



Administration Office

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Dear Chicago Park District Families,

Thank you for your interest in Chicago Park District recreation programming for the 2021 summer-fall sessions. Our on-going desire to offer appropriate accommodations for participants requesting Inclusion Aides and/or additional assistance has not changed. However, COVID-19 has forced adjustments to the Inclusion Aide Request process until further notice. At this time, any Inclusion Aide request for in-person programming will require a specialized assessment for each participant. This will determine a participant's independent abilities to comply with safety guidelines established by the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) including:

- Following physical (i.e. social) distancing guidelines by staying 6 feet from others
- Wearing a face covering (mask) at all times with the exception of when eating/drinking
- Being independent with personal care (toileting, feeding, hygiene, etc.)
- Ability to stay with the group at all times
- Success in participation with verbal prompts rather than physical assistance

Although we are not able to provide assistance with personal care (toileting, feeding, hygiene, etc.), physical support (transferring, hand-over-hand assistance, etc.), physical redirection/behavior intervention or elopement at this time, we are able to provide the following:

- Verbal cues and support
- Adaptive equipment
- Visual supports including picture schedules, social stories, etc.
- Additional staff training
- Activity modifications
- Sensory items and support
- Behavior management support (token systems, coping tools, etc.)

We continue to watch for changes in COVID-19 guidelines and protocol updates, and will make adjustments accordingly. As you know, safety remains paramount in all decisions. We look forward to returning to full-service operations as soon as we can! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Inclusion Administration Team.

Sincerely,

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