

A Warm Welcome From Camp Ballibay

Welcome to Ballibay! We are delighted to be caring for your children this coming summer. We have exciting activities planned, wonderful staff, a beautiful campus, and truly exceptional food.

In this packet please find:

- A suggested Clothing List
- A required Medical Form
- Hotels and Restaurants Near Camp
- A Map of Campus
- Additional information and policies

If you lose any of these forms or need another copy, you can download them at the bottom of any page of our website:
<http://campBallibay.com>

Things we *need* you to do:

- Please return the required **Medical Form** (enclosed) to camp ASAP. If you submitted a medical form last year, and there have been no changes, we can use last year's form. Although a doctor's signature of medical forms is recommended, it is not required.
- Fill out the required **Transportation Form** at <http://transportation.BallibayCamps.com>

Things you can do:

- Fill out the optional **Cabin Request Form** at <http://cabinrequest.BallibayCamps.com>

Payments:

As both interim payment dates have passed, depending on your registration date you should have by this point paid, including the initial deposit:

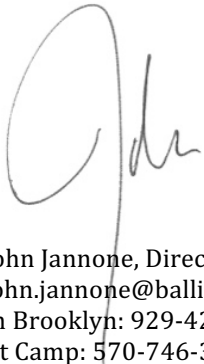
6 or more weeks: \$3000.	4-5 weeks: \$2500.
3 weeks: \$2200.	2 weeks: \$2000.

If you have not, please send a check to Camp Ballibay, 1660 Ballibay Road, Wyausing, PA 18853 or call Elaine to make a payment by credit card: 570 746 3223

The tuition balance is due by June 15.

See you this Summer!

But don't hesitate to call or email with any questions, comments, or concerns!



John Jannone, Director
john.jannone@ballibayCamps.com
In Brooklyn: 929-428-9074
At Camp: 570-746-3223

Additional Information and Policies

Transportation

We offer several ways for your camper to get to Camp. Most parents drop their children off at camp, as detailed in the section on Arrivals and Departures, below.

Flights

For those who have to fly, we offer pickup and drop off from three airports:

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP) - \$75.

Newark International Airport (EWR) - \$150.

John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) - \$200.

Campers' flights arrive on a Saturday, one day before the start date of their camp session.

Campers' flights depart on a Saturday, the stated closing day of their camp stay.

Bus to Camp

We offer transportation to camp from New York City. Our camp "bus" may be a full-sized bus, a van, or a car, depending on the number of campers being transported. We leave for camp every Sunday that is an opening day of a camp session at 9:30 AM from the NE corner of 62nd St. & Amsterdam Ave, behind Lincoln Center.

Bus from Camp

We return campers to the same location on Saturday afternoon on the closing day of each camp session; typically at 3:00 PM, but check the transportation email the week of your camper's departure to confirm pick up time.

Transportation Form

The Transportation Form can be accessed at <http://transportation.ballibay.com> and should be filled out by June 1.

All parents will receive a weekly update e-mail that will include the transportation information for the upcoming week, not the entire summer. Please be sure to check the e-mail in the week prior to your camper's arrival and departure. If we have no transportation information, we assume that your child is being driven to and picked up from camp.

Arrival by Car

Camper drop-off begins at 11am and ends at 1pm on the first Sunday of each session. If you anticipate being early or late, please call the office at least the day before. Staff will be at the road outside of the office to direct you to your child's cabin. If you have a female camper you will be able to drive right out to the cabin and drop off her luggage. If you have a male camper, you can drop his luggage off at the office and we will bring it down – the boys' cabin area is not accessible by car.

After you have dropped off your camper's luggage please come into the office to check in and say hello to the directors. Your child will also be seen by one of the camp medical staff - all campers will be checked for head lice and for a fever. All medication should be turned over to the nurse at this time, and parents will have the opportunity to discuss their child's medication or any other concerns.

Departure by Car

Pickup begins at 10am and ends at 1pm on the last Saturday of each session. If you anticipate being early or late, please call the office. If your child cannot depart on a Saturday but needs to depart on Sunday or later, your account will be charged for each additional day. Arrangements for extended stays should be made by June 15 if possible.

Campers will be waiting for pickup in the area around the office, so please follow the same procedure as you did for drop-off. Remember to check your child out at the office and pick up any medication from the nurse when leaving camp.

Be sure that your child has all of their possessions before departing - items left behind will be shipped home at cost.

Sending Packages to Camp

Your camper will inevitably forget something at home, or ask for something they didn't know they needed once they arrive. Packages are welcome, but ***please do not send food***. We are in a rural setting, and food in the cabins attracts wild animals!

Mail and packages should be sent to:

Your Camper's Name
Camp Ballibay
1660 Ballibay Road
Wyalusing, PA 18853

Cabin Requests and Assignments

Cabin requests can be submitted online by logging into your account and navigating to the forms section or going directly to <http://cabinrequest.BallibayCamps.com>.

Cabin requests must be mutual: If one family fills out a request, the *requested* family must fill out the portion of their form that accepts the request.

Cabins are assigned by age, so cabin requests that would move a camper out of his or her age-appropriate cabin often cannot be honored. If a request from two different age groups can be honored, the older camper will be moved to the lower-aged cabin; younger campers are never placed in older cabins based on requests.

Many factors go in to assigning campers to cabins, and we do not guarantee that requests will be honored.

Mobile Phones & Other Devices

At Ballibay we emphasize face-to-face communication, and thus are a largely unplugged environment. There is no Wi-Fi.

We do not allow mobile phones, iPads, tablet computers, or any type of tablet with cellular data capability. This prohibition *includes* iPhones and Android devices that have had their SIM cards removed.

We continue to allow iPods and iPod touch devices, classic b/w Kindle devices, and any mp3 player that does not have cellular capability. Please contact the office with questions about this policy.

Camper Communication

Email

Campers will be able to send and receive email using a **gmail.com** or **campballibay.com** email address.

Please create a **gmail.com** email address for your camper, or contact us so we can create a **campballibay.com** address for them. If they have no email on opening day, we can create a **campballibay.com** address for them on the spot.

Campers are able to access their email during their free time throughout the day. Not hearing from your camper is probably a good thing - it means they're too busy to peck out an email! If you receive a troubling email (homesickness, etc.) please call or email the office to let us know. Also, if you don't hear from your camper within the first 72 hours at camp, please call and let us know - they will have been encouraged to email home, and maybe need some help logging in.

Phone Calls

We discourage phone calls with your camper. They exacerbate and prolong homesickness; and sometimes even seem to cause it. If a situation arises where we think it would be beneficial for your child to speak to you, we'll gladly arrange a call. Likewise, if you feel strongly that you need to speak with your child, please call us to discuss arranging a call. But please keep in mind that a homesick child will usually not be made to feel better by hearing your voice; it will almost always have the opposite effect!

In the event that you need to convey bad news (family emergency, &c...) please call us and let us know. You know your child best, but our experience has shown that email is not the best medium to transmit this kind of information. We also need to know if your child is going to be struggling with bad news so that we can best help them through their difficult time. You can always call the camp directors at any time, and as often as you need to, for information regarding your child's activities, adjustment, well-being, and any other aspect of camp life you'd like to discuss! 570-746-3223

Pet Policy

Pets are not allowed on campus under any circumstances, even if only for a few minutes. There are horses, cats, and farm animals at camp that may not react well to a new animal -- even your family dog -- being introduced into the environment. Likewise, there may be campers or adults here who may not react well to your pet or may be allergic. Please leave your pets at home.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but this policy is absolutely non-negotiable.

Visiting & Evening Performances

You are very welcome to visit your child after the first week of their stay. Please call us to make arrangements.

We have a performance of some kind almost every evening at camp, and parents are welcome at all of them. We will send out a preliminary evening programs calendar soon. If you plan to attend a performance, please call and let us know ahead of time so we know to have someone waiting in the office for you. Many parents attend the Rock Band Night on the last night of each 2-week session; and many parents also attend the musical theater production on the last night of the summer.

Head Lice

As in any close-knit community, head lice is always a concern. We encourage you to have your child checked for head lice in the week leading up to their arrival at camp. Even if no sign of lice is found, we encourage you to prophylactically treat your child with over-the-counter anti-lice shampoo before their arrival. Due to the gestational period (lice can be present but invisible for up to seven days) a check for lice is not a guarantee, so we also encourage you to send your child to camp with preventative shampoos that can be used daily. There are a number of companies that offer non-toxic shampoos designed for daily use - talk to your doctor or pharmacist for a recommendation.

Even with the preventative measures in place, we will be checking each child and staff member for lice upon their arrival at camp and throughout their stay as the situation warrants. If a camper is found to have lice upon arrival, we will treat your child immediately.

All of the measures we take to prevent and mitigate lice are part of an effort to ensure that all campers and staff have a safe, healthy, enjoyable summer that is not interrupted by lice treatment.

Cancellation and Refunds

Tuition may be refunded at the discretion of the camp up to 60 days prior to the start of camp, excluding the \$1000. non-refundable deposit. Within the 60 days to the start of the season, partial tuition may be refunded on a case-by-case basis, strictly at the discretion of the camp. Tuition will not, for any reason, be refunded after the opening day of camp. Please contact the office with questions about this policy.

Medical Policy

The health and welfare of the campers is always our first priority. Your medical form includes a section allowing the camp directors to act *in loco parentis* for the purposes of medical treatment during your child's stay.

We will only seek non-routine medical treatment (anything more than ibuprofen, Benadryl, a band aid, or similar minor treatment) for your child after consultation with you, unless we consider your child's health at serious risk, in which case we will act in the interest of the child's health and safety while attempting to contact you as quickly as possible.