

RISK MANAGEMENT TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

Youth Protection Matters

These three organizations come together to provide
Camp Accreditation • Risk Management Tools • Youth Protection
Networking and Community



*Over 100 years of knowledge
and experience to ensure quality
camp programs*

ACA Camps on Campus
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*The leading electronic health
record and compliance tool
for camps*

CampDoc
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*We seek to advance the interactions
of colleges and universities with the
children and youth they serve*

HEPNet
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	TOP TRENDS	WHY IT MATTERS	WHAT TO DO NEXT
<h3>Health and Medical Issues</h3>	<p>Regularly ranked as a top trend in the ACA Camp Crisis Hotline, many camps have difficulty obtaining needed healthcare expertise and resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25.5 million children under 18 go to the emergency room annually. • Standard of care per the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for youth programs run on college and university campuses includes collecting health history, allergies, and medication information for all minors. • The AAP also states that all campers and staff should be fully vaccinated and that non-medical exemptions should be eliminated. • The Health and Wellness standards from the American Camp Association also require gathering health information and creating a medication management plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require a comprehensive health history form for campers and staff. • Create a plan for medication storage, administration, and documentation. • Develop an immunization policy for all youth programs run on your campus. • Use a secure, electronic system for documentation.
<h3>Personnel and Staff Issues</h3>	<p>Increasingly, ACA receives phone calls and inquiries related to staff issues which may stem from actions both while on the clock and during time off.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and compliance violations can happen at any university that result in unsafe conditions for participants. • Inadequate or inconsistent training regarding program operations, policies, and procedures creates areas of exposure for your campus. • A lack of centralized knowledge of programs further increases risk exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set and enforce policies regarding expectations of behavior on and off institutional property. • Establish clear consequences for the violation of these policies. • Set clear expectations for reporting red flags or inappropriate behaviors.
<h3>Mental Health of Campers and Staff</h3>	<p>Mental health issues for participants and staff are an increasing concern for those running youth programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The increasing trend at camp mirrors trends in society. • 1 in 6 US children aged 2–8 years had a diagnosed mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder; 1 in 5 US adults experience mental illness each year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify mental health resources and medical experts you can call at a moment's notice. • Gather information about mental health needs on camper and staff health history forms. • Designate qualified staff to review health information prior to arrival. • Inform appropriate staff of specific needs of campers for whom they are responsible.
<h3>Allegations of Child Abuse</h3>	<p>Campers may reveal stories of prior/ current abuse by a family member or acquaintance or instances of inappropriate behavior from peers and/or adults may be observed or disclosed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All camp staff are mandated reporters. • Negligence is costly. Some prior lawsuit costs are in excess of \$750 million to settle. • Short-term and long-term effects include emotional trauma, loss of employment, criminal charges, and loss of institutional credibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call the authorities if there are allegations or suspicions of child abuse and/or neglect. • Active supervision of participants and staff, especially in high-risk areas, will lower the likelihood of harm, abuse, and bullying. • Solid youth protection policies, procedures, and training help prevent abuse from occurring. • ACA's Camp Crisis Hotline is a 24-hour resource 800-573-9019.