



## Program Eligibility Standards

Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp serves individuals aged 18 and older with developmental/intellectual disabilities. For returning campers over the age of 50, the Programs Team will review program eligibility at the end of each summer. To ensure the safety and well-being of all campers and staff, applicants must meet the following criteria. Final discretions rest with the Executive Director and/or Programs Director(s).

### 1. Financial Requirements

- a. The applicant must have no outstanding balances from previous programs.

### 2. Developmental Eligibility

- a. The applicant must have a diagnosed developmental or intellectual disability that aligns with Camp programming.

### 3. Age Requirements

- a. Applicants must be program-age-eligible by the first day of Camp.
- b. First-time applicants must be under 45 years old (unless attending Family Camp).
- c. Any returning applicant who has not attended in the past five years will be treated as a first-time applicant to ensure a proper assessment of current needs.

### 4. Program Suitability

- a. Applicant must be able to benefit physically, mentally, and/or socially from camp programs and activities.
- b. Must show a willingness and desire to participate in most camp activities.
- c. Applicants must have the ability and willingness to stay with their assigned group throughout the day.

### 5. Behavior Standards

- a. Applicants must be able to follow directions from counselors and staff.
- b. Applicants must not have a history of excessive violence or behaviors that require constant supervision by behavior-trained staff (e.g. OIS). Examples include but are not limited to:
  - i. Physical violence towards self, others, or property.
  - ii. Verbal or sexual violence of any kind.
  - iii. Fire-setting or arson.
- c. Applicants must maintain behavioral continuity appropriate for a group setting. They must not require
  - i. Supervision by two staff, counselor, or director at a time.
  - ii. Constant supervision by a behavior-trained (OIS) individual
  - iii. Extended time away from the group
  - iv. Support that poses a safety risk to themselves or others.
- d. Nighttime behaviors must be manageable in a shared dorm setting. This includes:
  - i. The ability to sleep through the night without constant observation or care.
  - ii. Minimal disruptions (e.g. excessive talking, refusal to stay in sleeping area, etc.)
  - iii. The understanding that private, single-bedroom accommodation is not available.

### 6. Medical Standards

- a. Applicants must be in a state of health (mental, physical, emotional) manageable in a camp setting. Examples of things that may not be manageable include:
  - i. Mental health conditions that present an immediate safety risk, such as active suicidal ideation, recent self-harm behaviors, or the need for crisis-level intervention.
  - ii. Dependence on medical assistance for transfers.



- iii. Reliance on life-sustaining equipment (e.g. ventilators, oxygen tanks, tracheostomy);
- iv. Medical conditions requiring 1:1 nursing care (e.g. unstable diabetes, catheter procedures, complex or extensive medication management).
- v. Medically unstable conditions, including recent medication adjustments.
- vi. Seizures not reasonably controlled by medication.
- vii. Active communicable diseases (e.g. MRSA).
- viii. Weight restrictions exceeding program-specific limits (e.g. Horses: 250 lbs., Adventure: 275 lbs., Adaptive Biking: 300 lbs.).

## **7. Health Screening**

- a. Applicants must pass the required health screening at check-in, which includes being free from:
  - i. Symptoms of illness (e.g. fever over 100°F, rash, topical parasites, or infectious conditions).
  - ii. Open or draining lesions.

## **Specialty Program Eligibility**

Beyond the general eligibility criteria, applicants interested in participating in specialty programs (Forest Trekkers, Ground Explorers, Fall Retreat, and Winter Retreat) must also meet the following requirements due to the unique nature of these programs:

- a. Must have attended Main Camp for at least one summer or have been recommended for participation by the Programs Director(s).
- b. Be able to successfully participate in a 2:1 or 3:1 camper-to-counselor ratio.
- c. Have no more than five medications, vitamins, and supplements.
- d. Have little to no behavioral support needs, including but not limited to tendencies to wander, elope, or needing time away from the group.
- e. Be able to walk long distances (up to 2 miles at one time).
  - a. Winter Retreat: must be able to navigate through the snow with little to no assistance.
  - b. Forest Trekkers and Ground Explorers: willing to participate in outdoor cooking, fire safety, hiking, and outdoor exploration.

## **Personal Care Providers/Caregivers**

Some campers may require the supervision of a personal caregiver provided by the camper's family or support network. Due to the space constraints at camp, caregiver spots are limited. In certain instances, MHKC may require the camper to come accompanied by a caregiver. Examples of situations where this may be necessary include:

- The camper has high behavioral support needs, needs time away from the group, wanders, elopes, or needs a higher ratio of supervision.
- The camper uses any marijuana (cannabis) products, including CBD.
- The camper requires 24-hour caregiver monitoring, as determined by MHKC administrative staff.
- The camper Medicaid or Individual Support Plan mandates 24-hour care.
- The camper requires medication or nursing support outside of the camp medication scheduled times, which are breakfast, lunch, dinner, and/or bedtime, including but not limited to catheter procedures.



Personal care providers are required to remain with their camper at all times, including overnight, and must be prepared to address all aspects of their camper's needs. This includes administering medications unless otherwise directed by the Programs Director(s) or Healthcare Director. Caregivers are housed in shared accommodations with their camper and may be assigned to a top bunk if necessary. To uphold the camp's commitment to fostering camper independence, **parents are discouraged from serving as personal care providers** but are never turned away.

During nursing check-in, camp healthcare staff will review the camper's health needs and the caregiver's responsibilities. Caregivers will also be required to review and sign the standard MHKC Caregiver Agreement before their role begins. For any questions about caregivers, please contact the Programs Director at [kayla@mhkc.org](mailto:kayla@mhkc.org)

### **Dismissal from Camp**

In certain situations, a camper's behavior or medical condition may necessitate early dismissal from camp. The circumstances include, but are not limited to:

- a. Exhibiting behavior(s) or medical condition(s) outlined in the camp's eligibility criteria;
- b. Displaying behavior(s) or medical condition(s) that the Programs Director(s) or on-site Nurse(s) deem unsafe for the camper or others to remain at camp.
- c. Worsening of medical condition due to the camp environment.
- d. Refusal or inability to consume sufficient food to maintain nutritional support.
- e. Refusal or inability to drink any liquids in an eight-hour period.
- f. Refusal or inability to take prescribed medications.
- g. Refusal or inability to comply with personal care needs. (e.g. Medications, toileting or changing soiled attends, eating, or drinking).
- h. Pre-existing medical conditions or behavioral needs not disclosed on the Camp application, or during check-in.

Each dismissal decision is made with careful consideration and discussion by key camp personnel. Relevant details about the incident, illness, or behavior, including its frequency and intensity, are collected and assessed. Whenever possible, camp staff maintain open communication with parents or caregivers to explore all options before making a final decision. Campers dismissed for behavioral, or health reasons will undergo a review by the Programs Director to determine their suitability for future participation in MHKC programming, with the outcome communicated to parents or guardians.

Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp reserves the right to reject applications prior to attendance or to deny admittance to camp upon arrival based on the inability to meet program eligibility standards. Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp reserves the right to dismiss any participant from further participation in the program in the event the staff determines the participant cannot meet the program eligibility standards.



### **Appeal Process**

Upon denial of an application to camp, the applicant, parent, or legal guardian may file an appeal within the due process procedure as follows:

1. File a written statement with the business office of Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, Inc. within thirty (30) days of receipt of the denial. Mail the statement to:

Executive Director

Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, Inc.

10725 SW Barbur Blvd., Suite 50

Portland, OR 97219

2. A committee consisting of three Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp staff, including the Executive Director and two members of the Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, Inc. staff will review the statement within fifteen (15) days of receipt.
3. The committee will provide a written reply to the party filing the statement within seven (7) days after the review has concluded.