

2026 SUMMER CAMP LOTTERY --FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What camps use the lottery registration system?

Summer Camp by the Harbor (Hazel Parker Playground), Nuts About Nature (Tiedemann Park Nature Center), James Island and Bees Landing Recreation Centers use the lottery registration system.

How does the lottery registration system work?

All lottery registration forms will be entered into our computer system, and the computer will run a random lottery to determine camp registrations and waitlist spots.

When can I register for the lottery?

Camp lottery registration is available January 12 at 8:00AM – January 30 at 12:00PM. Applications received after January 30 at 12:00PM will be automatically waitlisted for the desired weeks.

Do I have a better chance in the lottery if I register early, or if I register for multiple weeks?

No, all registration have an equal chance of receiving a spot in camp. Our computer system generates the lottery, and it is completely random. Registering early does not increase your odds, nor does registering for multiple weeks. Each week of camp is run in an independent lottery.

How can I register for the lottery?

To register for the Summer Camp by the Harbor lottery, you will need to fill out a camp lottery registration form and return it to Lana Bagley at bagleyl@charleston-sc.gov, or you may drop it off at Hazel Parker Playground.

To register for the Nuts About Nature (Tiedemann Park Nature Center) lottery, you will need to fill out a camp lottery registration form and return it to Matt Olson at olsonm@charleston-sc.gov, or you may drop it off at Tiedemann Park Nature Center.

To register for Summer Camp on the Island (James Island Recreation Complex) lottery, you will need to fill out a camp lottery registration form and return it to Alison Weaver at weavera@charleston-sc.gov, or you may drop it off at James Island Recreation Complex.

To register for the Camp Live Oaks (Bes Landing Recreation Center) lottery, you will need to fill out a camp lottery registration form and return it to Sam Weatherford at weatherfords@charleston-sc.gov, or you may drop it off at Tiedemann Park Nature Center.

Where can I find the camp lottery registration form?

Starting January 12, camp lottery paperwork can be found here: <https://www.charleston-sc.gov/1718/Summer-Camps>

Where do I turn in my completed lottery registration form?

Completed Summer Camp by the Harbor lottery registration forms can be returned via email to Lana Bagley at bagleyl@charleston-sc.gov, or dropped off at Hazel Parker Playground.

***Photos of registration forms cannot be accepted. Forms must be scanned and emailed, or dropped off.**

***Registration forms must have a signature. Typed names in lieu of signature cannot be accepted.**

Completed Nuts About Nature lottery registration forms can be returned via email to Matt Olson at olsonm@charleston-sc.gov.

Camp Live Oaks (Bes Landing Recreation Center) should be returned to Sam Weatherford at weatherfords@charleston-sc.gov.

Summer Camp on the Island (James Island Recreation Complex) should be returned to Alison Weaver at weavera@charleston-sc.gov.

Do I need to pay to register for the lottery?

No, there is no fee associated with lottery registration. Fees are only applied if spots are received in camp.

When will the lottery be run?

The camp lottery will be run on February 3rd.

How will I know if I received a spot in camp?

Parents will be emailed no later February 4th at 5PM regarding which weeks their child received a spot in and which weeks their child was waitlisted.

Is it possible that one of my children will receive a spot in camp, but not the other?

Siblings that are both registered for camp will be linked, so that either both of them will be registered together, or both will be waitlisted together. YOU MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD. Multiple children cannot be listed on one application

If I receive a spot in camp, when do I pay?

After you are notified that you have received a spot in camp, you will have **until the end of the week (02/06) by 5PM** to pay the balance in order to hold your spot. After this, any unpaid spots will then be offered to individuals on the waitlist.

How can I find out more information about Summer Camp by the Harbor (Hazel Parker Playground)?

For more information on Summer Camp by the Harbor, please contact Lana Bagley at 843-958-6485.

How can I find out more information about Nuts About Nature (Tiedemann Park Nature Center)?

For more information on Nuts About Nature, please contact Matt Olson at 843-965-4002.

Where can I find more information on other camps offered by the City of Charleston Recreation Department?

2026 City of Charleston Recreation Department Summer Camps can be found on our website under the Youth Activities – Camps & Clinics tab.

<https://www.charleston-sc.gov/1718/Summer-Day-Camps>

When can I register for other City of Charleston Recreation Department specialty and other (non-lottery) camps?

Registration for all other City of Charleston Recreation Department camps will open at 8:30AM on Saturday, February 7th.