	Disney Day	Double Dare
Week 11:	8/24-8/28	Halloween	Paint Party

### **SIGN IN / SIGN OUT POLICY:**

Parents/guardians must park and walk campers through the main entrance of Building 2 (doors to the far right of the flagpole, see picture on right). Do not drop off your camper at the entrance without walking them in; our check in policy is in place for the safety of the campers. All campers will be checked in with the Director or Senior Staff in Building 2.



Camper's Authorized Pickup Persons listed in Camper Packet will be printed on the daily roster. Director or Senior Staff will ask who is picking up the child in the afternoon.

Campers will be released to individuals listed on the Authorized Pick-Up Form. All authorized individuals must be prepared to show a valid photo ID at pick-up.

If someone not listed will be picking up your child, the Director must receive written notification in advance. For the safety of all campers, we cannot release a child to anyone who is not authorized or cannot provide proper identification.

### **BUDDY POLICY:**

At DIScover Summer Camp, one of our goals is to provide a safe and fun experience for your child. Campers will be under the supervision of the camp counselors at all times, and are not allowed to leave the group without asking permission from the camp counselor first. In order to ensure that campers are safe when taking bathroom or water breaks, we follow and enforce the buddy policy. This procedure will be reiterated throughout the camp week, but please make sure that the camper understands this prior to coming to camp.

### **DISCIPLINE POLICY:**

We will operate on a 4-step discipline basis. The 4 steps are as follows:

1. Camper will be given a verbal warning & corrective action needed.
2. If behavior continues, the camper will sit out of game/activity for 5 minutes. At the end of 5 minutes, the counselor will discuss with the camper about what they did and what they will do next time to correct their behavior.

3. If the behavior persists, the camper will be brought to the Director's office and will discuss wrongdoing. The director will issue a final warning to the camper. Parent/Guardian will be informed of the situation via phone or at pick-up at the end of the day, depending on severity.
4. If the situation is warranted, then the Parent/Guardian will be contacted immediately, and the camper will be sent home. If the behavior is egregious, then the camper may be expelled permanently from camp.

At the counselor's and/or Director's discretion, a camper may be disciplined according to these 4 steps for any misbehavior or insubordination. The 4 steps can be bypassed if the attitude/incident is severe and the camper has to be sent home immediately.

Corporal punishment, including spanking, is prohibited. No camper shall be subjected to crude or severe punishment, humiliation, or verbal abuse. No camper shall be denied food or shelter as a form of punishment. No child shall be punished for soiling, wetting or not using the toilet.

Parents of campers have the right to speak with the Director at any time regarding staff behavior or camper issues.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **PARENT FEEDBACK:**

Parent input is very important to us. Please contact the Director if you have any concerns. The Director can make arrangements for individual conferences with staff at your request. Please make these requests with the Director and not the individual camp staff. We want ALL children to have an awesome experience at DIScover Summer Camp. We encourage new parents and campers to come to DIS for a tour!

### **COMMUNICATION OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Please fill out the Personal History Form so that camp staff can get a full picture of who your child is before camp even starts. If anything is happening at home that will influence and/or affect the camper's experience and/or disposition at camp, please feel free to discuss it with the Director or make note of it on the form. All information will be confidential. Our goal is to have a positive, safe and fun experience at camp, and that information will help us achieve our goal.

### **USE OF PICTURES & VIDEO FOR PUBLICITY:**

During the camp program, staff members and/or professional photographers will take photos & videos for electronic and print newsletters and general marketing purposes that may include your child/children. Parents/Guardians may refuse any or all use of those photos and videos related to specific campers, provided a written request is received by the Director prior to the start of camp.

### **EARLY PICKUP:**

We highly encourage campers to stay at camp until the end of the day that they've registered for (half or full day) so they can join in on all the activities. However, we understand that early pickup for appointments or emergencies sometimes occur. Advanced notice is preferred via email to the Director. Or notify the Director at morning sign in.

### **LATE POLICY**

It is essential that parents/guardians be on time to pick up campers. If a parent is more than 10 minutes late to pick up their child, they will be billed the extra \$15 for the hour of aftercare.

If you will be late picking up your child or there is a change in the authorized pickup person (different from what was provided to the Director at morning sign-in), please call 978-777-7529 or email the Director.

We recommend that families establish a backup pickup plan to ensure campers are picked up on time. This individual should ideally be listed on the Authorized Pick-Up Form.

### **EXTENDED CARE POLICY:**

To ensure proper supervision, extended care is contracted time, NOT a drop-in center. Extended hours begin at 8-9am and end at 3-4pm. These hours are set, no exceptions will be made. We reserve the right to terminate any extended care contract for continued lateness. Registration and payment must be prior to the start of camp. **Please do not just show up without registering in advance because some mornings when no one is registered, no staff will be there.** If your extended care procedure needs to be altered or added on, please notify the Director immediately.

Fees for extended care are \$15 per hour, per child. If temporary or "day specific" extended care is needed and the space is available, for example one day or one week, please notify the Director immediately via email or register online on the camp webpage.

### **ABSENTEEISM:**

We ask that parents please notify the Director when your child/children are going to be absent or late on a regularly scheduled day. No refunds or credits are issued for missed or partial week attendance.

Expectations of extenuating circumstances may be considered by Camp Director but are not guaranteed.

**SCHEDULE CHANGES, WITHDRAWALS & TERMINATION:**

As stated on the registration form, no refunds will be made unless a child is withdrawn with 1 week’s notice for medical reasons with a doctor's note. All special requests will be considered by the Director who will make the final decision.

**TRANSFERRING WEEKS**

Requests to transfer your child’s camp week to a different week must be made to the Camp Director at least 1 week prior to the original start date.

**FEES & REFUNDS:**

All camp fees are payable by the first day of camp, unless other arrangements have been made with the Director.

**CLOTHING/WHAT TO BRING:**

What your child wears to camp is extremely important! A camp shirt is included in the price of camp. Camp shirts must be worn every Friday, unless they are in costume for Fun Friday. Clothing must be appropriate and comfortable for active play and games. SNEAKERS MUST BE WORN EVERYDAY. Open toed shoes or shoes that are not safe for active play are not allowed. Sneakers must be worn on the courts and fields at all times. All clothing and backpack should be labeled with the child’s name. DIS is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Anything that is forgotten or misplaced will be located at the DIScover Lost & Found located in Building 2 camp office or behind Field 1 in Building 1.

<b>WHAT TO PACK (LABEL EVERYTHING!)</b>	<b>WHAT NOT TO BRING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Backpack</li> <li>- Non-refridgerated NUT FREE snack &amp; lunch</li> <li>- Athletic clothing</li> <li>- Sneakers</li> <li>- Refillable Water Bottle</li> <li>- Change of clothes (in case of spills or accidents)</li> <li>- <b>Waterplay Wednesday:</b> bathing suit, towel, change of clothes, water shoes</li> <li>- <b>Theme Thursday &amp; Fun Friday:</b> Costume or T-shirt based on Theme</li> <li>- (optional). Apply sunscreen before camp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Electronics (iPods, Tablets, etc.)</li> <li>- Gum</li> <li>- Balls from home (Soccer, Basketball etc.)</li> <li>- Trading Cards</li> <li>- Toys from home</li> <li>- Cell phones must be OFF and kept in their backpack until after camp</li> </ul>

## **FOOD & FOOD ALLERGIES:**

DIScover Summer Camp is a **nut-free camp**. Please do not send any snacks or sandwiches that include nuts. This is due to children having severe nut allergies. If your child has any dietary allergies or restrictions, please indicate this on the medical forms.

### **WATER:**

Please send your child to camp with a refillable water bottle with their name clearly labeled on it. We will have water breaks throughout the day and it can be refilled at the bubbler.

### **SNACK:**

Please pack at least 1 **nut-free snack** for your campers. Campers will be encouraged to have their snack before lunch and can also have anything left from their lunch during Choice Time.

### **LUNCH:**

Please pack a **nut-free lunch** for your campers. Campers will be encouraged to have their lunch at lunch time. For an additional fee, parents can purchase a lunch from Danvers Pizza & Subs on our summer camp webpage. Purchases must be made 24 hours in advance.

**\*NEW VENDING MACHINE USE POLICY:** Purchases must be made while the parent is present at drop off. This is to reduce taking our coaches away from supervising all children. It also helps in case of any “money eaten by machine” issues that parents can handle directly.

## **HEALTH CARE**

### **MEDICAL FORMS:**

It is important to DIS that all children coming to camp are in good health and are free from contagious or infectious diseases of any kind. Each camper will have to have proof of current immunizations from their physician and fill out a health record form before attending camp. If medication needs to be administered at camp, an authorization form must be filled out. All necessary forms can be found on our website ([www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp.com](http://www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp.com)). All paperwork must be turned into the camp staff before June 5, 2026.

### **PLAN FOR MILDLY ILL CAMPERS:**

A child determined to be ill will be brought to the main office of DIS. There, the child’s temperature will be taken and symptoms will be assessed by the Health Care Supervisor. The child’s parent or legal guardian will be contacted if necessary. Medication such as Advil or Tylenol can be given to the child

from its original container with written instructions from his/her prescribing physician and written permission from parent or legal guardian.

### **MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION:**

If your child must receive medication while at DIScover Summer Camp, the following procedure must be met:

1. Medication will only be administered per written order of the child's parents or legal guardian, and will be administered by the Camp Health Care Supervisor.
2. Medication must be passed from parent to camp staff; no child may carry medication.
3. Medication may only be taken from the original container.
4. Parents or legal guardians must complete and sign the Medication Authorization Form. This can be found in the Camp Forms Packet at [www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp.com](http://www.danversindoorsports.com/summer-camp.com) Medication must be clearly labeled with the child's name, doctor's name and written instructions.
5. Medication will be kept in a locked cabinet in the camp office or in a refrigerator in the camp office, if necessary.
6. Unused medicine will be returned to the parents, but if that is not possible it will be destroyed. A log will be kept of destroyed medication.
7. A medical log will be kept for the camp that reflects all the medication that was given, to whom it was given, who gave it, and how much was given.
8. Non-prescription medication will be administered, from their original container, with written permission from a parent or legal guardian.

This camp will not dispense medication unless the above procedure is met. This is the Massachusetts' Board of Health policy that we must follow with no exceptions.

### **PROCEDURE FOR EMERGENCY CARE:**

If the injury is slight, the Camp Health Care Supervisor (CHCS) will administer first aid to the child. The CHCS will then document the injury or illness in the camp medical log and also fill out the incident report form. The CHCS will be responsible for notifying parents or legal guardians of the injury via phone or in person at pickup.

If an individual requires immediate hospital care, after calling 911, the CHCS will contact the camper's parents/legal guardians immediately that the camper is being taken to the hospital in an ambulance. A DIS Employee will accompany the child until parents/guardians arrive at the hospital. If parents/legal guardians are not reachable, CHCS will contact those on the emergency medical contact form,

followed by a call to the child's doctor. The camper's file, which includes any medical documents/information will be shared with the emergency personnel.

#### **HEAD LICE:**

We ask that all parents check their children's heads for evidence of lice before coming to camp begins. We also suggest that parents check their children's heads periodically during the summer to help prevent major outbreaks. The camp has a "no nit policy", where any child who has nits (lice eggs) on their head will be sent home from camp.

#### **CONTAGIOUS ILLNESS:**

If your child shows any signs of a contagious illness, the health care supervisor will contact a parent who will then have two hours to pick the child up. If the parent is unable to pick up the child or we cannot reach the parent, we will contact the other two contacts on the Emergency Contact Form.

If your child is too sick to participate in ANY of our scheduled activities, he/she should stay home until they are well enough to participate fully. Included in these parameters are conditions such as diarrhea, vomiting and fever. Any and all contagious diseases and viruses need to be reported immediately so that we can inform all other families about potential exposure. A few examples are: chicken pox, measles, mumps, scarlet fever, whooping cough, or strep throat.

#### **RE-ENTERING CAMP FOLLOWING AN ILLNESS:**

If a child is absent due to a contagious illness, the child will only be allowed back into the program after the following: they have been on an antibiotic for 24 hours; they have been fever free for 24 hours; and when appropriate, a written note from the child's physician to the camp. We ask that you use your best judgment and err on the side of caution. If your child is not able to **fully** participate in camp they should not be attending camp.

#### **OTHER DISCOVER PROGRAMS**

Please visit [www.danversindoorsports.com](http://www.danversindoorsports.com) and click DIScover Youth Programs to find more information about our Youth Sports Programs, School Vacation Camps, Afterschool Classes, Drop In Days and Special Events! DIScover Youth Programs has offerings year round for ages 18 months - 12 years.

#### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for investing the time to read through the Parent Handbook! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact [Alexa@danversindoorsports.com](mailto:Alexa@danversindoorsports.com) and/or [Faithe@danversindoorsports.com](mailto:Faithe@danversindoorsports.com).

**Danvers Indoor Sports & DIScover Camp reserves the right to add, change, or modify any rule or policy at any time.**

## Meningococcal Disease and Camp Attendees: Commonly Asked Questions

### **What is meningococcal disease?**

Meningococcal disease is caused by infection with bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. These bacteria can infect the tissue (the "meninges") that surrounds the brain and spinal cord and cause meningitis, or they may infect the blood or other organs of the body. Symptoms of meningococcal disease can include fever, severe and constant headache, stiff neck or neck pain, nausea and vomiting, and rash. In the US, about 350-550 people get meningococcal disease each year and 10-15% die despite receiving antibiotic treatment. Of those who survive, about 10-20% may lose limbs, become hard of hearing or deaf, have problems with their nervous system, including long term neurologic problems, or have seizures or strokes.

### **How is meningococcal disease spread?**

These bacteria are passed from person-to-person through saliva (spit). You must be in close contact with an infected person's saliva in order for the bacteria to spread. Close contact includes activities such as kissing, sharing water bottles, sharing eating/drinking utensils or sharing cigarettes with someone who is infected; or being within 3-6 feet of someone who is infected and is coughing and sneezing.

### **Who is most at risk for getting meningococcal disease?**

People who travel to certain parts of the world where the disease is very common, microbiologists, people with HIV infection and those exposed to meningococcal disease during an outbreak are at risk for meningococcal disease. Children and adults with damaged or removed spleens or persistent complement component deficiency (an inherited immune disorder) are at risk. Adolescents, and people who live in certain settings such as college freshmen living in dormitories and military recruits are at greater risk of disease from some of the serotypes.

### **Are camp attendees at increased risk for meningococcal disease?**

Children attending day or residential camps are **not** considered to be at an increased risk for meningococcal disease because of their participation.

### **Is there a vaccine against meningococcal disease?**

Yes, there are 2 different meningococcal vaccines. Quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (Menactra and Menveo) protects against 4 serotypes (A, C, W and Y) of meningococcal disease. Meningococcal serogroup B vaccine (Bexsero and Trumenba) protects against serogroup B meningococcal disease, for age 10 and older.

### **Should my child or adolescent receive meningococcal vaccine?**

That depends. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (Menactra and Menveo) is routinely recommended at age 11-12 years with a booster at age 16. In addition, this vaccine may be recommended for children with certain high-risk health conditions, such as those described above. Otherwise, meningococcal vaccine is **not** recommended for attendance at camps.

Meningococcal serogroup B vaccine (Bexsero and Trumenba) is recommended for people with certain relatively rare high-risk health conditions (examples: persons with a damaged spleen or whose spleen has been removed, those with persistent complement component deficiency (an inherited disorder), and people who may have been exposed during an outbreak). Adolescents and young adults (16 through 23 years of age) who do not have high risk conditions **may** be vaccinated with a serogroup B meningococcal vaccine, preferably at 16 through 18 years of age, to provide short term protection for most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease. Parents of adolescents and children who are at higher risk of infection, because of certain medical conditions or other circumstances, should discuss vaccination with their child's healthcare provider.

### **How can I protect my child or adolescent from getting meningococcal disease?**

The best protection against meningococcal disease and many other infectious diseases is thorough and frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Individuals should:

1. wash their hands often, especially after using the toilet and before eating or preparing food (hands should be washed with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand gel or rub may be used if hands are not visibly dirty);
2. cover their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and discard the tissue in a trash can; or if they don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve.
3. not share food, drinks or eating utensils with other people, especially if they are ill.
4. contact their healthcare provider immediately if they have symptoms of meningitis.

If your child is exposed to someone with meningococcal disease, antibiotics may be recommended to keep your child from getting sick.

You can obtain more information about meningococcal disease or vaccination from your healthcare provider, your local Board of Health (listed in the phone book under government), or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at (617) 983-6800 or on the MDPH website at [www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph).

Provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in accordance with M.G.L. c.111, s.219 and 105 CMR 430.157(C).

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Immunization, 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 Updated March 201



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences  
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

**Maura T. Healey**  
Governor

**Kimberley Driscoll**  
Lieutenant Governor

**Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA**  
Secretary

**Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD**  
Commissioner

To: Camp Directors  
From: Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director, Immunization Division  
Date: March 25 2026  
Subject: Required Immunizations for Children Attending Camp and Camp Staff

**Measles outbreaks nationally and internationally, 2025-2026:**

Measles cases have surged dramatically in the United States during 2025 (2285 confirmed cases) and 2026 (1487 confirmed cases as of 3/19) in the context of large international outbreaks. The majority of the cases in the U.S. are in children and adolescents who are unvaccinated or who have no evidence of immunity to measles. **It is extremely important that campers and camp staff provide evidence of immunity to measles to avoid the severe disruptions to camp activities that occur when a case of measles is identified at a camp due to isolation of those ill and quarantine of those exposed who lack evidence of immunity to measles.**

**Required Vaccines:**

Minimum Standards for Recreational Camps for Children, 105 CMR 430.152, has been updated. Immunization requirements for children attending camp follow the Massachusetts school immunization requirements, as outlined in the [Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements](#) table, which reflects the newest requirement: meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) for students entering grades 7 and 11 (on or after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, in the latter case; see the tables that follow for further details). Children should meet the immunization requirements for the grade they will enter in the school year following their camp session. Children attending camp who are not yet school-aged should follow the Childcare/Preschool immunization requirements included in the School Immunization Requirements table.

Campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older should follow the immunizations outlined in the document [Adult Occupational Immunizations](#). The following pages include portions of the Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements table and Adult Occupational Immunizations table relevant to camps.

If you have any questions about vaccines, immunization recommendations, or suspect or confirmed disease cases, please contact the MA Department of Public Health Immunization Division - Data Assessment Unit at [ImmAssessmentUnit@mass.gov](mailto:ImmAssessmentUnit@mass.gov). Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel.

See the following pages for Grades Kindergarten-6, Grades 7-12 & campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older

### Grades Kindergarten-6<sup>§</sup>

In ungraded classrooms, Kindergarten requirements apply to all students ≥5 years.

DTaP/Tdap	<b>5 doses;</b> 4 doses are acceptable if the fourth dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday; DT is only acceptable with a letter stating a medical contraindication to DTaP
Polio	<b>4 doses;</b> fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose or a fifth dose is required; 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

§ Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel.

\* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

See the following pages for Grades 7-12, & campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older

### Grades 7-12<sup>§</sup>

In ungraded classrooms, Grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥12 years.

Tdap	<b>1 dose;</b> and history of DTaP primary series or age-appropriate catch-up vaccination; Tdap given at ≥7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule; Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥10 years since last Tdap
Polio	<b>4 doses;</b> fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose or a fifth dose is required; 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥6 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable; 2 doses of Heplisav-B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable
MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday, and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> first dose must be given on or after the 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Meningococcal Grade 7-10	<b>1 dose;</b> this dose must be given on or after the 10 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (formerly MCV4) and MenABCWY, fulfill this requirement; monovalent meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement
Meningococcal Grade 11-12 <sup>‡</sup>	<b>2 doses;</b> second dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) must be given on or after the 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday and ≥ 8 weeks after the previous dose; 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (MCV4) and MenABCWY, fulfill this requirement; monovalent meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement

§ Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel. School requirements are enforced at the local level.

\* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

‡ Students who are 15 years old in Grade 11 are in compliance until they turn 16 years old.

See the following pages for campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older

### Campers, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age and older

MMR	<b>2 doses;</b> anyone born in or after 1957; <b>1 dose;</b> anyone born before 1957 outside the US; anyone born in the US before 1957 is considered immune; laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella is acceptable
Varicella	<b>2 doses;</b> anyone born in or after 1980 in the US, and anyone born outside the US; anyone born before 1980 in the US is considered immune; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable
Tdap	<b>1 dose;</b> and history of DTaP primary series or age-appropriate catch-up vaccination; Tdap given at ≥7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule; Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since Tdap
Hepatitis B	<b>3 doses;</b> (or 2 doses of Heplisav-B) for staff whose responsibilities include first aid; laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable

\* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox, or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox, by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or designee.