



## The Start Here Guide

This handy step-by-step guide will walk you through the most common questions parents are needing answers to when deciding upon a location to send their children to for camp.

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# Caring for Your Camper...

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## Is this a safe place to send my children?

At Impact 2818, we build systems around this motto: “Bad things don’t happen here because we don’t let them.” In planning, we conceptualize every possible end result to remove any guess work in keeping your child safe.

All of the counselors are properly trained and prepared, the features (waterfront, ropes courses, etc) are effectively staffed and diligently checked to rigorous standards, and camp medics, along with all of our staff, are well prepared for everything from bumps and bruises to unexpected situations.



The welfare of our campers and guests is our utmost priority. Every individual on site, with the exception of campers, is ran through the National Sex Offender Public Registry and Area Records Criminal Background Check.

All Impact 2818 program staff are CPR and First Aid Certified through the American Red Cross. Any treatment of campers is done in accordance with our First Aid Protocol & Procedure book.

- All medication must be brought in its original labeled container and given to the Camp Medic at Check-In on the first day of camp.
- All camper medication is stored and administered by the Camp Medic.
- Inhalers, bee-sting kits and EpiPen's are exceptions and are carried by the camper’s counselor (by them, if high school) and administered as needed.

- Camp Adventure, Camp Indicoso, Camp Lakewood, Pine Creek Camp, and Camp Rivervale distribute first aid supply bags to each counselor to keep with him/her at ALL times throughout the week. This bag contains supplies for treating minor injuries.
- At Epworth Forest, all supplies are stored and administered by the Camp Medic. During That Thing, campers should report to the First Aid Station for cuts, bruises, scrapes, or to receive any medical treatment. Medication is handled by the local church or can be administered by the Camp Medic.

## Why Camp?

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### Christ Centered Camps

#### **Helping Students Know Jesus**

"A Christian camp experience with a program affiliated with the local church is the most commonly identified factor in a youth making a faith commitment." Impact 2818 is a ministry of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church and connected over 1,000 local congregations. \*National Youth Commitment Survey

#### **Encouraging a Life Long Relationship**

"Evangelism is most effective among kids...2/3 of born again Christians made that commitment to Christ before their 18th birthday." People who become Christian before their teen years are more likely than those who converted at an older age to remain absolutely committed to their faith. \*Barna Group Study

#### **Discovering Their Intrinsic Value**

At camp, your child will discover that they are a beloved child of God and that He has created them with a unique plan and purpose. They will see just how precious they are to the Creator of the Universe and to all who truly and dearly love them.

#### **Beyond Positive Environments**

Our camps are so much more than just another "positive" place to be. Christ is at the center of everything that is happening at camp. Campers encounter Jesus Christ and discover that God loves each of them uniquely. In that environment we develop positive attitudes and spaces by maintaining physical, emotional, and spiritual safety standards.

### **Our Challenge by Choice Approach**

The concept of "Challenge by Choice" encourages campers to experience adventures and obstacles that will put them outside of their comfort zone. This helps them discover how to persevere, overcome, encourage others and work in teams. These moments help them continue to seek out the positive challenges that will shape their lives.

## **Scholarships, Registration, Financial...**

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### **Scholarships through Impact 2818**

#### **Philosophy**

The goal of Impact 2818 Outdoor Ministries is to serve the local church by providing opportunities for connecting campers to Christ. It is our desire that everyone has the opportunity to attend camp. Unfortunately, finances provide an obstacle for some campers. For this reason, Impact 2818 Outdoor Ministries offers a scholarship program and in 2010 offered nearly \$165,000 to assist families.

Any participant can apply for a scholarship to cover part or all of the camp fee. Scholarships are based on financial need. Financial verification is required through a copy of your 1040 Tax Form (no schedules or worksheets needed).

- All applications must be submitted in writing. Please allow up to 3 weeks for processing.
- Scholarship funds historically become limited by mid April; Apply Early.
- Campers will only be awarded one scholarship per season per year.

## Types of Scholarships

### The Hope Scholarship • Up To 100%

Never let money be the reason you can't attend camp. This scholarship is for families currently feeling a financial burden and awards up to 100% of the base cost of camp. The criteria uses federal poverty guidelines, the number of members in your family and last years net income.

### The Helping Hand Scholarship • Up To 33%

Recipients are awarded up to 1/3 of the base price and are factored on financial need. Qualification is based upon the number of family members and income.

## How to Apply

Download the application, print, complete, and mail the form, to: 301 Pennsylvania Parkway; Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46280

[Download Scholarship Application Here](#)

## Using Scholarships

- Individual Camper Registration  
After you receive your iCash Code (electronic scholarship), jump online and start a registration. Once you've selected your camp and entered all of your info, you'll confirm your order and it will ask for your iCash code at that point. Simply enter it, it will deduct the appropriate amount and you can conclude the registration by paying any balance due.
- That Thing Group Scholarships  
Students attending That Thing with a church that is purchasing group tickets need to still fill out the online application. However, when the confirmation email provides you with your iCash code, forward all of the information to the church leader who is helping you get to That Thing. They will be able to finish it from there.

\*A last note; don't forget to check with your local church as the churches who partner with Impact 2818 are routinely giving more than \$250,000 in helping campers get to camp.

## Registration Financial Information

### **100% Payment to Sign Up**

The entire balance of your payment is required to reserve your space and be fully signed up for camp. Registrations without full payment are not secured and your space could be claimed by another camper.

### **Early Bird Pricing**

Every year, Impact 2818 offers a "best deal discount" for signing up early: \$30. Be sure to sign up anytime through the "Third Monday in April", (April 16, 2012), before an additional \$30 is added to the base cost of camp.

*Current prices on the web reflect early bird pricing*

### **Registration Dates**

Registration closes one week (7 days) prior to the start date of each camp.

### **Registration Cancellation**

\$75 of the registration fee serves as a non-refundable deposit. The remainder of the registration fee will be refunded as long as notification of cancellation is received two weeks prior to the start date of that camp. No refunds or fee transfers will be made for those who fail to show up on Check-In Day without notice.

For That Thing Cancellation fees, visit [www.thatthingevent.com/resources-fees.html](http://www.thatthingevent.com/resources-fees.html).

### **Transferring a Registration**

In the event that a participant becomes unable to attend the camp they've registered for, the Registrar will transfer them to a camp of the same price for a fee of \$15. If there are no other programs of the same price scheduled for that Calendar year, then an even transfer is not possible. The participant may choose to attend a different priced camp and would either be refunded the difference or pay the additional balance. If no other event option is selected, see Registration Cancellation. All transfers must be completed 2 weeks prior to the start of camp.

\*Please note that only parents or guardians can sign a camper up for camp.

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## Program Types...

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Our programming types can be found at:

<http://www.beacamper.com/parent-start.html#program>

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## Getting them ready for camp...

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### Planning is key!

There are lots of things to plan for when you're getting ready for camp as well as questions that you may have. Here are some of the most common things parents want to know:

#### Who's Going to Watch my Kids?

- 1 Standardized Counselor to Camper Ratios are maintained at all of our camps; Primary through Middle School Campers are under the supervision of at least two counselors/staff at all times of the day, high school campers do have some freedom but are still under supervision.
- 2 Ratios are:
  - Primary (grades K-2) – 2:10 (2 counselors for a group of 10 campers)
  - Elementary (grades 3-5) – 2:14
  - Middle School (grades 6-8) – 2:16



- High School (grades 9-13) – 2:20

### **What Should I Pack?**

Sleeping Bag/Bedding, Pillow, Modest & Weather-Appropriate Clothing, Clothes for being outside at night (i.e. jeans and long-sleeve shirt), Rain Gear, Tennis Shoes, Flip Flops for Showers, Toiletries, Towels (shower and beach), one-piece Swimsuit, Sunscreen, Bug Repellant, Flashlight, Bible, Pen & Paper, Money for merchandise, snacks, etc.

### **What Things aren't Allowed at Camp?**

Do Not Bring: alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons of any kind, fireworks, explosives of any kind, or pets.

### **Can we Check in Late or Leave Early if it's Absolutely Necessary?**

There are no part-time registrations. The Spiritual Director must approve any instances of late arrival or early departure. We discourage late arrival and early departure for the benefit of the camper. The success of a camping experience is dependent upon full-time participation. In the event of an early departure or late arrival no fee refund/pro-rating will be provided. In the event of any late arrival or early departure, transportation is the financial and physical responsibility of the camper's family.

### **Can I Request a Roommate for my Camper?**

We try our best to honor all roommate requests; however, we cannot guarantee requests. The volunteer leadership team makes cabin assignments for Primary, Elementary, and Middle School camps. When a camper wishes to room with another camper(s), all campers must list each other as a roommate request on the registration form. Requests grouping more than 3 campers will not be carried out fully and a judgment call by the volunteer leader will decide who to pair together.

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## **While they are at camp...**

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### **What if My Kids Have Problems?**

The safety and well being of our campers is our highest priority. In the event of any situations necessitating your awareness, parents will be contacted. Please rest assured that your child is in safe hands and we will contact you should there be any problems.

### **What if They get Homesick?**

Homesickness can occur at camp, even among experienced campers. At Impact 2818 camps, we encourage homesick campers to stay to the end of the event to allow them to truly experience camp.

Our staff and volunteers are trained to help children through homesickness so that they have a great and positive camp experience. In the event that a camper becomes severely homesick, parents will be called by either the Spiritual Director or the Camp Manager so that the best decision can be made regarding your child.



### **Is there any way to stay in Touch?**

Photos and video will be taken of your camper while at camp and may be used for publicity purposes by Impact 2818 Outdoor Ministries.

Additionally, many of those photos and video will be uploaded to our Facebook fansites. Directors and staff at each event will be posting updates throughout the day along with some photography and comments to help you know what is going on. You do not need to be a Facebook user to access these sites. Your campers will not be able to see or respond to anything on these sites either.

Additionally, you can send your children mail and email. Information will be included in your information packet as well as from the home page of [beacamper.com](http://beacamper.com) as camp begins..

### **Can My Camper have Visitors?**

To protect your children and to minimize homesickness, we have a very tight policy on visitors. Impact 2818 Outdoor Ministries does not offer parent visitation

days. Parents or guardians are discouraged from visiting and phoning a camper during their week of camp. Personal contacts from parents can have negative effects regarding homesickness and community building times. Remember, if there is a problem with your child, we will contact you. Pastors and youth/ children workers are encouraged to visit campers during their week of camp. It is required that all visitors remain unobtrusive to the program and respect the active leadership in progress. All other visitors are not allowed at camp for any reason.

### **Should I be worried about Severe Weather?**

Weather is monitored 24 hours a day. Camp Staff will alert leaders of possible severe weather approaching. All camp leaders are trained on where to take campers in the event of severe storms.

## **Are you ready to sign your kids up? 7**

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[YES](#)

Click here to be directed to the programing options.

[NO](#)

Click here to be directed to the contact form so a member of staff can help you.