

Adler Camp FAQs

Registration Information

Can I register in person or over the phone?

Registration is only available online.

Please note: registration for Summer Worlds Tour is separate.

Can we sign up for more than one session of the same camp?

All camp programming repeats each session. We *do not* recommend that you register your camper more than once for the same camp type with one exception: because many early learners benefit from reinforcement of concepts, you are welcome to register for multiple sessions of our half-day Astro camps.

What is the cancellation policy?

To receive a refund minus a 10% transaction fee, you must cancel your registration on or before May 1, 2019. After May 1, refunds cannot be given for cancellations. You are welcome to transfer your registration to a friend in the correct age range for your camp session up until 10 days before the session begins.

How do I log in to my registration account?

Your confirmation email contains a link to your account or you can follow the registration link from our camps page

<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>.

How does the waitlist work?

If the session you wish to register for is full, you can register for the waitlist. We will contact you to offer you a spot if one becomes available; no later than one week before the session begins. Spots become available only as cancellations occur; we cannot guarantee that your child will be offered a spot in our camps. Your credit card will not be charged when you register for the waitlist.

Are scholarships available?

A limited number of financial need-based scholarships are available. The application can be accessed beginning on Jan 7, 2019 at: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>. Applications will be reviewed by committee and decisions are based on financial need, individual circumstances, and program availability. All scholarship applications must be submitted online by the posted due date. There are separate applications for Summer Worlds Tour.

Program Information

Overview Guide to Adler Camps

Grade in Fall/ current age	3 years old	4 years old	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
5 day camps				Astro full-day									
		Astro half-day											
							Astro-botics						
									Skyshow				
									Mission Near Space				

These camp names look different than in years past! How do I find the camp my child was looking forward to?

You're right! We've updated our camp offerings to make them better than ever. But don't worry, your favorite camp still exists, though it won't be exactly the same.

- Young Scientists Camp is now Astro (half-day).
- Astro Explorers and Investigators Mini Camps are now Astro (full-day) and are a FULL week long!
- Tech Camp: Robotics is now Astro-botics.
- Tech Camp: Sky Show is now Skyshow.
- Mission Near Space is unchanged, though you can look forward to some fresh and fun activities during the week!

Can I register my child for a camp that does not match my child's grade level? Ex- Can I register my 4 year old for Astro full-day camp or my incoming 3rd grader for Astro-botics?

We take great care to design age and grade appropriate camp curriculum each summer. Campers must fall within the designated age or grade ranges specified in the descriptions.

Adler camps follow the CPS birthday guidelines, so a 4 year old who will turn 5 by September 1, 2019 *AND* will be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2019 is considered a Kindergartener for camp. They should register for the half-day Astro sessions for Kindergarten and 1st graders. If your 4 year old will not enter Kindergarten in the fall of 2019, the half-day Astro sessions designed for 3 and 4 year olds are appropriate for them.

The Adler Planetarium reserves the right to request a notarized birth certificate to confirm a camper's age at any time before or during camp. If this does not match with the birth date information entered at the time of registration, placement in camp will be forfeited and no refunds will be made. This policy is to ensure that all campers have the best possible camp experience.

How do I know if my child is ready for an Adler Camp?

Adler campers need to be able to:

- Take care of all restroom needs without assistance.
- Enjoy a busy, active day without a nap (for those in a full-day program).
- Follow instructions given by instructors and counselors.
- Separate from parents/ caregivers without distress.

***Please see the Astro half-day readiness statements on our site for more guidance on our youngest campers.

Does your child have developmental or medical needs that require support in a classroom setting? Please reach out before registering so we can plan for success together.

What are camp hours?

Half-day Camps (Astro for preschoolers through 1st):

To meet the needs of our youngest campers, Astro (preschool) pick up and drop off is limited to 15 minutes before and after camp.

Drop off begins at 8:45am

Camp begins at 9:00am

Camp ends at 11:30am

Pick up ends at 11:45am

Full-day Camps (Astro for 1st-4th, Astro-botics, Skyshow, Mission Near Space):

Drop off begins at 8:30am

Camp begins at 9:00am

Camp ends at 3:00pm

Pick up ends at 3:30pm

How do we Sign in and Sign out?

To sign out a camper, an adult must be on the authorized pick up list AND have a valid photo ID every day. There are no exceptions to this policy. An adult must be present for sign in and out daily: campers may not be dropped off from the car or sent out to you.

If your child is age 14 or older and is permitted to transport themselves, please email summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org to discuss permission to self-dismiss. Campers younger than 14 must be in the care of an authorized adult at drop off and pick up.

More detailed information about sign in and sign out, including a map, will be emailed to you closer to camp. Adler Camps does not have staff to accommodate late pick up. There is a \$5 charge for every five minutes after the end of the pick up window.

Museum Campus has many visitors and events during the summer, and traffic can be unpredictable. We recommend the use of public transit to travel to and from camp.

-Please note: Lollapalooza is at nearby Grant Park August 1-4. There will be access to Museum Campus; road closures before, during, and after the event may impact travel routes through downtown.

What do I do if there is inclement weather during camp?

Sign in and sign out will take place near the Sundial sculpture on the North (lake) side of the building daily. Facing Adler from the road, this is the left side of the building. If there is inclement weather, the campers will stay inside. Please walk to the *street level* entrance on the North (left) side of the building.

Do you offer before-care or after-care?

We do not currently offer after-care or morning pre-camp care.

Will my child be spending any time outside?

Yes! Campers will spend time outside during sign in each morning and sign out in the afternoon. We have lunch outside (weather permitting). Some activities will also take place outside.

What do I need to send with my child each day?

-Peanut AND tree nut free lunch. We encourage you to add extra snacks for your child as well.

-Camp t-shirt: the camp t-shirt is mandatory: *it must be worn daily*. If your child does not have their shirt, a new shirt will need to be purchased onsite. Registrants receive one complimentary t-shirt on the first day of camp, but many families find extra shirts to be very helpful! These can be purchased for \$10 during registration or onsite (cash only onsite).

-Comfortable clothing that can get messy

***Astro half-day campers should bring a change of clothes in a ziploc bag.

-Close-toed shoes (Open toed shoes and Crocs or similar are not permitted)

-Backpack

-Water bottle

-Sunscreen or sunblock that the camper can self-apply. Camp staff cannot apply sunscreen for your child.

***Astro half-day campers should arrive with sunscreen applied.

-Encouraged- lightweight jacket (the museum may be cold inside), sun hat

Do the Camps provide lunch?

-We do not provide lunch or snacks. If your camper forgets their lunch, please call or email us to make arrangements for their lunch to be dropped off.

-For full-day programs, send your camper with lunch and snacks that do not need to be refrigerated (an insulated lunch bag is ideal).

-For Astro half-day programs, please pack only a healthy snack for your child.

Adler Camps are peanut and tree nut free programs. For the safety of all participants, **do not pack lunches or snacks that contain any peanut or tree nut products.** Please share this information with anyone who packs your camper's lunches.

What is your staffing like? How many adults will be with my camper?

Each camp has an Instructor and Counselor, and may have one or more Teen Assistant(s). A Camp Director and other senior staff are on site throughout camp.

Mission Near Space Camp additionally works with many Adler Astronomers, and Skyshow will have multiple Adler content experts joining in during the week. Our half-day Astro programs maintain an especially low adult to child ratio, appropriate for our youngest campers.

What kind of training does your staff have?

The instructors are museum staff members or classroom teachers who are experienced in working with camp-aged children. Most counselors are college students majoring in education or a related science discipline with experience working with camp-aged children. All undergo camp-specific training before camp season begins.

Do you have trained medical personnel on staff?

Please see our Terms and Conditions for information concerning medical emergencies:

<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>.

I have more questions about camp at Adler. How can I get in touch?

Please email summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org or call 312-322-0329 with any questions or additional information you need to communicate.

