YMCA CAMP DUNCAN OVERNIGHT CAMP

2027 PROGRAM GUIDE



SESSION 1:	SESSION 2:	SESSION 3:	SESSION 4:	SESSION 5:	SESSION 6:	SESSION 7:	SESSION 8:
6/13 – 6/18	6/20 – 6/25	6/20 – 7/2	6/27 – 7/2	7/6 – 7/9	7/11 – 7/16	7/25 – 7/30	8/1 – 8/6



ADVENTURE AWAITS AT YMCA CAMP DUNCAN!

JUST ONE HOUR FROM CHICAGO, ROCKFORD, AND MILWAUKEE, YMCA CAMP DUNCAN HAS OFFERED SUMMER ADVENTURES FOR YOUTH FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS. WITH OUR MISSION OF PROVIDING A SAFE, FUN, EDUCATIONAL, AND TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL CAMPERS, OUR STAFF ARE COMMITTED TO INSTILLING VALUES IN TODAY'S YOUTH FOCUSING ON THE FOLLOWING CORE VALUES: CARE, HONESTY, RESPECT, AND RESPONSIBILITY.

Our team is devoted to building stronger campers and helping them become the best version of themselves. Our staff are dedicated to working with youth, and each of our counselors is carefully selected based on their commitment to youth mentorship and positive development. Camp Duncan staff are thoroughly trained to create a healthy, safe environment for your camper to learn and grow; all staff are trained in health and safety procedures, including first aid and CPR certifications. Red Cross–certified lifeguards are on duty during all waterfront and pool activities, and a health officer is on site during all camp sessions.

YMCA Camp Duncan's 340 acres on Fish lake is accredited by the American Camp Association, which sets the standards for safe and quality programs. We hope that your camper is able to join us for an unforgettable summer of exploration and fun this season!

If you have any questions about YMCA Camp Duncan, we would love to hear from you! You can call us at 847-546-8086 or email campduncan@ymcachicago.org.

A DAY AT CAMP*

- 7 a.m. Wake Up
- 8 a.m. Flag ceremony
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:15 a.m. Cabin Clean Up
- 9:45 a.m. Land Activity 1
- 10:45 a.m. Land Activity 2
- 12 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Rest Period
- 2 p.m. Pool Time
- 3 p.m. Waterfront Activity
- 4 p.m. Camp Store Visit
- 5:15 p.m. Flag Ceremony
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7 p.m. Evening Program
- 8:15 p.m. Snack
- 8:30 p.m. Showers
- 9:15 p.m. Cabin Chats
- 10 p.m. Lights Out

*This daily schedule is subject to change, and the teen camp schedule may vary.

"Our son had a wonderful first-time experience at camp. His counselors were first-rate role models and 'very cool,' as were his cabin mates. As parents, we felt that our son had a wholesome experience — it left us nostalgic for our Y-camp days."
– Camp Duncan Overnight Camp Parent



TRADITIONAL CAMP OPTIONS

YMCA Camp Duncan provides a welcoming atmosphere and sense of belonging where every child is included. Our camp setting and supportive community celebrate each camper's diverse differences. Our unique programs allow a balance for each camper including the independence to choose activities every day and the structure of scheduled activity rotations.

"I was a little concerned that my daughter would be homesick while away at camp and that she might become sad. When camp was over, there were certainly tears in her eyes; she had been crying because she didn't want camp to be over!"
– Camp Duncan Overnight Camp Parent

MINI CAMP | AGES 7–16

SESSION 5 (7/6 – 7/9) & SESSION 8 (8/1 – 8/4)

Mini Camp gives campers a taste of our classic overnight camp experience in just a few days. Enjoy outdoor adventures, cabin games, creative activities, and cozy campfire nights — all packed into a whirlwind of friendship, laughter, and summer memories. This mini session is perfect for first-time campers or anyone who is looking for a quick, exciting getaway!

During session 8, campers will have the opportunity to extend their stay for the full week with approval from their guardian.

1-WEEK SESSIONS | AGES 7–15

SESSION 1 (6/13 – 6/18): FIRST TIMERS CAMP

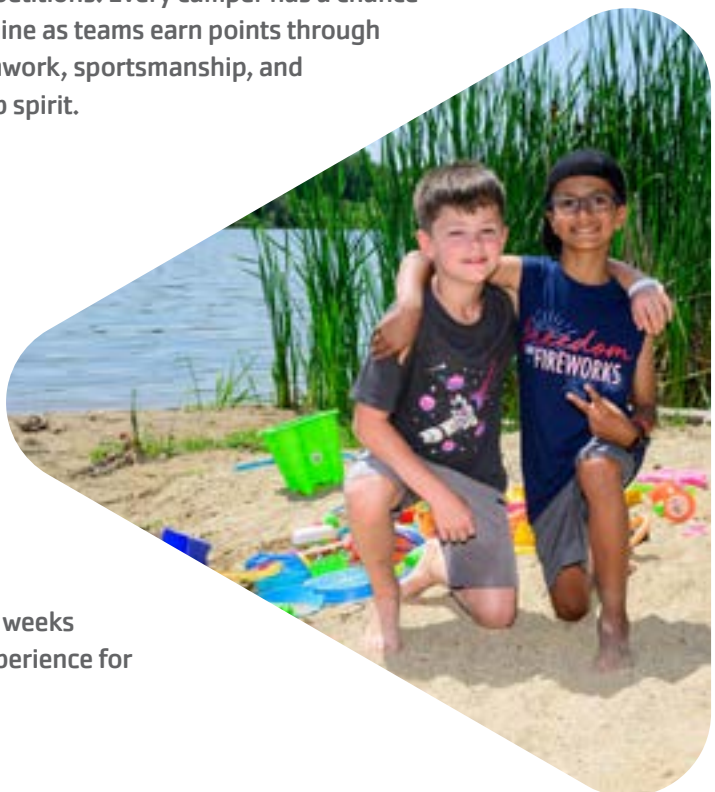
Ready to try Overnight Camp for the first time? This camp removes the pressure of being an expert camper. Youth enjoy a week of learning and growing together and begin to experience the magic of camp as they engage in activities in a physically and emotionally safe atmosphere! This camp is designed to meet the unique social, emotional, and intellectual needs of a younger, first-time camper.

SESSION 2 (6/20 – 6/25), SESSION 4 (6/27 – 7/2), SESSION 7 (7/25 – 7/30), & SESSION 8 (8/1 – 8/6): TRADITIONAL OVERNIGHT CAMP

Campers will explore the outdoors, try exciting activities like swimming, archery, and climbing, and enjoy classic camp traditions like campfires and songs. With cabins full of new friends, games that spark teamwork, and plenty of laughter, this week offers our traditional overnight camp experience.

SESSION 6 (7/11 – 7/16): COLOR CHAOS

Get ready for a week full of team spirit, friendly competition, and non-stop excitement! Campers will be split into color teams and compete in challenges ranging from field games and relays to creative arts, trivia, and cabin competitions. Every camper has a chance to shine as teams earn points through teamwork, sportsmanship, and camp spirit.



2-WEEK SESSION | AGES 7–16

SESSION 3 (6/20 – 7/2): TRADITIONAL OVERNIGHT CAMP

Dive into camp with two full weeks of friendship, fun, and adventure! Campers will have time to explore a multitude of activities, try new challenges, and deepen connections with their cabinmates. With two weeks to grow, learn, and create lasting memories, this session offers an experience for campers who never want Overnight Camp to end!



CAMP DUNCAN ACTIVITIES

- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Blobbing*
- Boating*
- Climbing Tower
- High Ropes*
- Sports & Games
- Swimming
- Zip Line*

*According to the camper's age, swimming ability, and weather conditions

SPECIALTY CAMP OPTIONS

SESSION 3 (6/20 – 7/2): COUNSELORS IN TRAINING | AGES 16–17

Counselors in Training is designed for teens who are ready for future leadership roles as summer camp counselors. Campers will spend their first week learning leadership skills and participating in traditional camp activities. They will then spend their second week living in a cabin with younger campers and getting a feel for everything that being a counselor entails.

SESSION 6 (7/11 – 7/16): LEADERS IN TRAINING | AGES 15–16

Leaders in Training is designed for teens who want to develop the skills that they'll need to grow into effective leaders. During the one-week program, teens work on team building, leadership, problem-solving, and camp skills through group work experiences and adventure activities. Participants also take part in traditional camp activities!

2027 SUMMER SESSION DATES & RATES

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TRADITIONAL CAMPS								
MINI SESSION					$695			$695
1-WEEK PROGRAM		$1,170		$1,170		$1,170	$1,170	
2-WEEK PROGRAM			$2,055					
SPECIALTY CAMPS								
LEADERS IN TRAINING						$1,170		
COUNSELORS IN TRAINING				$2,055				
FIRST TIMERS CAMP		$1,170						

VISIT CAMP DUNCAN

OPEN HOUSES

Whether you're interested in Overnight Camp, Summer Day Camp, or one of our Specialty Camps, there's an unforgettable adventure waiting for you at YMCA Camp Duncan. Join us for an informative (and exciting!) open house where you'll get a sneak peek into Camp Duncan. We're hosting Open House events on March 14, 2027, and April 18, 2027; registration is required. RSVP today!

PERSONAL CAMP TOURS

Interested in a personal camp tour? We offer tours until Friday, April 30, 2027. Email us at campduncan@ymcachicago.org to schedule a time!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

A non-refundable admin fee/deposit of $150 per week per camper is due at the time of registration. The deposit will go toward the total payment of the camp week. Balance of camp fees are due four weeks ahead of the check-in day for your child's camp session. Fees are non-refundable after payment due date. If your camper becomes ill a doctor's note is required to accompany the request for refund. We will first try to move your camper's registration to another open week. All forms must be submitted before your camper's first day of camp.

OUR FAMILY GUIDE

Our Family Guide contains essential information to prepare you and your child for camp. The guide includes detailed information regarding our facilities, camp procedures, health & safety policies, packing lists, etc.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We believe every child should have the opportunity to experience camp regardless of their financial situation. Camp Duncan works with several resources to help meet the needs of as many families who want to attend summer camp as possible.

2027 applications are available beginning the first week of January 2027 and can be initiated by calling the camp office at 847-546-8086 or emailing campduncan@ymcachicago.org. Once monies are allocated families will be notified. A deposit is required to hold your child's spot even if you are awarded a full or partial scholarship. If you do not qualify you will be notified. Funds are limited and are available on a first come first serve basis.

FOOD SERVICE

Nutritious meals are an important part of camp. Our dedicated kitchen staff provide three kid-friendly, family-style meals a day plus an evening snack. All meals are included in the registration fee. Our food service department can also make reasonable accommodations for food allergies and special dietary needs as long as they are requested ahead of time in registration documentation.

TRANSPORTATION

Camp Duncan is conveniently located one hour north of Chicago, one hour south of Milwaukee, and 30 minutes west of Gurnee — making it easy for parents to drop off and pick up their child at camp.

If you are unable to drive to Camp Duncan, we now offer a pick-up option! Our staff will pick up and drop off campers at the Fox Lake station on the Metra Milwaukee District North (MD-N) line. The Fox Lake station is a 10-minute drive from Camp Duncan. Families (including parents!) can take the train together on drop-off and pick-up days. For more information about this transportation option, please contact our camp team at campduncan@ymcachicago.org.

INCLUSION

The YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago invites persons with differing abilities to enjoy Y programs and facilities. If you require a reasonable modification to enjoy any of our programs, please answer the request question on the registration form. A member of our Inclusion Team will then contact you. Any questions that you have can be sent to campduncan@ymcachicago.org.

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LEARN MORE ❯

Please contact us if you have any questions about Camp Duncan. We'd love to hear from you!
YMCA Camp Duncan | 32405 N. US Highway 12 | Ingleside, IL 60041 | 847-546-8086 | ymcacampduncan.org