

COVID-19 Cancellation Policy 2020

The COVID-19 virus is having a dramatic financial impact on William Lawrence Camp. It may affect our ability to open or a family's willingness to send their child. There are no easy answers when it comes to what lies ahead.

The \$500 deposits that are made at the time of enrollment allow us to prepare Camp for the season, make commitments for the summer and pay our year-round staff. We always dip into our savings during the winter before tuition payments are made, usually on April 1.

As you are aware, we extended the tuition payment deadline to May 15 and asked you to hold off making any further payments. Since it has always been our intention to refund tuition (less the \$500 non-refundable deposit) if we are unable to open, we felt it would be easier if we simply paused any transactions while we attempt to understand the full impact of COVID on Camp.

Meanwhile, in order to continue our preparation for Summer 2020, we have applied for and received disaster relief in the form of two months' worth of payroll from the U.S. Government through the CARES Act. Nevertheless, we still expect to have an operational loss of approximately \$250,000 in fiscal year 2020 and to operate at a far more modest deficit in 2021. We are optimistic that, between fundraising and Small Business Administration loans, we will be able to maintain our long-term fiscal health.

We encourage everyone who has enrolled to continue to be patient in making any decisions about Camp. We chose May 15 because we expect to have new data points to help shape our decisions about the summer. These include whether children are going back to school, whether the social distancing is extended here in the State of NH, new guidelines from the CDC, and whether the J-1 Visa program will be opened back up. It is possible that we will have to extend our May 15 deadline even further. At any rate, we continue to ask that you not make any payments until you hear from us.

If it becomes impossible to open, we know that it will take all of us to re-kindle Camp for 2021. In addition to taking on debt for the first time in Camp's history, we will need your enthusiasm for Camp to build for next year. We want to do everything we can to ensure that our families are happy and also that Camp is financially viable for summer 2021.

Our policy has always been that the \$500 deposit is non-refundable, but, as with most policies these days, it was never designed for a situation where we were unable to open. The deposit money has already been spent on the off-season costs mentioned above. However, we are pleased to be able to offer three options to help mitigate the loss of this money as follow:

1. We can convert your \$500 to a charitable donation and will provide appropriate acknowledgement for tax purposes for either 2019 or 2020.
2. We can apply the \$500 toward your son's tuition for our 2021 season.
3. We can refund your \$500 deposit at some point in the next calendar year. Unfortunately, the timing of this option is contingent upon grants and loans we are applying for.

If you choose to convert the \$500 to a charitable gift, please contact us. We are working on a simple form to acknowledge the change in the nature of the money.

If you choose to roll the \$500 over to next year, we will consider your son enrolled before the early enrollment discount date of December 1 and will apply the discount. We will need to receive a completed 2021 application prior to December 1.

Please let us know your decision via email by June 15, as we have to plan for the financial impact this will have on Camp.

Of course, if you have the desire and wherewithal to donate more to Camp, this would be very helpful and greatly appreciated. Please [click here to donate online](#).

We have spent many hours talking with other camp directors with regard to their cancellation policy in light of COVID-19, so our approach has been carefully considered. We would be very appreciative if you would turn your deposit into a donation. Our little not-for-profit organization needs your help moving forward. WLC is built on relationships that will be more important than ever in assuring our continued existence. We thank you for your understanding.

Note: This cancellation policy does not apply if your CampDoc insurance policy is valid.