

# Creating Healthy Camp Experiences: New Camper Recommendations by AAP



The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently published [recommendations](#) for health appraisal and preparation of young people before participation in day or resident camps and to guide health and safety practices for children at camp.

These recommendations are intended for parents, primary health care providers, and camp administration and health center staff.

Immunization Recommendations for Campers Include:

- Before starting camp, all campers should be in compliance with the [recommended childhood and adolescent immunization schedules](#) published annually by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American Academy of Family Physicians.
- Policies must also be in place regarding participation in the camp program by campers who are incompletely immunized or unimmunized.
- People who travel internationally as part of a camp program should consult the [CDC traveler's health website](#) or visit a traveler's clinic for information regarding particular immunization requirements or health concerns that may be associated with their destination.

The Michigan Department of Community Health recommends these actions be taken:

- If you are a **parent**, make sure your child is fully immunized before going to camp.
- If you are a **health care provider**, make sure your child, adolescent, and adult patients are fully immunized according to the [ACIP recommended immunization schedule](#).
- If you are a **camp administrator**, make sure your camp has policies in place to assess for camper vaccination status prior to arrival. Further, be prepared for vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks by ensuring campers who are incompletely immunized or unimmunized are adequately taken care of. Work with your [local health department](#) to put these policies into place.

