



Campership Application Steps & Checklist Summer 2024

Step 1: Read this document before beginning your application.

Step 2: Register for camp.

In order for us to consider your application, you must [register for camp](#).

Step 3: Apply for a One Happy Camper grant, if eligible.

First-time campers attending GFC for a full 23-day session are eligible for a one-time, non-need based \$1,000 grant from One Happy Camper.

Jewish day school students and campers attending 10-day *Bonim* sessions are ineligible.

Greene Family Camp has a limited number of One Happy Camper grants to award. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

If that's all the assistance you need, apply for a One Happy Camper grant **and please do not apply to GFC directly for a campership.**

To sign up, visit [One Happy Camper](#). If you live in the San Antonio metro area, contact the [Jewish Federation of San Antonio](#).

Step 4: Apply for a campership from GFC.

Once you've registered for camp, [apply for a campership from GFC](#). Before you begin, remember that:

- This year, you may apply for a campership until December 31, 2023. Your application will be reviewed, and you will be notified of any financial



assistance shortly thereafter. We hope to inform you of your campership award status by March 1, 2024.

- Applications will be accepted after December 31 so long as funding remains. We encourage you to apply before December 31 as we cannot guarantee that financial assistance will be available afterwards.
- You will be asked to submit a narrative. Narratives should be written and uploaded in the .docx or .doc format (not as a PDF, text, screenshot, etc). Please use this opportunity to share information about your family's need for support and the impact this financial assistance would have on your camper. [Click here to view a sample narrative.](#)
- You will be asked to submit information about your finances. If you do not submit financial data, we cannot fully review your application. If your narrative or application is vague, has limited information or is incomplete, it will directly impact the amount of campership funding you may receive.
- Your application cannot be saved, and thus must be completed in its entirety before submitting. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- **Camperships are confidential.** Before reaching our campership committee for review, all applications are scrubbed of identifying data for your family's privacy.

One of the most common questions families struggle with is: "How much do I ask for?" The answer begins by figuring out how much you can contribute.

To do so, "Get to \$0." In other words, start with the cost of camp, subtract what you can contribute, as well as what you hope to receive from our Funding Partners, and ultimately, what you hope to get from GFC. If everything works according to plan, your balance will be \$0.

For example:



- Your camper's 3 ½ week session costs \$5,525. You can afford to pay \$2,000, which means you need \$3,525 in financial assistance.
- You receive a \$1,000 One Happy Camper grant. You now need \$2,525.
- Next, you request \$525 from your synagogue and \$500 from your local Federation or Jewish community foundation. You now need \$1,500.
- You request \$1,500 from GFC.

We cannot guarantee that you'll receive the amount of assistance you request. But getting to \$0 in your application shows that you are realistic and honest about your financial need.

Keep in mind that the minimum amount you're required to contribute for a 23-day session is \$1,000 per camper (\$500 per camper for shorter sessions).

That said, please contribute as much as is realistically possible for your family. This allows us to award more money to more families with greater financial need.

Contribute what you can and ask only for what you need.

Step 5: Apply for additional assistance from at least two Funding Partners.

GFC awards more than \$200,000 in camperships and incentive grants every year. Still, we rely on the generosity of our Funding Partners, such as synagogues, federations, and foundations to provide additional help to families like yours.

When you apply to GFC, please also apply for scholarships from at least two of our Funding Partners. Apply to GFC, your congregation, and any other funding you qualify for **at the same time.** Our Funding Partners have deadlines, too, so don't delay!

For a list of GFC's Funding Partners, [click here](#).



The amount of scholarship awarded from our Funding Partners varies. That's why your best bet, again, is to "get to \$0" by being realistic about what you can contribute and budgeting appropriately.

If you are unable to apply for support from at least two Funding Partners (i.e., you live in a community that does not provide scholarships and/or you are not a member of a synagogue), please contact Lisa Smith at lsmith@urj.org.

Step 6: Don't wait to apply for financial assistance.

We can't emphasize this enough. If you don't apply to your congregation or our Funding Partners before their deadlines, you run the risk of not being able to afford camp.

Step 7: Complete the Scholarship Checklist.

- Yes, I've registered my child(ren) to attend GFC this summer!
- Yes, I've applied for a \$1,000 incentive grant from One Happy Camper (if eligible).
- Yes, I've applied for a campership from GFC.
- Yes, I've applied to at least two of the following Funding Partners (if eligible):
 - Synagogue
 - Jewish Children's Regional Service
 - Federation
 - Jewish Community Foundation

We hope this helps! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lisa Smith at lsmith@urj.org.

Thank you!