

STEM AK Summer Camps

COVID-19 Procedures and Policies

Juneau Economic Development Council and STEM AK are working hard to provide your students with the best and safest camp experience possible during these complex times. It is crucial that we all abide by these safety measures, with the understanding that they may change with the development of the CDC and Alaska guidelines on COVID-19 precautions. Please be flexible and understanding; camp sessions may be canceled, students may need to be sent home, and rules may change. We ask that everyone continue to practice social distancing measures in our daily lives to avoid contagion risk at camp and thus allow camps to continue running safely. We will regularly communicate and monitor COVID-19 developments with local health authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to our policies and procedures. We are doing all we can to ensure your child is getting the safest and most educational experience they can under these circumstances. Thank you for your cooperation as we all strive to continue providing a safe, healthy, and fun learning environment for our children!

The following guidelines are informed by the [CDC Guidelines for Child Care Providers](#) and the [State of Alaska Covid-19 Day Camps Mandate](#).

Guidelines and Policies for Families: What you can do to help

- **Health Checks and Sick Policy**
 - Each morning, please check your child for fever (around or above 100.4°F), other symptoms of COVID-19, and other illness. Symptoms could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or coughing. Please keep your children home if they appear sick. We will conduct a daily screening per State of Alaska policy before your child enters the camp premises and send campers home if they exhibit any of these symptoms. Screening your child at home helps speed up this process and aids us in keeping our campers and staff safe.
 - If you suspect your child may be ill, please consult an expert and refrain from camp and other social activities until your child has been cleared for return. Please contact the camp director, Maggie Comstock, at MComstock@JEDC.org or 907-209-9071 to let us know if your child cannot participate due to an illness.
 - No student may return to camp premises within 72 hours of their last fever.
- **Social Distancing and Travel Policy**
 - We require that families in a household where a member has recently traveled affirm that they have abided by and completed the 14-day quarantine period mandated by the State of Alaska.
 - We ask that families continue to practice social distancing measures in your daily lives to avoid contagion risk at camp.
 - Please report on the health of your family and any potential COVID exposures. This is vital to the health of all campers and staff and the ability of the camp to continue.
- **What to Bring / What not to Bring**
 - Along with normal camp items (such as clearly labeled lunch, water bottles, medicines, and weather appropriate gear), we require that students come wearing clean masks to help protect staff and other campers from potential asymptomatic spreading of COVID-19.

- We ask that campers do not bring toys, electronic items (excluding cell phones), playing cards, or other personal items which may aid in the spread of COVID-19.
 - Students may bring a book or E-Reader for Me-Time (our screen-free quiet time), but this book must be kept on premises and/or sanitized each day of camp.
 - Per our usual cell phone policy, students are asked to keep phones tucked away with their other personal belongings during camp. We additionally ask that students sanitize their phones and avoid unnecessary use until pick-up time.

Policies and Procedures for Camp: What we are doing to keep our campers and staff safe

● **Communication and Monitoring**

- We will regularly communicate and monitor developments with local health authorities, staff, and families regarding cases and exposures to COVID-19 and with updates to policies and procedures.
- If a student or staff member should become sick with COVID-19 consistent symptoms during the day, families will be notified immediately of the potential risk and asked to pick up their students. Staff will clean and disinfect the facility thoroughly. Staff and families of sick students should follow the guidelines in health checks to determine when or whether to return to camp.
- Staff will calmly and reassuringly model and teach social distancing and everyday actions to reduce the spread of germs, including the importance of creating space and avoiding unnecessary touching.
 - Staff will provide honest and accurate information and avoid any language that might lead to stigma.
 - Staff will make themselves available to campers to listen and talk when they have questions about safety procedures or COVID-19.

● **Health Checks**

- We will conduct daily screenings of our campers before they may enter the camp premises, per the State of Alaska requirements. Students who show symptoms of illness, including fever of above 100.4°F, will be sent home. No student may return to camp premises within 72 hours of their last fever.
- We will also conduct pre-shift screenings of our staff before they may enter the camp premises and maintain a screening log. No staff displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or other illness may provide services to children and may not report to the worksite within 72 hours of exhibiting a fever.
- These checks will be done using visual inspection and a thermometer. The staff administering the tests will be wearing a mask and clean gloves to ensure camp-wide safety.
- Should a student or staff member become sick during the day, they will be sent home immediately, and the camp premises will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly.

● **Social Distancing Precautions: Grouping, Locations, and Activities**

- Camps will be held in groups of no more than 10 students, with no staff intersecting or interacting face-to-face between groups.
- Students will be given their own individual workspace with physical barriers between workspaces to mitigate spread of COVID-19 via water droplets.
- A significant portion of camp time will be spent outdoors to increase airflow and sunlight to mitigate transmission of COVID-19.
- Eating activities will remain in the classroom or in an outdoor area if possible.

- If serving food, staff will plate food for students individually, so students are not sharing any utensils.
- Students will be given an individual cubby or space for their personal gear (such as lunches, jackets, and cell phones) to limit the contact of non-sanitized objects.
- Activities will be chosen to severely limit unnecessary physical contact, communal or shared items, or the use of loud voices.
 - All participating students and staff will cleanse hands before and after any activity requiring the use of physical contact or communal items.
 - Any communal item used in an activity will be thoroughly sanitized before and after said activity.
 - Any activity requiring loud or projected voices will occur outdoors with a minimum of 10ft between any two students.
- Students will be required to wash hands with hot water and soap for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol before entering the camp, before and after eating or going outside, after using the restroom, and before leaving camp for the day.
- **Cleaning**
 - **Protective Gear:**
 - It is highly recommended that personal masks worn by staff and students be washed daily. Masks provided by the camp will be washed on a sanitary cycle before each day of camp.
 - Staff will wear safety gear, including masks and clean gloves, for all cleaning and for staff and student health checks.
 - **Disinfecting:**
 - Any visibly dirty surfaces will be cleansed with soap and water (or another appropriate cleanser) prior to disinfection. Surfaces will be cleansed using an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19. Staff will use these cleansers as directed on their labels and cleaning products will be kept out of the reach of children.
 - Major cleaning will occur twice daily, once at lunch and once after pick-up. Staff will disinfect commonly touched items, communal items, bathrooms, and student workspaces and materials. They will also air out the classroom and generally sanitize the camp premises.
 - Every hour, staff will disinfect commonly touched or communal items, such as doorknobs, hand sanitizer bottles, and tissue boxes.
 - Staff will wait until the end of the day to vacuum in an empty classroom.
 - When possible, windows will remain open to increase airflow and help limit the spread of COVID-19.
 - Students will tidy and cleanse their workstation and items with an appropriate, child safe cleaning product before lunch and before pick-up to promote general health awareness.
 - Upon serious suspicion and/or confirmation of a staff member or student contracting COVID-19, Sick staff/campers will be sent home immediately. All families will be asked to pick up their students. Staff will then open the windows, allowing the premises to air out for as long as possible before thoroughly sanitizing the camp. A report will be sent to families updating them on the situation.
 - **Handwashing:**
 - Students and staff will be expected to wash hands with hot water and soap for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol before

entering the camp, before and after eating or going outside, after using the restroom, and before leaving camp for the day.

- Students and staff will also wash or sanitize hands after coughing or sneezing and are encouraged to do so into a tissue (which will be thrown away appropriately).

Policies for Staff: What we are doing to keep our workers safe

- **Social Distancing and Travel Policy**

- We require that staff in a household where a member has recently traveled affirm that they have abided by and completed the 14-day quarantine period mandated by the State of Alaska.
- We require that staff continue to practice social distancing measures in their daily lives to avoid contagion risk at our camp.
- We require that staff report on the health of their families and any potential COVID exposures.

- **Health Checks and Sick Policy**

- We will conduct pre-shift screenings of our staff before they may enter the camp premises, and we will maintain a screening log. Staff displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or other illness may not provide services to children and may not report to the worksite within 72 hours of exhibiting a fever.
- If at any point during the summer a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, they must recover and then quarantine for 14-days before returning to camp.

- **Protective Gear**

- We require that staff always wear a cloth mask while at camp. Staff must also wear clean gloves while sanitizing the camp premises and while doing daily health checks.