

# **2019 CAMP CRITERIA AND SESSION DATES**

Please read over this document before completing your camper application.

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## **CAMP ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS**

While camp is a great experience, it is definitely not for everyone. Campers live in a group setting with many other children/youth that have a physical disability. The setting will be quite active and full of sounds. Campers need to be able to successfully function in such an environment. To best determine a camper's eligibility and appropriateness, Easter Seals staff will carefully review each camper's application prior to acceptance. The camp's nursing facilities are limited and, by the nature of camp, are remotely located. Camp is typically not able to meet the needs of children/youth that require skilled nursing care. Easter Seals Ontario has the right and duty to rescind an acceptance or to send a camper home early due to health, medical, or behavioural concerns.

### **Use this information to decide on the best session for your child:**

1. Decide which camp you would like your child to attend – keep in mind that transportation is the parent's/guardian's responsibility.
2. Check (✓) off your session choice next to the corresponding session code and date on the front of the 2019 Camper Application in the box provided.

## **CRITERIA FOR ALL CAMPERS**

### **Easter Seals camps provide outdoor recreational experiences for children and youth. Each camper must:**

- be registered with Easter Seals Ontario (please note: the Incontinence Supply Grant is a separate registry) and be age 6 to 26 years as of July 1, 2019;
- be able to make choices, follow directions, and be aware they are participating in a recreational program;
- have the physical and mental stamina to participate in a challenging outdoor program, and
- have a desire to fully participate in the daily activities of camp.

### **Camp has increased risk associated with it in comparison to home or school. To ensure safety, campers must:**

- have no recurring history of problems with respiration, swallowing, or choking;
- have a well-established communication system (verbal or augmentative) that allows for effective peer and staff interaction; they must have the ability to communicate a consistent yes and no (verbal or non-verbal), and
- be able to comprehend their own needs, ask for assistance when necessary, and indicate when they are in distress.

*Please note, Easter Seals is thrilled to offer non-traditional camp programs. Please be aware, for safety reasons specific criteria exists for participation in some programs such as: out-trips and high ropes activities.*

### **Camp is a group experience and therefore campers are required to:**

- exhibit no inappropriate behavioural tendencies toward themselves or others;
- be able to actively participate in a group environment with a 1:2 ratio of staff to campers; please note that 1:1 care is not provided at camp;
- be able to enjoy group meals in the dining hall without being disruptive to others, and
- be able to sleep in a cabin with a group of campers without being disruptive to others (does not apply to day camp).

### **Easter Seals Ontario reserves the right to:**

- deny any child/youth admission into the camp program who does not meet the criteria or for whom it cannot be established that their needs will be safely met;
- deny admission to any camper whose medical, physical, or behavioural condition upon arrival at camp is significantly different to that which was disclosed in the application form or was advised in writing, prior to camp.

**If your child does not meet the above criteria to attend an individual camp session, please contact us to inquire about our Family Camp option as an alternative.**

## CAMP FEES

The cost of Easter Seals Camp programs are listed below. We ask parents to pay what they are able to with a **minimum payment of \$225\***. Our generous donors fund the remaining fees.

**\*Campers who are 18 years and younger as of July 1, 2019 and are not Crown Wards are eligible for funding from Easter Seals Ontario and are only required to submit a minimum \$225 (non-refundable) payment with their application. This applies for one session only. If the camper is attending any additional sessions, full fees are required for all additional sessions. Campers who will be 19+ as of July 1, 2019 or are Crown Wards are NOT eligible for funding and are required to pay the full cost for the session listed below.**

## CAMPER SESSIONS

The camp summer is divided into a number of sessions, based on age and program. We have endeavoured to provide parents with as much flexibility as possible in choosing a time to send their child to camp.

**EASTER SEALS CAMP MERRYWOOD** (opened 1948) is situated on a peninsula that stretches out into Rideau Lake near Perth, Ontario (approximately 1 hour from Ottawa and Kingston). Merrywood offers a traditional camp program and a full complement of waterfront activities. Campers are exhilarated by the adventurous activities on land, on the lake and off-site on canoe and overnight trips.

### 2019 Camp Sessions at Camp Merrywood:

Session	Age	Length	Cost	Dates	Code
Explorers	8-12	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 – July 10	ME1
				July 14 – July 24	ME2
				July 28 – August 7	ME3
Pathfinders	13-18	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 – July 10	MP1
				July 14 – July 24	MP2
		7-days	\$1,400	July 28 – August 7	MP3
Discovery Camp	6-12	5 days	\$1,000	August 10 – August 17	MP4
Sports Camp	6-12	5 days	\$1,000	August 11 – August 16	MD
Sports Camp	13-18	7 days	\$1,400	August 10 – August 17	MSC
Out-Tripping Adventure Camp	15-26	7 days	\$600	August 10 – August 17	MOT
Leaders-in-Training (LIT)	19-26	10 days	\$1,500	June 30 – July 10	MLIT1
				July 14 – July 24	MLIT2
				July 28 – August 7	MLIT3
		7 days	\$1,050	August 10 – August 17	MLIT4
GEAR-UP	19-26	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 – July 10	MGU1
				July 14 – July 24	MGU2
				July 28 – August 7	MGU3
		7 days	\$1,400	August 10 – August 17	MGU4

**EASTER SEALS CAMP WOODEDEN** (opened 1946) overlooks the Thames River on the outskirts of London, Ontario. Woodeden is situated on 106 acres of beautifully landscaped ground that includes an accessible tree house. Campers expand their leadership abilities through a wide variety of creative programs and multi-sport activities, as well as on North America's only fully accessible high ropes course. Campers are also able to utilize the indoor climbing wall, life skills kitchen, music and drama area and gymnasium at camp.

### 2019 Camp Sessions at Camp Woodeden:

Session	Age	Length	Cost	Dates	Code
Explorers	8-12	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 – July 10	WE1
				July 14 – July 24	WE2
Explorers (DAY CAMP)	8-12	5 days	\$325	July 1 – July 5 (DAYS)	WED
Pathfinders	13-18	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 – July 10	WP1
		5 days	\$1000	July 14 – July 24	WP2
Pathfinders (DAY CAMP)	13-18	5 days	\$325	July 27 – August 1	WP3
Discovery Camp	6-12	5 days	\$1,000	July 15-19 (DAYS)	WPD
Discovery Camp	6-12	5 days	\$1,000	July 27 – August 1	WD
Leaders-in-Training (LIT)	17-26	10 days	\$1,500	June 30 – July 10	WLIT1
				July 14 – July 24	WLIT2
		5 days	\$750	July 27 – August 1	WLIT3
GEAR-UP	19-26	10 days	\$2,000	June 30 - July 10	WGU1
				July 14 - July 24	WGU2
		5 days	\$1,000	July 27 - August 1	WGU3

For more information on Easter Seals Camps, please visit our website at [www.eastersealscamps.org](http://www.eastersealscamps.org) or contact the Recreation Coordinator at: 416.421.8377 x 325 or toll-free at 1.800.668.6252 x 325 or by e-mail at [camp@easterseals.org](mailto:camp@easterseals.org)

# **2019 CAMP SESSION GUIDE**

\*Session fees are listed for each program below. Campers who are 18 years and younger as of July 1, 2019 and are not Crown Wards are eligible to receive funding from Easter Seals Ontario.

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**INDIVIDUAL CAMP** - Individual Camp is split between two age groups: **Explorers and Pathfinders**.

This program is offered at Merrywood and Woodeden for children and youth ages 8-18 in a variety of session lengths. The emphasis of these programs is to promote independence, teach new skills, enhance a camper's self-esteem and build friendships. Programs offered include swimming, sports and games, music and drama, arts and crafts, life skills, environmental studies and leadership skills. Each of the camps also has programs specific to that camp such as kayaking, extended out-trips, sailing, high ropes course, sledge hockey, wheel chair basketball and pottery. All camps have a well-equipped health facility that is staffed by registered nurses. Camp staff ratio is 1:2 to ensure that your child is well looked after.

## **EXPLORERS CAMP (OVERNIGHT)**

*Ages served: 8-12 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **ME1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **ME2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **ME3** – July 28-August 7, 2019;*

*Woodeden **WE1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **WE2** – July 14-July 24, 2019*

*Costs: all sessions (10-day) \$2,000\**

## **PATHFINDERS CAMP (OVERNIGHT)**

*Ages served: 13-18 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **MP1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **MP2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **MP3** – July 28-August 7, 2019; **MP4**- August 10-August 17, 2019; Woodeden **WP1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **WP2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **WP3** – July 27-August 1, 2019*

*Costs: MP1/MP2/MP3/WP1/WP2 (10-day) \$2,000\*; WP3 (5-day) \$1,000\*, MP4 (7-day) \$1,400\**

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## **EXPLORERS CAMP (DAY CAMP – WOODEDEN ONLY)**

*Ages served: 8-12 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Woodeden **WED** – July 1-July 5, 2019*

*Costs: \$325\**

*Notes: Day campers are required to pack their own lunch and snack for camp – meals will not be provided.*

## **PATHFINDERS CAMP (DAY CAMP – WOODEDEN ONLY)**

*Ages served: 13-18 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Woodeden **WPD** – July 15-July 19, 2019*

*Costs: \$325\**

*Notes: Day campers are required to pack their own lunch and snack for camp – meals will not be provided.*

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## **DISCOVERY CAMP**

*Ages served: 6-12 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **MD** – August 11-16, 2019; Woodeden **WD** – July 27-August 1, 2019*

*Costs: MD/WD (5-day) \$1,000\**

Every child is different, and we realize that some children (or their parents) may not be ready for a full 10-day overnight camping experience. For this reason, Easter Seals Ontario has developed a great 5-day introductory camping program especially for young or first-time campers. Both Merrywood and Woodeden Camp provide a nurturing environment organized with care to provide the support, supervision and structure young campers require. The camps have a staff/camper ratio of 1:2 with 3 registered nurses on site. There will be no more than 8 campers per cabin to ensure every camper receives the special attention they need. Discovery Camp will give your child a feel for being away from home and a taste of independence. Campers will have the opportunity to participate in nightly campfires and enjoy all of the camp activities.

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## **SPORTS CAMP**

*Ages served: 13-18 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **MSC** – August 10-August 17, 2019*

*Costs: MSC (7-day) \$1,400\**

This multi sport program introduces campers to a wide variety of adapted recreational, sport and leisure activities such as wheelchair basketball, sledge hockey, sit volleyball, power wheelchair hockey, baseball, bocce ball, archery, softball, cricket, frisbee golf and more. Each day campers will learn new skills and gain a fundamental understanding of a wide range of sports activities, participating in their favourite activities as well as trying new sports that they may have never played before. They will also have one swim period each day and one period where they can participate in any program of their choosing. Each evening there will be a sports clinic or game. There will be a number of coaches from various sports organizations coming to teach specific skills. With the emphasis on fun, the program is designed to enhance each camper's self-image by working on their individual skills, while learning the value of team play, sportsmanship and friendly competition. This active program is perfect for energetic campers who love to get involved in an intense but non-competitive atmosphere.

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## **OUT-TRIPPING ADVENTURE CAMP**

*Ages served: 15-26 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Session: Merrywood **MOT** – August 10-August 17, 2019*

*Cost: MOT (7-day) \$600\**

This program is designed for campers who would like to experience outdoor camping in the true wilderness. Together, campers and counsellors will plan their trip, taking into consideration food, equipment, safety and the route. Emphasis is placed on outdoor living skills, teamwork, fun, leadership and challenging oneself. The campers spend the first day at camp planning, preparing, covering emergency procedures and then they head out for an incredible canoe adventure to Algonquin Park on the east side (approx. 3 hrs. north of Merrywood). Participants interested in this program must be able to demonstrate a reasonable level of independence with their daily living and be comfortable sleeping in a tent and canoeing. The out-trip will consist of only 5 campers and be lead by 2 Trippers who have extensive experience, as well as wilderness first aid and NLS swimming qualifications. A counsellor will also accompany the trip to assist with any of the personal care needs the campers may have. In any wilderness travel program there are always risk management and safety issues to be addressed. Easter Seals Ontario is committed to providing a safe and fun experience for participants through extensive pre-trip research and planning, top of the line equipment and extensive emergency response plans and procedures. Through the use of a satellite technology (phone and a SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger) the trippers can be in contact with the camp and the nursing staff at any time.

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## **LEADERS-IN-TRAINING CAMP**

*Ages served: 19-26 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **MLIT1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **MLIT2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **MLIT3** – July 28-August 7, 2018; **MLIT4** – August 10-August 17, 2019; Woodedden **WLIT1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **WLIT2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **WLIT3** – July 27-August 1, 2019*

*Costs: MLIT1/MLIT2/MLIT3/WLIT1/WLIT2 (10-day) \$1,500\*; WLIT3 (5-day) \$750\*; MLIT4 (7-day) \$1,050\**

The Leaders-in-Training (LIT) program helps young adults develop leadership and other practical skills, which can be used throughout their lives for their own personal growth. Camp is about learning by doing. Campers in this program will learn these skills in a safe environment through a variety of fun and challenging activities, workshops and discussions. Each session has 8 LIT participants, who live in a cabin with other LITs and are supervised by the LIT programmer. They gain valuable leadership skills through team building activities, discussions, journals, mentoring and evaluations. The program is both challenging and fun. There are also plenty of opportunities for everyone to practice their newly developed leadership skills within the camp community. This program is for young adults who are highly motivated, ready to work and play hard, and who have demonstrated an interest in enhancing their leadership skills. LITs must be able to direct their own care.

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## **GEAR-UP**

*Ages served: 19-26 (as of July 1, 2019)*

*Sessions: Merrywood **MGU1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **MGU2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **MGU3** – July 28-August 7, 2019; **MGU4** – August 10-August 17, 2019; Woodedden **WGU1** – June 30-July 10, 2019; **WGU2** – July 14-July 24, 2019; **WGU3** – July 27-August 1, 2019*

*Costs: MGU1/MGU2/MGU3/WGU1/WGU2 (10-day) \$2,000; MGU4 (7-day) \$1,400; WGU3 (5 day) \$1,000;*

The GEAR-UP program is an adapted version of our Explorer/Pathfinder Individual Camp sessions geared towards young adults ages 19-26. The emphasis of these programs is to promote independence, teach new skills, enhance a camper's self-esteem and build friendships. Please see Explorers/Pathfinders description above for more information.