

MOTE CAMP

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium Camp Program Information & Policies

The policies listed below are further detailed during registration and contained in two forms you will electronically sign before finalizing your registration transaction. Please thoroughly read those forms before signing and review your confirmation email. By completing registration and paying your camp registration fee, you are declaring you fully understand all policies related to Mote Camp. Your confirmation and reminder emails will contain detailed check-in/out procedures, what to bring and wear, and additional important information.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are currently not available. We will update our current open camp season webpage if scholarships become available.

DISCOUNTS

We offer a 10% discount on camp tuition for Mote Members. There are no other discounts offered, unless otherwise noted on the camp website. Reciprocal memberships do not qualify for a discount on Mote Camp tuition.

RELEASE FORM REQUIREMENT

All paperwork is due within THREE DAYS of registering. You will be asked to upload the form(s) to the account you used to register for camps. Please see registration confirmation and reminder emails for further information. We must receive a completed and signed Medical and Video Release Form or your camper will not be able to attend, and will forfeit their registration.

CHECK-IN/OUT POLICY & LATE FEES

Your child must be signed in and out every day by a parent or guardian when dropping off and picking up for camp. We use a password system during this process to ensure the safety of our campers. An additional charge of \$15 for every 30 minutes, or a fraction thereof, will be assessed for late pick-up. This fee will be added to your online account and you will be instructed to login and pay for any fees accumulated during your camp week.

FINAL PAYMENT

Mote Camp offers payment plans, depending on when you register for camp. Your final auto-payment date will be detailed at time of registration. You must update your account with the most accurate payment forms should your credit card information change before your automatic payment date; if your automatic payment is unable to be processed, you will be subject to a \$10 processing fee. Note: registrations made after Mote has closed registration (the Tuesday before a camp week begins) will be subject to a \$25 late registration fee.



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TRANSFER POLICY

Transfers are available during Summer Camp only. Requests for transfers MUST BE IN WRITING to camps@mote.org. Transfers will be approved on a case-by-case basis, dependent upon the timing of your request and availability in the requested camp week. A transfer fee of \$25 will be applied to each individual transfer, per camper and per week. If we are able to process your transfer, you will receive an email confirmation as well as information on paying the transfer fee online.

CANCELLATION POLICY

There are no refunds on Mote Camp Programs. If you must withdraw your camper(s) and you do so more than THREE weeks (21 days) in advance, you will receive a credit that may be used for a future Mote Camp. All credits/coupons expire within 12 months of issue date. Any requests for changes or cancellations of your camp registration MUST be made in writing to camps@mote.org. Changes or cancellations over the phone or via voicemail will not be accepted.

Changes or cancellations made within three weeks of the program and no-shows will be charged in full. Should your camper be late, need to be picked up early, or unable to attend one or more days of camp, there will be no refund, in full or prorated for days/time missed.

Mote reserves the right to modify any program or schedule. Mote reserves the right to separate or combine camps. Modification of a program schedule by Mote does not constitute grounds for a refund. Should Mote cancel camp for any reason, you will have the option of transferring to another camp (if available), choosing a credit in full to be used for a future camp program, or receiving a refund for the registration fee paid minus a payment processing fee of \$15.00.

COVID-19 POLICIES

Our priority is to protect the health of Mote staff, volunteers, interns, and visitors against COVID-19 by drawing upon protocols from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state and local health officials and hospitals, along with an infusion of Mote science and common sense. In keeping with best practices, we will be following strict sanitizing protocols, using health screenings, and additional preventative measures as necessary.

Your reminder email the week before camp will contain the latest updates, if needed, to our current policies and practices to keep your family healthy. *All programs, activities, or safety protocols, including the wearing of masks while inside, are subject to change based on the current situation of COVID-19 in our local area. We will inform you if any of our programs or processes need to be altered or canceled.*



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WEATHER POLICY

Mote Camp staff continuously monitor weather and other water-related conditions that may impact the well-being of our participants, staff and volunteers. Families will be notified via email if camps are cancelled due to inclement weather (i.e. a hurricane). Refunds are only given if Mote cancels a camp and will be prorated if the camp is not cancelled for the entire week. In the event of other environmental factors (such as red tide), camps will not be cancelled but activities may be altered. Mote Camp reserves the right to change camp activities for the health and safety of participants. This does not constitute grounds for a refund.

About Florida red tide: This type of harmful algal bloom is caused by the naturally occurring, microscopic, plant-like organism *Karenia brevis*. Florida red tides produce toxins that can irritate the skin, eyes and throat of people on shore and in the water. The toxins can also affect the breathing of some people. People with severe asthma or chronic lung conditions should avoid areas with active red tides. Red tide-focused health information and resources are [here](#).

BEHAVIOR POLICY

Mote Camps are fun, educational, and active camps. Campers are expected to listen to their Mote Educators, follow directions and safety instructions, respect their peers, and work collaboratively. Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium reserves the right to remove a camper from Mote Camp at any time. If a continual behavior problem occurs, one or more of the following consequences will be taken:

- Campers will be asked to stop the behavior immediately and a parent/guardian will be notified at the end of the day. If the incident involves more than one camper, campers may be asked to speak together with staff present or be separated from each other for the remainder of camp.
- Campers will have a sit down discussion with the Camp Principal and review options on how to better the behavior. Parents/guardians will be notified at that time and made aware of the situation. Campers may be asked to sit with the Camp Principal until the end of camp or until a parent/guardian can pick the camper up.
- Campers will be removed from camp, and from the remainder of their camp week. Parents/guardians must come pick them up immediately. This does not warrant a refund.

Please direct any questions about Mote Camp, including registration or camp policies, to:

- camps@mote.org
- 941-388-4441, ext. 324

The above policies are subject to change.

