



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA of San Diego County Inclusion Procedure and Intake Form

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited that you have selected the YMCA for Day Camp! We realize that for parents of children with special needs there are a number of factors that need to be considered in order to ensure a safe and positive camp experience. We hope to answer your questions upfront and ease any concerns for you and your child. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your Camp Director.

What is Inclusion in a Day Camp Setting?

Inclusion provides the opportunity for children with special needs to attend camp with their typically developing peers. Most Day Camps are not specifically for children with special needs.

Is this a good fit for my child?

Though our goal is to include all campers, if a child's needs are so great that they are not able to participate in meaningful ways, if they are a threat to themselves or others, or if they cannot follow simple safety rules, Y Camp may not be a good fit for them.

What if my child needs an Inclusion Aide?

Many parents come to camp requesting an Aide. You will work with the camp management team to determine if an Inclusion Aide is necessary and available. We do not assume that all children with special needs need an Aide. Our goal is to fully integrate your child into camp without additional supports by observing your child and adjusting our day to accommodate their needs. Parent communication is essential.

Who are the Inclusion Aides?

Our Inclusion Aides are hired specifically to work with children who have special needs. They have backgrounds in special education or other life experiences that provide them with the necessary skills set. All staff are CPR and First Aid certified, pass background checks and go through extensive training.

Should my child attend Extended Camp?

We do not recommend extended camp for children with special needs as these sessions have a more relaxed nature and different staff than during the day. This makes it difficult for consistency and transitions with children with special needs.

What if my child has behavior issues at camp?

We will work with you and your child to be proactive to prevent behavior issues through accommodations, redirection and positive guidance. Behavior challenges will be documented on Behavior Reports/logs/journals and shared with the parent. If your child exhibits repeated disruptive or violent behavior that is harmful to staff, other campers, or themselves, your child may need to be picked up immediately, suspended or terminated from the program without refund.

How do I get started?

Prior to registration, an Inclusion Intake form must be completed, turned in and approved by the Camp Management Team.

1. Fill out the Inclusion Intake Form as soon as possible. Resources are limited.
2. Camp Management Staff will contact you to set up an appointment to meet.
(Please note that it may take up to 2 weeks to process an Inclusion Intake Form.)
3. Communicate with the Inclusion Leader and/or camp staff daily and offer guidance on working with your child.

Other resources that might help you and your family are The Regional Center (858-579-2996), YMCA Child Care Resource Center (619-521-3055), San Diego Center for Children (858-277-9550), and Kids Included Together (KIT) (858-225-5680).

Sincerely,

Camp Management Team

Attached: Inclusion Intake Form

For Office Use Only
Date Received _____

YMCA of San Diego County

Inclusion In-take form

Name of Child:	Age:
Camp Date(s) Requesting:	
Parent/Guardian Name:	Phone:
Address:	Email:

- 1. What are your goals for your child in our program?**
- 2. What are some skills, strengths and abilities?**
- 3. What activities does your child enjoy?**
- 4. What kinds of programs has your child participated in the past?**
- 5. How would you describe your child's personality?**
- 6. What type of accommodations does your child need?**
- 7. What are your concerns about your child's participation in our program?**

Questions regarding physical, and social needs

1. What is the nature of your child's disability?

Severity:

- High functioning
- Moderate
- Low functioning

2. Describe any special medical needs or allergies that we should be aware of:

3. Is your child on a medication schedule that might concur with the program schedule?

4. Does he/she need assistance with any of the following?

- walking
- remaining with a group
- grasping/manipulating objects
- Printing/Writing
- Toileting
- Listening/following directions
- Other specify: _____

5. How does your child communicate?

- Verbal
- Nonverbal

6. If your child is non-verbal, what form of communication is used?

7. Does he/she have any history with

- Wandering off
- Running away (threat to flee)

Behaviors:

- 1. Triggers:**
- 2. Preventive actions to take:**
- 3. What comforts your camper?**
- 4. Best way to approach your camper when having a difficult time:**
- 5. Any specific words to use when talking to your camper?**
- 6. Does your camper respond better to a male or female counselor, or no preference?**

Self-Care Needs:

- 1. Things they enjoy:**
- 2. What you think a successful week of camp will look like:**
- 3. Does your camper do well in large groups?**
- 4. Does your camper do well with moving place to place?**
- 5. Does your camper do well around water?**
- 6. Does your camper do well with change?**
- 7. Does your camper do well with high interaction with other campers?**
- 8. Does your camper do well with high active activities?**
- 9. Does your camper do well when given a schedule for the day?**