



Camp In at LSC: Frequently Asked Questions

If you have other questions, our sales representatives can surely help you: 201.253.1310.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT PROCESS

How do we register? We need a Group Advisory Form, Letter of Agreement, and 25% deposit to finalize your registration. Establish one group liaison to be responsible for registration, forms, payments, and the dissemination of all information.

How much does it cost? \$65.00 per person; member discounts do not apply to the Camp In program.

What if I don't know how many will be attending? Reserve with a "best guess" of the group size by subtracting 10% from all possible participants. If your group is small, consider inviting others to join you. For example, a scout troop could invite other troops.

When are payments due? A 25% deposit is due when you register your group. The balance is due two weeks prior to your Camp In date.

Is the deposit refundable? Deposits are nontransferable and nonrefundable. A deposit will be refunded within 30 days if Liberty Science Center is unable to accommodate your group. Liberty Science Center can accept only one form of payment for deposits.

Who may attend a Camp In? Scout groups, youth groups, schools, clubs—nearly any youth organization. Liberty Science Center members may attend any coed Camp In. Please fill out the registration form and write "MEMBER" in the space for Group Name.

When is full payment due? Full payment is to be postmarked two weeks prior to your Camp In Date. Liberty Science Center reserves the right to cancel your Camp In if we do not have final payment. Group size cannot be decreased after final payment is made. A complete roster and up-to-date Group Advisory Form are due at this time as well.

May we add additional campers or chaperones once we have registered? Based on space availability, we can increase a reservation size until two weeks before the Camp In. Once it has been increased, you will not be permitted to decrease it again. Payment for additional spaces is due when the reservation is increased. To avoid confusion, changes to reservation numbers must come from the group liaison.

May I reserve my Camp In over the phone? If you would like to reserve your Camp In over the phone, please be prepared to remit a 25% nonrefundable, nontransferable deposit at the time of reservation. Once the reservation is made, it cannot be canceled.

Is there a minimum or maximum group size? We can accommodate groups of up to 600 people.

What are the ages/grade levels for Camp Ins? Grades 1 - 8, or ages 6 - 13

What is the required chaperone-to-child ratio? A minimum of one adult to every five children (1:5)

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

What are the hours of a Camp In? Camp In begins at 6:00 pm and is over at 10:00 am the following morning. Campers are welcome to remain in the building the entire next day—just keep your wristband on!

Where do we enter? All campers enter the building at the main entrance. As you come into the building, all campers will be subject to a security screening. Please bring all gear into the building at this time.

What is the earliest I can arrive? 5:45 pm (check-in begins at 6:00 pm). Camp In guests are welcome to wait in the vestibule while we get the building set for the evening. However, guests will not have access to the building until 6:00 pm.

Where and when is check-in? Check-in begins at 6:00 pm and lasts through 7:30 pm. Check-in takes place near the main entrance. Look for a table with your group name. Campers need not wait until the entire group assembles. Start exploring right away!

What if someone must arrive late? The group liaison must note the late arrival on the Group Advisory Form. We will register campers until 10:00 pm.

What if someone needs to leave early? The group liaison must note the early departure on the Group Advisory Form. Adults may sign out at the Welcome Desk and depart. Minors must report to the Welcome Desk with the group liaison to verify that the child is leaving with a parent or guardian. The person picking up the minor must have valid ID (e.g., driver's license). Early departing campers are not allowed to return.

What do we receive at check-in? A registration pack with wristbands, sleeping and gear storage locations, schedule, maps, and activity booklets. Please note that once a minor is checked in and receives a wristband, that camper is no longer permitted to exit the building. Exceptions to this are in an emergency or if the minor is signed out to go home for the night. Once a minor is signed out, re-entry to the Camp In is not permitted.

EVENING SCHEDULE

What is the Evening Schedule? The Evening Schedule is your group agenda for the night. Your entire group will have the same schedule.

Will my group all be scheduled for the same activities? Based on the size of your group, you will be scheduled for the same snack time, Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium Show, 3D movie, snack, breakfast, and sleep site. (Groups over 300 will be split between movie show times.)

Where do I park? Fees are \$7.00 for cars and vans, \$10.00 for buses. A private company operates the lot, which is owned by the State of New Jersey.

What if my group is arriving by bus? Please let us know when you register. Our staff will check you in and distribute all program materials right on the bus. Let your bus company know that pick-up time is 9:00 am.

FOOD SERVICES

Which meals are included? Evening snack and light continental breakfast.

Can we have dinner at the Camp In? In the interest of time, we highly suggest you eat dinner before arriving for your Camp In. This allows maximum time to explore the exhibit floors.

Is the Café open? Café Skylines is open with some light fare for purchase. Based on attendance, the café may be completely open during some Camp Ins.

What kind of fare is available for snack and breakfast? Snack: granola bars, cookies, pudding cup, bottled water, and coffee and tea for the adults. Breakfast: A variety of Kellogg's cereals, orange juice, milk, plus a muffin or a banana.

I have food allergies. May I bring my own snack and breakfast? Yes. Please let us know on the Group Advisory Form. Refrigeration is available upon special request.

GEAR

Where do I store my gear? Gear must be stored in the location assigned to you at check-in. This will be on the same floor as your sleep site, though not necessarily the same location where you will sleep. All gear must remain in storage until 11:00 pm and be stored by 7:00am.

What should I bring for a Camp In? [Check out our packing list! \(insert link here\)](#)

or

Bring a sleeping bag, pillow, blanket, and minimal toiletries. All gear should be packed in plastic bags labeled with the camper's name and group name. Chaperones are asked to bring flashlights for campers. Campers are not permitted to bring flashlights. Campers are strongly discouraged from bringing valuables and portable electronic devices.

May I bring an air mattress? Single-size manual or battery-powered air mattresses are permitted for adults only. We encourage all campers to bring yoga mats or camping pads as the exhibit floors are hard.

Can I rent a sleeping mat? A limited number of light-duty camping mats are available for a \$2.00 rental fee.

Can I bring a tent, lawn chair, enclosed cot, raised cot or raised air bed? For the safety of all campers, tents, lawn chairs, cots, enclosed cots, raised cots and raised air beds are not permitted. A twin size manually or battery inflated air mattress is approved for adults only. Youth campers are encouraged to bring a camping pad or yoga mat to place under their sleeping bag.

May I change into my pajamas? Changing of clothing is not permitted. All campers sleep in their clothes. Lingerie is not permitted. Tops and bottoms must be worn at all times and by all campers.

How do I dress for a Camp In? We suggest dressing in layers, as the building temperature fluctuates, and wearing a pair of comfortable sneakers. For youth campers, shorts and a T-shirt under a sweatshirt and flannel pants work best. We discourage the wearing of a Class A uniform due to parts becoming lost or mixed up with other Class A uniforms.

Can I go to my car during the evening? We suggest bringing everything you need when you arrive for your Camp In. If you need to leave the building at any time, please notify an Overnight Staff member or

security officer at the Welcome Desk. Children are not permitted to leave the building until it is time to take the gear back to your car in the morning.

What do I do with my gear in the morning? All gear must be removed from the exhibit floors by 7:00 am. If you arrived by car, all gear is returned to the car. Campers may leave the building to take their gear to the car. If you arrived by bus, light rail, or on foot, an on-site gear storage location will be assigned to you. Please let your overnight staff know you need to store your gear.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Will I get a good night's sleep? We strongly recommend getting a good night's sleep the night before your Camp In. Our Overnight Team will be there to make sure the sleeping spaces are safe, reasonably comfortable, and as quiet as possible. However, sleeping in an unfamiliar environment might not be as restful as being home in your own bed.

Where do we sleep? Campers and chaperones sleep in assigned public spaces, designated based on group size. For your safety, sleeping areas are assigned so they do not block emergency passageways or doors. LSC is subject to random fire marshal inspections and is required to be in compliance with all fire and occupancy regulations. An LSC staff member will inspect your campsite prior to lights out and may ask you to adjust the position of your bedding.

What time do the lights go off/on? Lights out is at 11:00 pm. Lights go back on at 6:30 am. (It takes 30 minutes to get all lights off and then on again.)

May I plug something in overnight? Only medical devices can be accommodated. Please indicate this request on the Group Advisory Form.

Are we allowed to explore Liberty Science Center all night? No. Exhibits will be shut down from 10:30 pm to 7:00 am, and campers must remain at their campsites with their chaperones the entire night.

Is the building handicap accessible? Yes. Liberty Science Center is an ADA-compliant facility. If you have group members with special needs, please indicate this on the Group Advisory Form.

Is the building dark? At best, our building is dim. There are some areas that are darker than others, but campers can easily make it from any campsite to the nearest restroom without the need of a flashlight.

Can I shower at LSC? Shower facilities are not available.

How can I charge my cell phone? Outlets are available throughout LSC. However, at 11:00 pm when the lights start to go out, many of the outlets are no longer powered. Please feel free to bring a portable charger for your phone.

FACILITIES

Will I see all of Liberty Science Center? There will be lots of time to explore, but we cannot guarantee that all exhibits will be available during your Camp In. Premium Exhibitions and planetarium shows are not available during Camp In, however are available at 9:00 am the morning after your Camp In for an additional fee. Liberty Science Center cannot guarantee that all campers will have enough time to experience every exhibit.

Can we stay the next day? Yes. You are welcome to remain in the building the entire next day.

What is the night-time temperature in the building? The building thermostat is set to 68 degrees.

Is first aid available? Basic first aid is available. However, if more than a small adhesive bandage or ice pack is required and the camper is attending the Camp In without a parent or guardian, New Jersey State Law requires the camper be taken via ambulance to the Jersey City Medical Center, less than 5 minutes from our building.

Is there a lost and found? Lost and found is located at the Welcome Desk on the first floor. Liberty Science Center is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Will the store be open? Yes, at 7:00 am.

How many staff members will be staying overnight? Three to five Overnight Camp In staff members, three to five building security officers, and a building engineer.

What if it snows on the date of our Camp In? Camp Ins are canceled when Liberty Science Center closes during inclement weather. LSC will make such decisions by noon the day of the Camp In. Cancellations will be communicated to group liaisons and posted on lsc.org. LSC will make every effort to reschedule a group. If a mutually acceptable date cannot be found, fees will be refunded in full.

PATCHES AND SCOUT BADGES

Will we get a patch? Yes, youth campers receive a patch providing free exhibition admission through the summer months, distributed as they go in to breakfast. The discount cannot be applied to adult entrance, online ticket purchases, or on a group trip.

Can my scouts earn badges while at the Camp In? Yes. The team at LSC can assist you in earning a number of scout badges.