

ACA Accreditation



ACA Accreditation means that the camp you are considering for your child cares enough to undergo a thorough review of its operation — from staff screening and training to risk management. The American Camp Association collaborates with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross and other youth service agencies to assure that current practices at the camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. Camps and ACA form a partnership that promotes summers of growth and fun in an environment committed to safety.



ACA helps accredited camps provide:

- Healthy, developmentally-appropriate activities and learning experiences
- Discovery through experiential education
- Caring, competent role models
- Service to the community and the environment
- Opportunities for leadership and personal growth

www.CampParents.org/funsafety.php

ACA Accreditation and licensing are not the same

The voluntary ACA accreditation process assures families that camps have made the commitment to a safe, nurturing environment for their children. Licensing and other requirements vary from state to state. ACA standards are recognized by courts of law and government regulators as **the** standards of the camp community.

ACA standards extend beyond basic requirements for health, cleanliness and food service into specific areas of programming and activities, staff management and emergency training. ACA applies separate standards for activities such as waterfront, horseback riding, adventure and travel.

ACA accreditation assures the best kind of quality control in the areas of camp most important to the welfare of children. ***While no accreditation process, no licensing program, and no set of regulations or laws can guarantee safety, ACA accreditation is the best evidence for parents that a camp is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for their children.***

Parents can and should verify the accreditation status of any camp by visiting www.acacamps.org