

In Person Smithsonian Summer Camp COVID-19 Protocols

Updated as of May 20, 2022

We will continue to update document this as we come closer to the start of camp.

As of May 4, Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo *may* require masking depending on COVID Community Levels determined by the CDC. We will inform all camp families of the current community level and required mitigation.

Since our beginnings over 50 years ago, Smithsonian Associates has focused on providing *worry-free* enriching, and enjoyable educational experiences for our lifelong learners. The well-being of our campers and staff members has always been our highest priority. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed new challenges but our commitment to these priorities remains unchanged.

We know the decision to join an in-person program is one where each of us must determine our own comfort level. To help you make your decision, we have outlined below the health and safety measures we are taking across all facets of our in-person programs.

We have worked with the Smithsonian COVID-19 Response Team to develop these measures, in accordance with CDC and Smithsonian guidelines.

- By registering for an in-person program, participants acknowledge they understand the risk factors involved in traveling during the pandemic and the preventative measures that are expected to be followed to mitigate exposure to COVID-19.**

The CDC defines COVID Community Levels by evaluating COVID conditions at the county level. Smithsonian then aggregates relevant counties to determine regional levels.

Mitigations based on COVID-19 Community Levels

| LOW | MEDIUM | HIGH |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| MASK USAGE INDOORS | | |
| Voluntary | Recommended | Mandatory |
| SOCIAL DISTANCING | | |
| Voluntary | Recommended | Mandatory |
| PROOF OF VACCINATION | | |
| Mandatory at ALL levels | | |

Please be advised that safety and mitigation measures will be enacted or rescinded following a change in the Regional Community Level. Everyone will be notified of the mask policy in place the week you are scheduled be at camp. If a change in policy occurs at any point during your time with us, you will be notified of that change immediately.

Preparing for your Summer Camp – Vaccination Policy

To help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience, all campers, staff, instructors, and Youth Teaching Assistants will be required to show their vaccination card or a photo of their vaccination card along with a photo ID upon check-in at camp. Camp participants will be required to be **fully vaccinated against COVID-19** (with the final dose received at least 14 days prior to their first day of camp).

Throughout your camper's time at Summer Camp:

- Everyone is asked to take reasonable measures to reduce the risk of exposure prior to and throughout attending summer camp.
- While it may not be required, all campers who feel more comfortable wearing a face mask during their time at camp are encouraged to do so.
- If they choose to wear a face mask at camp, each camper must bring their own mask. Additional disposable masks will be on hand.
- Everyone agrees to conduct a daily self-health assessment prior to joining camp and stay home if showing any signs of sickness.
- If a camper feels unwell, has a high temperature, or is experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#), they must stay home until symptoms resolve. Please notify us immediately at summercamp@si.edu if symptoms develop.
- Campers who have tested positive for COVID-19 cannot attend summer programs until they have completed five days of isolation. If experiencing symptoms after five days of isolation, they must continue to stay home until symptoms resolve. Please notify us immediately at summercamp@si.edu if your camper tests positive.
- If you know your camper has been exposed to COVID-19, continue to follow the above guidance, monitor closely for symptoms, and make sure your child's mask fits as securely as possible over their nose and mouth to ensure the safety of our entire camp. Please notify us at summercamp@si.edu so we can also monitor for symptoms closely.

During each day of camp

- Camp size has been limited. The number of people allowed in each camp room has been determined approved by the Smithsonian COVID Task Force.
- Campers will be encouraged to wash their hands at multiple times during the day. Hand sanitizer will be available at all times.
- Lunch will take place outdoors whenever possible, and if indoors, appropriate spacing will be implemented. Campers are required to bring their own refillable water bottle, lunch, snacks, and utensils each day.
- If a camper becomes ill during the camp day, they will be immediately quarantined away from others and the parent/guardian will be notified to come and pick up the camper.

- If the parent/guardian of a camper develops symptoms or becomes ill during the day, an alternate adult or emergency contact should pick up the camper at the end of the day.
- If a staff member becomes ill, they will be sent home immediately and will not return until their symptoms have resolved and they receive a negative COVID-19 test.
- Families will be notified as soon as possible if a camper or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.

Cancellation Policy

A 75% refund will be issued if a request is received in writing (by email) at least four weeks before the start of the camp(s) for which you are registered. If your camper presents any [symptoms of COVID](#) prior to the camp, is deemed a close contact with anyone testing positive for COVID-19, or has tested positive themselves, please let us know and we will provide a credit that can be used for future in person or online programs/camps.

After Your Camp

Participants will be asked to inform Smithsonian Summer Camp at summercamp@si.edu immediately if they develop COVID-19 symptoms within 14 days following the program. Participants agree to be contacted by the Smithsonian for COVID-19 contact tracing efforts if necessary.

Any concerns or questions, please email us at summercamp@si.edu