

Parents' Guide

Drop Off and Pick Up

Campers should be dropped off and picked up at the Circus Hut (269 Chieftan Way). Campers can be dropped from 7:45am-9:00am. Group activities begin at 9:00am so please be on time so you don't miss any of the FUN! Campers can be picked up from 3:00pm-5:15pm. There is no aftercare available on Friday afternoon.

Every camper will be signed in at the beginning of the day, and signed out at pick up. To assure the safety of our campers we will require a driver's license for identification to release your camper to individuals you have authorized on your registration form.

If your camper needs to leave early, please sign your camper out at the Circus Hut and we will get them from his/her group. When you arrive to pick up your camper, he/she will be involved in an activity. Be prepared to wait 5 to 10 minutes for your camper to leave the group, gather belongings and meet you at the Sign-In table. If you know ahead of time that you will be picking up your child early, please send a note or call, and we will try our best to have your camper ready and waiting.

Monday Morning Drop Off and Introductions

Our schedule on Monday is a little different than the rest of the week. At the first check-in, we would like to confirm every camper's approved pick up person list. In addition, we will confirm that all necessary paperwork for the camper has been submitted.

From 9:00am-9:30am we will introduce our camp staff as well as answer any questions you may have. Parents are invited and encouraged to stay.

Daily Camp Schedule

7:45am-9:00am: Drop off and sign in for camp

9:15am: Group Stretching

9:30am-10:30am: First Rotation

10:45am-11:45am: Second Rotation

12:00pm: Lunch

1:00pm-1:45pm: Third Rotation

2:00pm-2:45pm: Fourth Rotation

3:00pm-3:30pm: Pick Up

3:00pm -5:15pm: After Care (optional). Not available on Friday.

CAMP FEES

One Camper: \$275 per session

Please register online at circus.fsu.edu or download a registration form from our website and send it in to the Circus. Make all checks payable to the FSU Circus with your child's name in the memo section.

Our Mailing Address is:

FSU Circus

Attn. Circus Camp Registration

Florida State University

P.O. Box 3064026

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4026

Refund Information

Full refunds will be given only for medical reasons documented by a physician.

Daily Activities

Campers will learn a variety of acts everyday they attend camp. Acts will include flying trapeze, trampoline, juggling, static trapeze, and several more. The day camp will be held exclusively on circus grounds (within the fenced area). Activities will be held in the circus tent, outside the circus tent on the grounds, and inside the circus building.

Staff

Our staff is made up entirely of FSU Circus student performers carefully screened and selected by FSU's Circus Department. Every staff member has worked for several summer camp sessions, and was invited to join us this summer. Our staff to camper ratio is 5 campers to 1 staff member. All members of our camp staff are certified in CPR and have passed a background check.

Friday Showcase

On Fridays at 2:00pm our campers will have the chance to show off some of their new skills. Parents and guests are welcome. Typically the showcase ends by 3:00pm. No aftercare will be available after the showcase on Friday. Parking will be available in the parking lot adjacent to the circus facility.

PREPARING FOR CAMP

Appropriate Camp Clothing

Campers should wear snug fitting athletic clothing (not baggy). For the girls, a leotard with shorts is great. Guys, shorts cut above the knee are best. Locker rooms are available for campers to change. Campers should wear their camp shirt on Friday for their showcase.

Appropriate Camp Shoes

Campers should wear closed toed, athletic shoes and socks everyday. In addition, campers can bring ballet or jazz shoes if they have them but they are not essential.

Hair

Campers with long hair should always have something to tie their hair back with, preferably something that will not break or poke anyone during acrobatic training.

Jewelry

Campers should not wear jewelry. Necklaces and earrings can easily get hung up in equipment and rings can bend and break.

Backpacks

Backpacks are great for keeping the campers belongings together. Campers are welcome and encouraged to bring them. We will have areas designated for personal belongings that will be overseen by staff throughout the day. Backpacks should be clearly labeled with your camper's name.

Lunch and Snacks

We do not provide refrigeration or a microwave for lunches so they should be packed accordingly. Lunches may be brought in a number of various containers including paper bags, thermal lunch bags, or a small cooler. Lunch containers should be clearly labeled with your camper's name. *Please include a snack for your camper if they will be staying for After Care programming.

Water

The circus complex does have a water fountain and we will have water available for campers; however we strongly recommend that campers bring a water bottle with them, clearly labeled with their name.

Sunscreen and Lotion

Most circus activities at camp will be under the Big Top or inside the circus building. We request that sunscreen not be worn to camp as it is slippery and will impede your camper's ability to practice the skills being taught. Feel free to pack sunscreen for your camper in the event that we go outdoors.

CAMP DAYS

Expect your camper to come home a little dirty, tired and rumpled after a full day of camp fun!

CAMP FRIENDS are in abundance! We have made arrangements in our program for campers of the same age to be placed together. **But ultimately, camp is about making new friends.** We will make every effort to group the campers according to this policy.

LOST & FOUND

Campers are responsible for their belongings. Our Camp Counselors will do their best to ensure that campers keep up with gear. Please check with the staff member at pickup if your camper has lost something. All lost & found items will be donated to local charities after one week.

MEDICATION

A medication form must be filled out by a parent/guardian signifying prescription, dose, time, and instructions for administration of medication, including over the counter medication. No medications will be given without this release. Only medications provided by parent or guardian will be given. Medications not picked up after 5 days will be destroyed.

ILLNESS

If your child is ill, please keep your camper home. We ask you to share our concern for the health of all the campers. We require prompt pick up in the event your child becomes ill during the program.

Camp Guests

Family members and individuals approved by the registrant are welcome to stay and watch their respective camper after drop off or prior to pick up. Any visitor that is not an approved contact for a camper will need to contact the Circus Camp Staff first.

Injuries

In addition to our staff being CPR trained, the FSU First Responders are located on campus and can be reached in case of an emergency. Campers need to notify the Circus Director of any injuries they sustain while attending camp.

****We reserve the right to delay or cancel any activity to maintain the safety of our campers and staff. The Emergency Contact number at the FSU Circus is 850-645-0562**

CAMPER'S BEHAVIOR

At the beginning of each week, camp staff will conduct an orientation to review the camp procedures and rules. Our disciplinary system was developed to ensure your child has a safe and positive camp experience. All disciplinary action will be handled in a **THREE STEP METHOD** outlined below:

STEP ONE: A **verbal warning** will be given to the camper informing them that a rule has been broken and that they are acting inappropriately. The camper will be asked to explain the behavior and be warned not to continue. With each step, a counselor will address any problems with the camper that could be causing undesirable behavior. The camper and the counselor will look for a solution to correct the problem.

STEP TWO: If a camper's behavior remains unsatisfactory after a verbal warning, they will be sent to **time out**. Once in time out, a camper will sit out the activity for up to ten minutes depending on their age.

STEP THREE: The final step is the **discipline report**. The parent will be called/notified of their camper's behavior. A discipline report will be filled out by the camper and director specifically stating what the camper did, what he/she should have done, and comments by the counselor and director. A camper can go directly to a discipline report if the behavior warrants immediate attention by the director and parents. If a camper receives three or more discipline reports during the summer, the camper will be suspended for one day. The parent will be called and asked to pick up their camper within **ONE** hour.

The FSU Circus Camp reserves the right to suspend any camper for inappropriate or unsafe behavior at any time.

DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

It is the Circus' Camp sincere hope that your camper will venture through this summer enjoying themselves to the fullest meeting new friends, learning new games, and enjoying all that they do. With this in mind, the camp has established specific rules and a discipline system, which every camper is expected to follow. **PARENTS, PLEASE DISCUSS THE RULES WITH YOUR CAMPER BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF CAMP!** Any of our counselors will be available to discuss our discipline system on a one-on-one basis.

Camp Rules

1. Please Know the Circus Camp rules and follow them at all times!
2. Stay with your group at all times, unless you have permission from your counselor.
3. Respect all fellow campers, counselors and other Circus staff.

4. Be courteous with the words you use. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Campers will be expected to tell their parents the word or words used.
5. Keep your hands & feet to yourself at all times. You are not allowed to touch another camper/staff member in a negative way.
6. Be respectful of others belongings. Do not take anything that is not yours.
7. Respect your environment and the Circus facility by throwing away all trash and returning equipment to the proper place after use.
9. Do not bring toys or valuables to camp (i.e. iPods & game boys.) We are not responsible for lost/broken items that are brought from home.
10. Phone calls are to be made only in the event of an emergency and are only to be made in the director's office. Campers are not allowed to use the phone. Please send a note if your camper needs to call home at any time during the day. (Note: NO camper cell phones.)
12. Always follow the Golden Rule by treating others as you wish to be treated.

****Information in this packet is subject to change****