

SKYCROFT

# Survival Guide



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CROSSINGS AT  
SKYCROFT

# Checklist

**REGISTRATION FOR 2025  
CAMP OPENS JUNE 1ST.**

## **JANUARY / FEBRUARY**

- Promote Camp - Promotional materials can be downloaded from [www.gocrossings.org/campprep](http://www.gocrossings.org/campprep).
- Deadline to adjust numbers without penalty: March 1.  
This is the last day to drop numbers without financial penalty. Decreasing spots after this date will result in a forfeit of the \$75 deposit fee for each spot dropped.  
Contact the Skycroft office to adjust your numbers: 301-293-2202.

## **MARCH / APRIL**

- Hold a participant / parent meeting  
Discuss participant registration, daily schedules, packing list, dress code, etc.
- By March 29th choose between the Adventure /Missions track or a mix of both at camp.  
Sign-Up | Make your selection online at <https://skycroft.org/adventure-and-missions-sign-up/>

## **MAY**

- Share your Color Team Assignment with your students.  
We'll contact you in mid-May to tell you what Color Team your church will compete on this summer so your group can plan in advance and go all out in their team color.
- Deadline to adjust numbers before cancellation fees are applied: May 1.  
An additional \$50 cancellation fee will be charged for each spot dropped after May 1. This is in addition to forfeiting the deposit fee for each spot dropped.

## **2 WEEKS PRIOR TO YOUR CAMP SESSION**

- Complete Background Check Form: All adults attending camp must have had a background check performed in the last 2 years and must be listed on the form. Form is included at the end of this guide and can be emailed to Skycroft at [skycroft@skycroft.org](mailto:skycroft@skycroft.org) two weeks prior to your arrival at camp.
- Submit a Certificate of Liability: Crossings Ministries with our Louisville address **MUST** be listed as the Certificate Holder (example shown at the end of this guide). Your church insurance agent can provide you with this form, and you can email the form to [skycroft@skycroft.org](mailto:skycroft@skycroft.org).
- Ensure all parents of youth participants and adult chaperones are completing their participant forms and mission waivers online via SmartWaiver. Please note: Only churches participating in the mission track will see the missions waiver in SmartWaiver. Read further along for details on accessing SmartWaiver.
- Submit your church Participant List with all student and adult participants listed. The template Participant List can be found on the Skycroft website. This Participant List provides important information regarding gender breakdowns to be used for housing assignments.

## **SUBMIT AT REGISTRATION ON OPENING DAY OF CAMP**

- Final Camp Payment is due.



# Programmed Activities Explained

**LEADERSHIP LAB:** Leadership Lab is an optional early morning program for students that want to learn more about being a leader right where they are. Using Christ's perfect example, students focus on different aspects of leadership each morning and put it to practice through different exercises and activities. This is a great opportunity to encourage your student leaders to attend and grow their leadership skills. Adult chaperones are welcome to attend too!

**TAWG (TIME ALONE WITH GOD):** Time set aside each morning for students to have personal quiet time with Bible study & prayer. **Crossings will provide TAWG/Bible study booklets for each student (and adult) to use during their TAWG,** with devotional material that ties in with each day's spiritual focus.

**CHURCH GROUP BIBLE STUDY:** Church Group Bible study is a time to apply what the students heard from the Camp Pastor in Large Group Bible Study, and go deeper. **We have written some material for your use but it is up to you if you want to use that. An electronic copy of this material will be sent in advance so that Youth Leaders can prepare.**

**CIRCUITS:** Circuits are designed to meet students where their interests are – whether that is through discussing missions, creating art, or playing ultimate frisbee! We will offer a variety of Circuits, some with spiritual emphasis and others that focus on recreation or other interests. Students will fill out a form upon arriving at camp that indicates their preferences and are placed in Circuits accordingly.

# Activities Continued...

**ADVENTURE/MISSION TRACKS:** Two days while at camp, youth groups choose to either participate in adventure track or mission track together. Churches that choose the adventure track will have the opportunity to participate in several recreation programs at Skycroft (Confidence Course, Bazooka Ball, Archery Tag, escape room, pool time, high ropes, etc.)

Youth groups that choose the mission track go off-campus to serve in local missions. We partner with local churches and ministries so that our youth missionaries can help further God's kingdom through the local church. While campers engage in a variety of missions activities and settings, most require some physical labor.

**Churches who choose the mission track are responsible for their own transportation to and from mission sites.** Skycroft provides a packed lunch to be eaten on location.

Churches will have an option to pick one Adventure Day or Mission Day!

**COLOR TEAM GAMES:** Each church is assigned to a Color Team to compete in various games and challenges throughout the camp week. Each afternoon, teams will get hyped before facing off in a large game or competition during Color Team Games. You will receive a direct email regarding which team your church is placed on. **We encourage you to share your team color with your students ahead of time so they can pack gear to represent their team color during Color Team Games!** Most campers show up to Team Games decked out in colored bandanas, t-shirts, socks, face paint, etc.!

**CHURCH GROUP TIME:** Our desire is to always direct your students back to you in the significant decisions they are making at camp. As a result we have scheduled time for you to check in with your students every night after worship. This is a time for church groups to unpack the message together, ask questions, pray or simply hang out. **We will provide some discussion prompts from the Camp Pastor based on his worship message. We will email this to you at least one week before camp.** Churches are free to use this time as needed, but we like to provide some talking points for leaders as an optional resource.

**RENAISSANCE FAIR:** Grab your swords and step into a world of gallantry and wonder! Dress up like your favorite characters from the medieval past. We want to see some brave knights and royal princesses at our fellowship this year. Maybe even an ogre or two! We can't wait to see you down there - be sure to watch out for dragons along the way!



## STUDENT & CHAPERONE

# Packing List

- Appropriate Clothing  
(See **Dress Code** below.)
- Bedding – pillow, sheets, blanket or sleeping bag
- Towels – beach towels, bath towels, bathmats
- Toiletries – toothbrush, soap, shampoo, wash cloth, deodorant, hand soap, paper towels
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- Reusable Water Bottle
- Sunglasses and/or Hat
- Closed toe AND CLOSED HEELED Shoes – required for most recreation activities
- Modest one-piece swimsuits
- Clothing and accessories in your Team Color (Color Team assignments will be shared in May)
- Renaissance Attire (Fellowship Night)
- Complete Bible – we use ESV (not required) in all programs
- Pen and Notepad
- Spending money for HeBrews Snack Shop (items range \$1-\$6) and camp gear (items range \$1-\$30).
- Challenge: Student participants bring \$20 or more to give to the missions offering

### GROUP PACKING LIST

For adults and/or group leader, we recommend you bring the following to ensure your group has an optimal experience.

- Anti-itch cream (Lanacane)
- Sunburn relief (Green Aloe with Lidocaine)
- First Aid Kit – triple antibiotic ointment, ace bandages, bandages, anti-bacterial wipes, & epipen.
- Pain Medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.)
- Extra hand soap, paper towels, and bathmats
- Gold Bond

### WHAT NOT TO BRING

1. Alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, and illegal drugs
2. Fireworks or weapons of any kind
3. Skateboards, roller skates, or shoes with built in skates.
4. Anything that explicitly or implicitly promotes racism, sexism or hatred of any group/person
5. Anything that explicitly or implicitly refers to sexual actions or situations

**DRESS CODE:** We ask that all students and adults dress modestly. For females and males, shorts need to be longer than fingertip length when arm is extended down the side of leg. We do not allow spaghetti strap tank tops, any tops where undergarments can be seen, or any shirts with the sides cut out. Swimsuits must be one piece. For both males and females, shirts must be worn at all times when walking to and from the pool.



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# Missions Offering

**EVERY DOLLAR GIVEN BY OUR CAMPERS WILL GO TO:**

**Path to Panama/ IMB Partnership  
Panama & Western Columbia**

Missions...taking the Gospel to those who have not heard it, is part of Crossings' DNA. Since Crossings began in 2000, campers have given \$2,229,036 to global missions causes around the world. For the last three years, our missions focus has been eastern Kentucky. Our campers gave nearly \$500,000 for work in Appalachia. The missions offering has helped Crossings take Kids Day Camps to various sites in Kentucky.

Also, on July 28th, 2022, a devastating and tragic flood struck in the mountains and tragically took the lives of 43 people, including young children. The dollars given by campers to the missions offering went to Freda Harris Baptist Center in Elkhorn City and God's Appalachian Partnership in McDowell. These ministries have proven to be vital in the rebuilding of lives and homes in the flood area, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

This year begins our exciting partnership with the SBC International Mission Board (IMB) and our IMB missionaries in Panama and western Columbia. You and your campers will meet our missionaries via video during camp.

The goal of our partnership: to train local missionaries to go and tell indigenous peoples in Columbia and Panama the good news of Jesus Christ. These are people unreached with the Gospel.



# Before Camp

## ARRIVAL

All arrivals should occur between 2-4:30 p.m. If an emergency causes you to miss this window, please call us at 240-675-7093 with your projected arrival time.

Upon arrival, only the primary group contact should enter the Registration Building to complete the check-in process with Crossings and Skycroft staff. You will receive room keys, Bible study booklets, and submit final payment.

The rest of the church group will go through a registration circuit while the primary contact checks in. During this time, they will receive their camp t-shirts and sign up for Circuits. Once the group leader rejoins their church, they will end this check-in process with a group photo in their new camp t-shirts. We will give you a framed picture at the end of camp before you leave.

## HOUSING

Housing assignments will be provided at Registration. If you'd like to know your lodging assignments in advance, you may call the Skycroft office up to 5 days before your session date.

Churches will be housed in lodges and motel accommodations, all of which are outfitted with bunk beds. Ladies are housed primarily in motel style accommodations where each room will have 2 sets of bunk beds (4 beds total). Each motel room will have two full-size bottom bunks and two twin-size top bunks. Please bring sheets accordingly. Lodges have twin-size bunks only.

**Bath:** Each motel room has a private bathroom equipped with one shower, sink and toilet. Lodges have various number of toilets and showers depending on the lodge size.

**Linens:** No linens are provided or will be provided.

**Damaged or Lost Keys:** Keys are only available for motel rooms. Lost keys will incur a \$25 charge.

## DRIVING TO CAMP

Turn-by-turn directions are available on Skycroft's website ([skycroft.org/info/driving-directions/](http://skycroft.org/info/driving-directions/)). Some of the back roads to get up the mountain to Skycroft are not fit for buses. If you are using a bus service, or are bringing a bus to camp, please use the directions provided on Skycroft's website instead of a GPS! If you are using a bus service, please specifically share this route with your driver to ensure your arrival to camp is without complications.

## MEDICAL TREATMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Neither Crossings nor Skycroft provide medical supervision, treatment, maintenance or dispensing of medications for campers. These responsibilities belong to the church group. We do, however, provide a lock box at check-in to each church where all medications should be stored by an adult leader.

Emergency transportation is available through local emergency response groups by dialing 911. **Church groups should have at least one vehicle on site for the purpose of nonemergency transportation for medical services.**

## CHAPERONE EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Our philosophy at Crossings is that camp is as much for adults as it is for students. We want you to grow in Christ and to have opportunities to invest in relationships with your students. For this reason, we invite all chaperones to participate in all aspects of camp.

- **Certificate of Liability**

A Certificate of Liability is provided by your insurance company. This certificate states your church/organization's insurance policies and coverage information. The certificate names Crossings Ministries as an additional insured so we know your organization is protected when visiting our camps. Please see sample form attached. If you call your church's insurance company, they will know what you need.

- **Background Check**

These are a central component of our Child Protection Policy. We want to help prevent and protect your students from physical, emotional, verbal, and sexual abuse, especially while they are on our properties and under our care. For this reason, we ask all adults who attend camp to pass a background check. All background checks must have taken place within the previous two years from the date of camp attendance. We trust that many of you have completed background checks for your adult leaders. Therefore, we only ask that you list the names of leaders you have up to date background checks for and sign the Background Check Form. Adult leaders who are not listed on the Background Check Form may not participate in camp. It is the church's responsibility to conduct background checks. If this is new to your church, background checks can be run through vendors such as Ministry Safe or Protect My Ministry, or through your local police department.

- **Participant Forms**

All participant forms and mission site waivers will be submitted electronically this year using the SmartWaiver platform. Before March 11, your group leader will receive an email from Skycroft with detailed information on how to get started using SmartWaiver to manage your group's form submissions. You will share participant forms with parents and adult chaperones through SmartWaiver. Remember, every participant at camp – students and adult chaperones - needs to have a completed form on file. Please note: Only churches participating in the mission track will see the missions waiver in SmartWaiver.





## AT CAMP AND OTHER IMPORTANT Information

### **POST-CAMP FEEDBACK**

We hope that you are able to attend our Group Leader meetings during the camp week. We want to hear about your camp experience and what we can do to make it better next year. You will be receiving a survey via email after camp to give us your thoughts and opinions on camp. We look forward to your feedback!

### **REGISTER FOR 2025**

We will open registration and publicize Dates and Rates in June. We encourage you to register in June, or as quickly as you can, since spots fill up fast. All spots are available on a first come, first serve basis and require a \$75 per person registration fee.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED



# Questions

- **What are the age groups for students attending Crossings Camps?**  
Student Camp is for those entering seventh grade through graduated high school students.
- **We have never been to the property. Can we come and check out the facilities?**  
We would love to have you and your leadership team come and visit Skycroft before camp. Call us year-round at 301-293-2202 to set up an appointment.
- **Do you have a place where we can do laundry during camp?**  
There are no laundry facilities available on property. The nearest laundry mat is located in nearby Boonsboro, about 10 minutes away.
- **Do adult leaders need to submit a Participant Release Form?**  
Yes, all camp participants (youth and adults) must submit a completed Participant Release Form.
- **Can parents or other members of our church visit while we are at camp?**  
Occasionally, parents and/or church members may visit during worship and mealtimes with advance approval from Crossings. All visitors must sign-in with Skycroft at the front desk in the Registration building.
- **What if I have a participant with food allergies?**  
Skycroft works hard to accommodate for each of our guests and any food allergies by serving buffet style along with having a fruit and salad bar. Serving buffet style allows our guests to choose from the items that are safe for them to eat. With the vast number of different food allergies, we cannot guarantee that cross contamination will not occur on our buffet line or that one of our vendors might substitute a product due to their supply. Due to the number of meals that are served each day, it is also difficult to cater meals for individuals, many with different allergies.  
It is for these reasons that we suggest for campers and adults with severe food allergies store any special meals in a refrigerator located in their lodge so there is not a chance of illness or allergic reaction. Please notify Skycroft in advance if someone in your church group requires a refrigerator (one per church) for the purpose of storing food. We do have a commercial microwave at the entrance of our dining room where the meals can be reheated.
- **Is there a camp nurse?**  
We do not have a camp nurse. We will have a first aid coordinator that will be able to address all accidents as they happen and can provide basic first aid supplies for minor injuries. Churches are responsible for keeping and disseminating campers' medications; Skycroft provides a lock box at check-in that may be used for this purpose. Churches are responsible for their own transportation to seek non-emergency medical services.

# Background Check Form

**The participating church confirms the below regarding the adults attending camp with our group (both Group Leader and Chaperones):**

- a. They are well known by the Group Leader or are in recognized leadership of the participating church.
- b. The registered church and Group Leader knows of no reason why any of the adults should not serve as a sponsor for youth and children under the age of 18.

**The participating church also warrants that it has:**

- a. brought no Adult Chaperone or Group Leader not listed on this form.
  - b. performed a nationwide criminal background check on all Adult Chaperones and Group Leaders within the past two years.
  - c. taken reasonable steps to confirm that the individuals are not registered sex offenders by making inquiries to law enforcement officials or by checking [www.nsopr.gov](http://www.nsopr.gov) (the National Sex Offender Public Website).
- NOTE: We do not have the means to process background checks on behalf of participating churches. Churches can refer to <https://bcmnd.org/pathways/> for resources on protecting children, youth and vulnerable adults including resources related to screening, background checks and sexual abuse awareness trainings.

**Please list the legal name of all adult chaperones and group leaders:**

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**Please provide the relevant information about your church:**

Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Authorized Representative**

GROUP LEADER OR ON-STAFF PASTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

