

2010 Campership Application

Name: _____

DOB: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Financial Information

This section **must** be completed to qualify for a campership.

Family Size:
Adults _____ Children _____

Annual Family Income _____

Amount of: SSI _____
SSDI _____ TANF _____

I certify that the information provided on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(Parent or Guardian signature if under 18)



Please submit the completed application to:

**County of Mercer
Office for the Disabled
640 South Broad Street
P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, N.J. 08650-0068
Attn: Jenifer L. Williams**

Applications must be received in this office by **Friday, March 19, 2010, at 4:30 p.m.**

ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!

**Phone: 609-989-6468
Fax: 609-989-6032
www.mercercounty.org**

The Mercer County Summer Campership Award program is sponsored by the County of Mercer, Office for the Disabled.

**2010
Mercer County
Summer
Campership
Award Program**



Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Campership Award Program

The Office for the Disabled awards funds to Mercer County residents ages 4 to 25 who have a disability to attend a summer program/camp of their choice. The 2010 Camp Scholarships will be awarded on a **first come - first serve** basis. The amount of the award is dependent upon the family's annual gross income and the total members residing in the household.

The Office for the Disabled anticipates many campership requests; therefore, no applications will be accepted after the deadline of Friday, **March 19, 2010, at 4:30 p.m.** The office staff strongly suggests that you return your application and pertinent documents as soon as you can, as it is possible for all campership funds to be expended before the deadline date.

This brochure/application also is available at <http://nj.gov/counties/mercer/departments/hs/disability.html>.



Program Requirements

The following documents need to be returned:

- Application
- Copy of birth certificate (if child is new to program)
- Copy of annual income tax statement, TANF and/or SSI
- Copy of child's cover page and evaluation stating diagnosis from the IEP

You must include proof/copies of **family** income (prior year income tax return) or two most recent SSI/SSDI/TANF checks for each individual applicant. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for an award.

Once you receive notification verifying the awarded campership, you must contact the camp/program to secure placement. Many times, the camp requests a deposit to be mailed with their application, which is usually applied toward the total cost of the campership. This deposit is your responsibility and should be included with the application that you send to the camp. Camp placements fill quickly, so please be sure to include the required deposit. Please note that any expenses beyond the awarded campership also are to be covered by the parent/guardian.

Assistance

If you need help selecting a camp placement, a camp directory containing information on camp costs, accessibility, location and environment relating to accommodations or mainstreaming will be provided. This directory is published by the *Princeton Packet* and will be distributed by the Office for the Disabled with the campership award letter you receive once approved for the program. 350 copies of this directory are available through the Office for the Disabled, the child study teams and any of the branches of the Mercer County Library System.

Suggestions to ask the camp director

Before enrolling a child in a summer camp program, parents should ask the camp director the following questions:

- What is the ratio of campers and counselors per cabin?
- What percentage of campers and staff return to the camp?
- How is staff screened? Are references checked for all staff that have access to children, including people like aides and bus drivers?
- What is a typical day's schedule; how structured is it?
- How will the camp deal with the specific needs of your child?

- How is medication distributed and by whom?
- What type of medical insurance does the camp carry?
- Ask for a typical menu. Is there a canteen?
- If a mainstreamed camp, have they had children with disabilities before? How was the situation handled and was it successful?
- Are academics available?
 - Is there tutoring or a program?
 - What are the backgrounds of those teaching?
- Ask for the location of the local hospital.
- Who does your child go to if he or she has a problem with his or her counselor?
- Is there a consistent policy about discipline? Do you agree with the policy?
- What is the camp's refund policy?
- If the children will be picked up by a bus or van, will there be someone other than the driver to provide supervision?
- What is the policy regarding who can get onto the campgrounds?
- What is the policy about picking up and dropping off children? Could any one pick up your child without your permission?