



Calhoun County
YMCA
Summer Camp Program
Parent's Handbook
2024

713 Hwy. 35 S.
Port Lavaca, TX 77979
361-551-2562

We build
Strong kids,
Strong families,
Strong communities

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Our Commitment to you...

The Calhoun County YMCA Summer Camp program has an underlying goal which seeks to provide a happy atmosphere, develop positive self-esteem in children, provide social opportunities, strengthen self-discipline, stimulate curiosity and encourage self-expression. In our day camp program your child will receive the perfect balance of fun, learning and physical development. Planned, safe activities are set to a weekly theme taken from the National YMCA curriculum framework. We provide a well-trained caring staff, nutritious snacks, safe supervised activities, structured daily schedules, and tutoring by our staff at:

YMCA Summer Camp Facilities

Location: Site Leader: Tina Padron

713 Hwy 35 S

Port Lavaca Texas 77979

361-551-2562

The Calhoun County YMCA Summer Camp program maintains a staff to child ratio of less than 1:15. The program is licensed by the Texas Department of Health Services and conforms to the strict standards of the YMCA of the Golden Crescent. Financial assistance is available based on family size and income. For more information call (361) 551-2562.

Before completing the enrollment form, please take the time to read through this packet carefully, making note of the policies and guidelines, this will enable us to do the best possible job of caring for your children.

Once again, thank you for making the Calhoun County YMCA your choice in quality summer care!

Cordially,

Michele Morales
Executive Director

Operational Policies

1. HOURS, DAYS, AND MONTHS OF OPERATION

The Calhoun County YMCA Summer Camp begins May 27, 2024 and will operate until the C.C.I.S.D. school year begins. The Calhoun County YMCA's Summer Camp program hours are from 6:45am till 6:00 p.m. If you are late picking your child up, a late fee of \$1.00 per minute per child will be due at the time of pick up.

2. PROCEDURE FOR THE RELEASE OF CHILDREN

I understand that I must sign my child out daily, and I may be required to show a photo ID to do so. All persons signing out any children must be 18 years or older and be on the registration form. If someone under the age of 18 is picking up your child or children, the parent of the registered child must get a release form filled out and notarized. All persons authorized to pick up your child must be listed on the registration form with a driver's license number or some form of photo ID, or your child will not be released to that person.

3. HEALTH AND SAFETY (ILLNESS AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA)

If your child cannot go outside or participate in the program due to illness, understand that you will keep your child at home. If your child has been running fever within the last 24 hours your child may not attend our Program.

4. MEDICATION POLICY

The YMCA will not administer any medications unless you complete a medication form and the medication is in its original container. Medication not in its original container will be taken away from the child and returned to the parent at the end of the day. The medication needs to include the prescription on the bottle or if it is an over the counter medication that a doctor has prescribed it will need to be accompanied by the doctor's prescription.

5. MEDICAL EMERGENCY

If your child is injured or becomes ill while in the care of the YMCA, our staff will do the following:

- Administer basic first aid
- Contact the parent or guardian
- Contact the YMCA director
- If necessary, transport the child to the nearest medical facility or call 911
- Fill our necessary paperwork for licensing, parent signature may be requested.

6. PARENTAL NOTIFICATIONS

Please look at our parent board for any upcoming events and or activities. Parents will be notified either in person, by phone, Remind app, or in writing of any upcoming events, emergencies, holiday breaks, conferences as well as any communicable diseases occurring at the summer camp care sites. We also have weekly newsletters that will be available for parents to take home. Any policy changes will be provided to the parent or guardian in writing. Policies are reviewed annually for updates.

Occasionally children will be absent due to illness or family vacations please let the director of the program know when your child will not be present. You may contact the director by phone or email. *Please note we do not give credits to accounts for illness or vacations in normal situations.

7. DISCIPLINE AND GUIDANCE PRACTICES

Understand that your child must adhere to all YMCA expectations.

The procedure for dealing with unacceptable behavior is listed below

A clear warning including a discussion of the problem that occurred will be held with the child.

If the problem is reoccurring, an age appropriate renewal time will be used as needed.

Renewal time will be repeated.

The child will meet with the Site Director or Program Director / Coordinator.

A parent meeting with the Site Director or Program Director / Coordinator will be held.

Persistent problems or situations that could endanger a child or others at the site could result in automatic suspension or termination from the program.

Understand that if your child is suspended or terminated from the program, you will not receive a refund.

In case of extreme behavioral issues or misconduct, the Calhoun County YMCA will immediately suspend a child.

8. MEALS AND SNACKS

We will use the CCISD free breakfast and lunch program. When the programs ends each parent will be responsible for providing there child a breakfast and lunch. We will provide a small nutritious snack each afternoon. Children may bring their own snack each day if they choose.

9. ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Enrollment forms must be filled out completely each year and updated whenever any information changes. We will notify parents of any changes to our operational policies in writing, verbally and through the remind app.

10. WITHDRAWAL POLICY

A two week notice must be emailed to the Childcare Director at tpadron@ymcavictoria.org in order to withdraw your child from the program. Enrollment is considered continuous until notice of withdrawal is emailed.

11. QUESTIONS / CONCERNS ABOUT THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM:

Questions or concerns about the policies and procedures of the summer camp program can be directed to any of the professional summer camp staff at the YMCA. They will be answered in a timely manner.

12. INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The Calhoun County YMCA will work with children to make sure that they are physically active and healthy. Our staff wants to help each child be strong and confident as they refine and learn to control their large and small fine motor skills. Children will participate in mix of moderate to vigorous physical active sessions. Half of the time will be teacher led and half of the time will be free play. Weather permitting, these activities will take place outdoors in our fenced in play area or our basketball court. Closed toed shoes are recommended for physical play both indoor and outdoor.

13. CLOTHING GUIDELINES

All children should wear comfortable clothing and closed shoes (no sandals) that allow them to participate in indoor and outdoor daily activities.

14. SCREEN TIME POLICIES

Electronics brought from home (phones, tablets, Nintendo switch, etc.) cannot be used or out unless during the designated electronic times: 12:30-1:00pm and 5:00pm-6:00pm. Electronics can be taken up by staff if rules are not being followed and given to the parents at time of pick up.

15. PARENT / GUARDIAN SITE VISITATION:

Due to COVID current parent participation is limited.

Parents and guardians are always welcome to visit our program anytime during our hours of operation.

16. PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS TO PARTICIPATE:

Parents are allowed to participate at any time in the children's activities. We also encourage parents to donate sealed snacks, crafts, etc. Parents are also encouraged to help and participate in our field trips.

17. PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS TO REVIEW MINIMUM STANDARDS AND THE CENTER’S MOST RECENT LICENSING REPORT:

The minimum standards are available at our sign out table at each summer camp program site director’s handbook. The most recent licensing report is posted on our site information boards.

18. PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents and visitors are welcome to our program! Open communication is very important to the success of your child’s experience. Parent conferences may be arranged at any time with teachers or the Director by appointment. We appreciate your input regarding suggestions, ideas and comments on ways to improve our service to you and your family. You may direct suggestions, concerns, compliments or complaints to the immediate caregiver or one of the Directors. Throughout the year we will host family events to provide an opportunity for you to get to know the staff and other families. If you would like to volunteer for an event at the program, you will need to have a clear criminal background and FBI check. Parents and volunteers are never left alone with a group of children and will have a staff member with them at all times. Conferences can be held face-to-face or over the phone. Most parent conferences will typically take about 20 minutes.

19. INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW PARENTS MAY CONTACT THE LOCAL TDFPS CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE, AND TDFPS WEBSITE:

Parents may contact the child care licensing office Texas Abuse / Neglect Hotline at (800) 252-5400 or view the web page at www.dfps.state.tx.us

20. REGISTRATION:

All registration forms must be completed and all necessary fees must be paid in person in order to enroll your child or children in the YMCA Summer Camp program.

21. HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday – Friday, 6:45a.m until 6:00p.m. The program does not operate on the following national holidays: Memorial Day and 4th of July. If those holidays fall on a weekend it will be observed on Friday or Monday. We will give a 24 hour notice if we have to close.

22. TRANSPORTATION:

The Calhoun County YMCA **will not** provide transportation to YMCA extracurricular activities or any other Non – YMCA activities (including CCD classes) as well. The Calhoun County YMCA will use CCISD buses for Field Trips and Pool. Also, kids may be transported to the pool or on field trips in the Calhoun County YMCA mini bus. All children must stay seated with their seat belts fastened while the vehicle is moving and until the vehicle is completely parked. Our primary goal when transporting children is to ensure their safety. The YMCA reserves the right to suspend or dismiss a student if a child is behaving in a way that is unsafe or inappropriate.

23. COST:

<u>Payment Schedule</u>	<u>Member Rate</u>	<u>Non-Member Rate</u>
Registration Fee	\$60 per child	\$70 per child
Camp Fee	\$105 per week	\$115 per week

Registration is a non-refundable fee!

** Siblings receive \$5.00 off

24. PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Payments must be made in advance monthly or weekly by cash, check, money order, or credit card. Payments are due the Friday before child care is given and must be made at the YMCA located at 713 Hwy. 35 S. We encourage all parents to set up auto payment to maintain a current balance and avoid a late fee charge.

25. CREDIT FOR ABSENCES:

Please note a policy change summer 2022. If your child does not attend summer camp for the week you will still owe a fee of \$45.00 to hold their spot.

The YMCA does not credit for missed days. Your fee pays for direct operating costs, such as staff, snack, crafts, transportation, and other program supplies. All of these must be available for the number of children we have in the program. When you enroll we reserve the time, space, staff, and provisions for your child whether he or she attends.

26. REPORTING AN ABSENCE:

Parents are responsible for notifying the YMCA by calling (361) 551-2562 before 8:00a.m if the child will not be attending our program.

27. LATE FEES:

Late fees will be assessed if payment has not been received on time. You will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee on Monday after 8:00 am if payment for that week has not been received. There is also a \$30.00 Insufficient Funds fee for all returned payments.

28. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

The Calhoun County YMCA believes in providing membership and program services to all who wish to participate. The YMCA's financial assistance program, supported by our annual Friend of Youth campaign and the local United Way, uses all available resources to provide support to those who qualify for assistance.

29. VACCINES:

The Calhoun County YMCA does not have a vaccination policy.

30. INCLEMENT WEATHER

If weather conditions warrant, the center may be closed without prior notice. This would happen in the event of ice, snow, excessive rain (flooding) or any weather conditions which would cause the highway department to close major thoroughfares. There will be no reduction of fees for these days.

31. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN:

Staff members are trained in basic emergency procedures. Necessary responses to issues regarding natural disasters (floods, tornados, hurricanes, etc.) and fire escape routes are addressed in staff training. Monthly fire drills and periodic tornado drills are conducted. In the event of an emergency at the center the staff will call 911. The staff will then gather the children along with their enrollment form and exit out the door closest to their room. All the children will gather in the back room at the YMCA 713 HWY 35 S, Port Lavaca or outside to the grass area at the end of driveway.

32. COVID-19 Policy:

If your child is diagnosed with COVID-19 You must notify the YMCA staff immediately. You must have a doctor release prior to returning to our facility. If anyone in your household has tested positive for COVID-19 your child may not attend our facility till they sit out there quarantine period and be symptom free. With the uncertainty of COVID-19 our policies may change with little to no notice due to CDC guidelines and State regulations. Please be understanding and helpful so that our facility may stay COVID-19 Free.

Parent Statement of Understanding

I have read and fully understand the Calhoun County YMCA’s parent handbook. I agree to abide by all of the summer camp program policies and procedures.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date