



2022



# CAMPER APPLICATION

## VISION

Go Beyond's extraordinary outdoor adventures bring diverse groups of young people together to facilitate self-discovery and build community.

## MISSION

Go Beyond provides year-round outdoor experiences, featuring life-changing Mountain West adventures.

## VALUES

COURAGE

DEVELOPMENT

COMPASSION

INCLUSION

**All Go Beyond programs are delivered free of charge.**

Go Beyond has been bringing young people together from across our community to head west to our breathtaking Wyoming camps for over 40 years. We focus on fortifying lives through nature, extraordinary outdoor experiences, challenge and adventure, supportive counselors, specialized curriculum, and building positive relationships.

Go Beyond expeditions are open to youth 13-15 years old, with most campers entering 8th or 9th grade.

Go Beyond does not discriminate on any basis, including race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, or economic status.

501(c)3 nonprofit  
tax ID 82-0336644

[gobeyondne.org](http://gobeyondne.org)



# APPLICATION OVERVIEW

## contact

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Go Beyond Nebraska  
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[gobeyondne.org/program](http://gobeyondne.org/program)



## APPLICATIONS DUE 4.30.22

Candidates will be notified on a rolling basis.

*Transportation  
always available.  
We'll make it work!*

## 2022 CAMP AND PROGRAM DATES

**MARCH - MAY** 1:1 CAMPER AND PARENT/GUARDIAN MEETINGS  
With Go Beyond Staff. In-person and socially  
distanced, or remote as needed.

**APRIL - JUNE** LOCAL EXPLORATION & ONBOARDING HIKES  
**April 30, May 7, May 21, June 4, June 11**  
Get-to-know-you hikes and activities at  
Fontenelle Forest and Neale Woods. All campers  
must attend at least 1 hike.

**JUNE 11 - 12** ORIENTATION OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT  
**Camp Wakonda, Fontenelle Forest**  
Overnight campout retreat for campers,  
counselors, and volunteers to meet and prepare.  
SUPER important and required!

## CAMP

### JUNE 25 - JULY 2

- Boys Camp
- Beginner-Moderate Readiness
- Basecamp: Centennial Ranch (northern CO to central WY)
- 12 campers, 2 junior counselors, 1 Camp Director, 3 counselors
- 2 hikes, 1 mountain summit attempt, dispersed camping on a mountain lake, fossil hunting, horseback riding, kayaking, rock climbing, & whitewater rafting

### JULY 9 - 16

*Next year either 4+ camps  
or 2 girls/1 boys!*

- Girls Camp
- Beginner-Moderate Readiness
- Basecamp: Centennial Ranch (northern CO to central WY)
- 12 campers, 2 junior counselors, 1 Camp Director, 3 counselors
- 2 hikes, 1 mountain summit attempt, dispersed camping on a mountain lake, fossil hunting, horseback riding, kayaking, rock climbing, & whitewater rafting

### JULY 17 - JULY 24

- Boys Camp
- Moderate-High Readiness
- Basecamp: Centennial Ranch (northern CO to central WY)
- 12 campers, 2 junior counselors, 1 Camp Director, 3 counselors
- 3 hikes, 1 mountain summit, 1 backpacking trip, horseback riding, fossil hunting, kayaking, rock climbing, dispersed mountain lake camping, & whitewater rafting.
- Faster-paced.

## application

1. Applicant Info, Experience/Interest, and Short Answer.

**PRINT OUT** *Completed by potential camper.*

2. Parent/Guardian Short Answer.

**PRINT OUT** *Completed by parent, guardian, or supporter.*

3. Go Beyond Staff Review

*Staff review the application and reach out to parent/guardian. Go Beyond reserves the right to accept or deny applications based on the ability of campers to attend and succeed in our activities.*

2021 camp video:

[bit.ly/GoBeyondCampVideo](https://bit.ly/GoBeyondCampVideo)



# FAQ



## WHO IS GO BEYOND CAMP FOR?

Camp is for everyone! Inclusive of every background, amount of outdoor experience, and level of confidence—we do our best to make mountain adventure possible for you. All activities are designed for beginners, but we give you the opportunity to push yourself through hiking mountains, whitewater rafting, rock-climbing, camping in the backcountry, and more. Each of our three camps this year are tailored to an ability/activity level. Pick the best one for you!

That said, if you have dietary, safety, or health concerns, please just check in with us! We want to be sure you'll be safe and ENJOY your time at camp!

## WHY DO I HAVE TO APPLY?

Go Beyond is a scholarship program, which means it is 100% FREE to all campers and their families. We want to make sure our campers value the opportunity, and are committed to fully participating. No matter where a camper comes from, we want to be fair in our selection. The application process gives a camper the opportunity to tell us WHY they should receive the scholarship and makes sure everyone starts at the same place.

## HOW DO I KNOW IF CAMP IS RIGHT FOR ME?

We think camp is for everyone, even (and \*especially\*) if you are not "outdoorsy", but it's important that the camper decide that they WANT to be at camp, or they might not have as much fun. It's ok and common for campers to be nervous or scared about going away from home, being with a new and different group of people, and taking on this incredible adventure. It's important, though, that you are excited for this as well! If you have questions, just ask! We want all of our campers and parents to feel prepared for the challenges camp will bring because we know those challenges will come with lifelong memories and incredible accomplishments.

## COVID?

We are following guidance from the CDC, state and local Nebraska and Wyoming health departments, and the American Camp Association in all decision making. Requirements and guidance will be communicated with campers and families each step of the way.

## WHERE DO WE SLEEP?

Our Centennial Ranch in Wyoming has cabins equipped with electricity, running water and bunks. Showers are available, but only 1 or 2 times per camp. We spend 1 or more nights outside in tents or open-air camping as well.

## WHAT DO WE DO AT CAMP?

Each day is a mix of activities. Some will be physically harder than others like rock climbing or hiking in the mountains, and some will be more leisurely like soaking in hot springs or horseback riding. Some will be exhilarating like whitewater rafting, some will be quiet and reflective like looking up to the stars around a campfire. We play games, make crafts, write journals, learn about the science and history of our places, and we explore. Days are structured to be full of planned activities with healthy amounts of down/free time. Every camper and family will receive a full itinerary prior to the trip.



Check out our 2021 camp video, taken at our Boys Centennial camp. (Use your phone camera to access the link)



## **WHO GOES TO CAMP?**

Each camp has up to 12 campers with similar gender identity who around the same grade/age from across the diverse Omaha community. To the best of our ability we build groups so no 2 campers in any group know each other well prior to camp. Each trip is led by 4 staff: adult counselors/leaders with youth service and/or outdoors skills, many of whom are professionals like teachers and youth-service leaders. Most trips are joined by 1-2 junior counselors, a high school or college-age Go Beyond alumni, who gain leadership and job experience and could be the next generation of counselors (open to all camp alumni). All staff are background checked and trained in First Aid/CPR with additional training in outdoor safety and youth service. Background-checked volunteers such as camp cooks may also be on-site, and many activities are through professionally licensed companies who lead our adventures (like rock-climbing and whitewater rafting).

## **HOW DO WE GET TO CAMP?**

We drive in vans! Transportation to camp is part of the program, no special arrangements are needed other than getting to our designated pick-up/drop-off site in Omaha. It is about 8-9 hours to our Centennial Ranch. It sounds long, but it goes faster than you'd think and we have fun along the way with games, journaling, and getting to know each other.

## **DO I NEED TO BUY ANY SPECIAL EQUIPMENT?**

Not at all! We don't want you to have to purchase any fancy gear for camp! Sturdy sneakers and a duffel bag are great for most adventures—and if you need any clothing or a pack for camp, please let us know! We want to make this possible for you! All specialty gear is provided by outfitters or Go Beyond. Sleeping bags are also available upon request. A full suggested pack list will be provided at orientation or before.

## **DO I HAVE TO HIKE? CAN I JUST DO THE THINGS I WANT TO DO?**

Campers must participate in all activities. Go Beyond is about pushing yourself and discovering what you are capable of doing; you can't learn if you don't try! With some activities like rock climbing we only ask that you try (and maybe try again!) but other activities require full participation, specifically hikes. All hikes are introductory level. While some hikes can still be challenging, all can be conquered with the right attitude and perseverance. If this doesn't sound like your thing that's okay! It just means that camp might not be for you.

## **MY PHONE?**

Part of the adventure is letting go of the phone! It'll be alright...even good!...We promise. Everyone else has gotten through without it! We don't keep our phones around at camp because they ruin the camp experience! They are a barrier between you and your fellow campers, counselors, nature, our adventures, and yourself. There is an immense amount of research showing the benefits of disconnecting from your phone for a few days, and you'll see why. Wyoming doesn't have great cell service anyways, especially in the mountains.

However, we are not totally disconnected from the rest of the world. Each camper will have 2-3 times to call home. Our counselors will all have phones for emergencies and we will provide social media updates on our trips for our families back home to follow along.

## **WHAT IF I WANT TO COME HOME AFTER I GET TO CAMP?**

Homesickness happens, and the best way to treat it is to get engaged! This is a big adventure and that can be hard at times but it's SO important to push through to the end! Your fellow campers will be feeling very similar things and your counselors will completely understand. We're all here to get each other through! We don't want anyone to give up. ONLY in the case of an emergency or disciplinary situation will special arrangements be made, but transportation home will be at the cost of the parent.

# CAMPER APPLICATION



Print and complete for your application to Go Beyond!

Web link to this application:  
<https://bit.ly/2022GoBeyondApp>

## Camper information.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Hispanic, Latina/o, or Spanish Origin? Yes   
No

Gender Identity: Female   
Male   
Trans Female   
Trans Male   
Non-binary   
Prefer not to answer

How would you describe yourself? Check all that apply

Native American or Alaskan   
Asian   
Black or African American   
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander   
White or European American   
Prefer not to say   
Multiple \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns: \_\_\_\_\_

Any other identity information important for us to know: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School \_\_\_\_\_

2021-2022 School  
(if different) \_\_\_\_\_

School Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

WHICH CAMP ARE YOU APPLYING FOR? (circle or otherwise mark your choice)

Boys (lower activity level)  
Centennial Ranch  
June 25- July 2, 2022

Girls (medium activity level)  
Centennial Ranch  
July 9 - July 16, 2022

Boys (higher activity level)  
Centennial Ranch  
July 17 - July 24, 2022

## Parent/Guardian information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Contact method \_\_\_\_\_

*We will communicate by phone, email, and mail so please update us of any changes.*

Please describe any language assistance you may need.

\_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Optional information used in anonymous grant reporting and program design.

Household income \_\_\_\_\_

Does the camper qualify for free/reduced lunch? \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant experience/interest.** To be filled out by CAMPER!

*Because Go Beyond is about trying new things and learning about yourself!!*



	How often have you participated in:			How interested are you in trying:		
	<i>Never</i>	<i>1-2 times</i>	<i>3 or more times</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not sure/ Kind of</i>	<i>Can't wait</i>
Tent camping						
Backcountry camping						
Whitewater rafting						
Horseback riding						
Rock climbing indoor or outdoor						
All day hiking						
Plant and animal science						
Geology and paleontology						
Star gazing						
Fire building						
Hiking up mountains						

Have you ever...      Traveled outside of your city?      \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Traveled outside of Nebraska?      \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Been away from family for more than a week?      \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Been without technology for more than a day?      \_\_\_\_\_

**Short Answer.** Two or more complete sentences.

To be filled out by CAMPER

What do you do after school? Do you have any hobbies or play any sports? What do you do to enjoy yourself?

**Short Answer Page 2.** Two or more complete sentences. To be filled out by CAMPER



What is your favorite subject in to learn about, in school or otherwise, and why?

What would your family and friends say is the BEST thing about you? Do you agree? Why?

What would your family and friends say is something you could work on? Do you agree? Why?

What do you do when you get frustrated or angry? Do you have a way of working through these emotions?

How do you feel about not having access to technology?

How might you help a new friend at camp get through their tough moments or feelings?

**Short Answer Page 3.** Two or more complete sentences. To be filled out by CAMPER!



Why are you interested in attending a Go Beyond camp? THREE TO FIVE COMPLETE SENTENCES.

What is one thing you'd like to learn at camp? (About yourself, nature, a new skill, anything!)

What activity are you most excited to participate in at camp?

What, if anything, makes you nervous about camp? (being away from home, rock climbing, new people?)  
How can your counselors help you through it?

What is one thing about yourself we'd never be able to guess by looking at you?

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself or about what you hope to get out of camp?

## Parent/Guardian Short Answer.

To be filled out by PARENT/GUARDIAN



We want to know all we can about your potential camper! Being a young adult is a difficult time, and in order for us to best assist in their experience, it's critical for us to know how we can help them through this extraordinary adventure.

Why are you interested in your youth attending Go Beyond camp?

What do you hope your potential camper will learn or gain from their time in our program?

What motivates your camper?

How does your camper handle challenges?

Do you have any concerns about them attending camp?

What can our counselors do to support your camper while at camp?

What else would you like us to know? Use the back of the page if needed. As well, before orientation our staff will meet with you and your camper to learn more about your camper, you, and answer questions you may have. You are also encouraged to contact us anytime with updates, helpful information, or any questions at all! The better we know each other, the better the trip will be for your potential camper!