

2026



TAMWOOD
CAMPS

WELCOME GUIDE



GET READY FOR A FUN-FILLED SUMMER!
We can't wait for you to join our
camp located in...

NEW YORK

2536 BATHGATE AVE, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, BRONX,
NY 10458, USA

[TAMWOOD.COM/CAMPS](https://tamwood.com/camps)

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE:

Preparing for your trip



It's almost time to pack your bags! In this guide, you will find a list of everything we think you will need to bring with you to the USA. You will also find some fun facts about your camp destination: the wonderful city of New York!

First Day and Life at Camp

Arriving in a new place can feel a little bit scary, but don't worry, we've got you covered! This welcome guide includes helpful information about the camp, what to bring, and what to expect to help you feel prepared and excited for your experience.



Health and Safety



At Tamwood, the safety of our campers is our Number 1 priority! In this guide, you can read all about our health and safety procedures, including our Easily Transmittable Diseases policy.

Tamwood Culture and Camper Agreement

We strive to create a safe space for campers from all countries and backgrounds, ages and gender identities. In order to do this, we need our campers to agree to support us in upholding a positive learning environment.



FAQ's

At the end of this guide, you will find the answers to all the frequently asked questions!

Q

A



Dear Parents and Campers,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to Tamwood's New York Fordham Camp this summer!

For over 30 years, Tamwood Camps has been creating unforgettable experiences for campers from around the world. Parents, thank you for the trust you've placed in us – we know this may be your child's first time away from home, and that's a big step. Please know our staff are here to care for them, guide them, and make sure they feel safe and at home throughout their stay. Campers, get ready – it's going to be a summer full of new friends, fun adventures, and moments you'll never forget, all in one of the most exciting destinations in the world – New York!

At Tamwood Camps, it's all about exploring, trying new things, and experiencing it together. Campers are encouraged to step outside their comfort zone, join in, and make the most of every moment – whether that's meeting new friends, discovering something new, or just having fun along the way. After all, you've come all the way to North America for a new experience – and we want to make sure you make the most of it. As they take part in daily activities and conversations, campers naturally become more confident expressing themselves and using English in real-life situations.

Inside this Welcome Guide, you'll find everything you need to get ready for camp, including a packing list, important forms, and what to expect on arrival. We encourage parents and campers to review it together so everyone feels prepared and confident for the journey ahead.

If you have any questions at any point, please don't hesitate to reach out – we're always here to help.

Thank you again for choosing Tamwood Camps. We can't wait to welcome your child and share a summer full of growth, connection, and unforgettable experiences.

See you this

*Evan Yang
Director of Youth Programs*



All about...

NEW YORK CITY



WELCOME TO THE WORLD FAMOUS NEW YORK!



New York City, also known as the "Big Apple," is one of the most exciting and vibrant cities in the world. It is located in the northeastern part of the United States and is the largest city in the country with over 8 million residents.



The city is a melting pot of different cultures, languages, and cuisines, making it a truly unique and diverse place. It is home to some of the world's most famous landmarks and attractions, including the Statue of Liberty, Central Park and the Empire State Building.



New York City is a hub for finance, media, fashion, and entertainment, making it an exciting place to live, work, and visit. It is home to some of the world's largest corporations, including Wall Street, the New York Stock Exchange, and the headquarters of many international businesses.



During your time at camp, you will get the chance to visit some of the amazing places that New York has to offer! As well as the iconic landmarks listed above, you can visit Brooklyn Bridge, Grand Central Station and Times Square among many other exciting destinations.

Our Campus...

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

Our Camp Accommodation is at Finlay Hall, Fordham University.

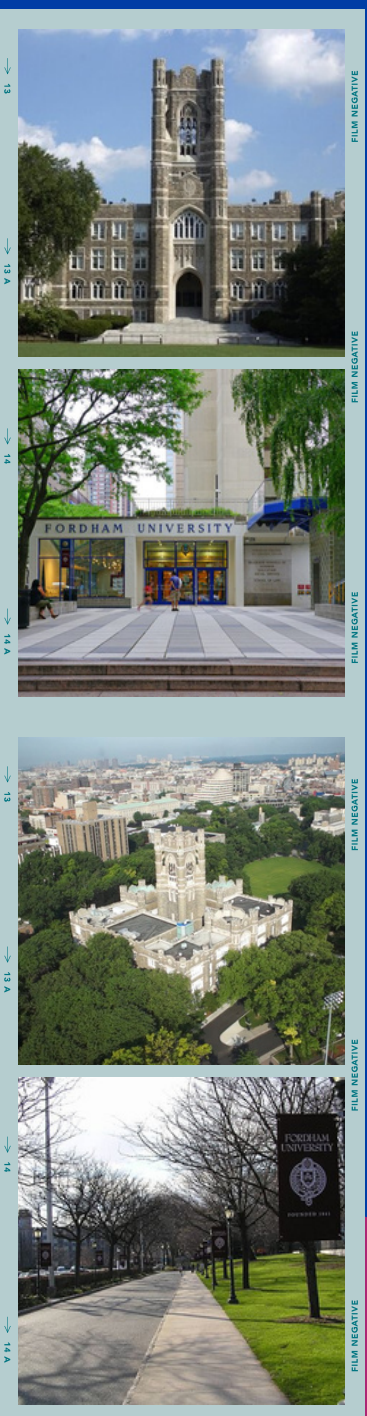


Our home! :)

Fordham University is a private research university located in New York City. The university was founded in 1841 and is one of the oldest Catholic universities in the northeastern United States.

The university has three campuses, with the main campus located in the Bronx, and additional campuses in Manhattan and Westchester County. The campus in the Bronx is situated on a picturesque 85-acre hilltop, with views of the New York City skyline. It features Gothic-style buildings, modern facilities, and plenty of green spaces for students to enjoy.

At our residence, each camper will share with one other camper in a classic USA college style dorm room! There will be public washrooms on each floor for the campers to share.



TAMWOOD
CAMPS

TAMWOOD PACKING LIST



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Flight Information (Arrival and Return)
- Passport
- VISA Paperwork (if required)

Adventures await, but first, packing! Get started with this essential packing list.



CLOTHING

- Underwear & Socks
- T-Shirts (8-9)
- Shorts (3-4)
- Long Pants / Jeans
- Long sleeve shirt / Light Jacket
- Swimsuit
- Comfortable, closed-toe shoes
- Pajamas / Appropriate sleepwear
- Flip-flops/sandals



TOILETRIES

- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash / Deodorant
- Sunscreen
- Face Cloth & Towel
- Bug Spray
- Hair brush
- Prescription Medicine (if needed)
- Personal Hygiene Products

Please label all personal belongings and clothing (including socks and undergarments) with your full name to prevent clothing from being lost.

IMPORTANT

Tamwood is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. We provide laundry service once a week, Tamwood is not responsible for items lost in the laundry.



OTHER ITEMS

- Backpack
- Hat or cap
- Credit Card
- \$USD for spending money
- \$150 USD for damage deposit
- Umbrella
- Notebook / Pen
- Plug Adapter / Charger
- Water bottle



IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

→ ✈ Arrivals

When you arrive at **LaGuardia Airport (LGA)** or **John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK)**

When you leave baggage claim, look out for our Tamwood staff wearing a **RED Tamwood t-shirt** (as pictured) and holding a Tamwood flag.

Some days it can be very busy at the airport! This can make it difficult to see our staff straight away. If after 20 minutes, you still cannot find a staff member, please call the emergency contact number provided at the end of this welcome guide or ask the staff at the Information Desk to make an announcement for you over the Airport Intercom System. (If you are arriving in a group, please stay with your Group Leader!)



Tamwood Staff!

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

If you plan to register as an Unaccompanied Minor, please contact Tamwood Camps as soon as possible to obtain the name of the designated staff member who will be picking you up from the airport.

All Unaccompanied minors will stay with the airline staff until a designated member of Tamwood staff has come to pick them up. It is important to have the correct person registered to pick up your child or they may have a longer wait than expected.

Unaccompanied minor fees are an additional cost paid by families.

HEADING TO CAMP

TRANSPORTATION



You will travel to the Fordham Campus from the airport via school bus, coach, van or car with members of Tamwood staff (unless alternative transport is arranged prior to camp).

ARRIVING ON CAMPUS

When you arrive at camp, our friendly counselors will be waiting for you at the residence! They will take you to the Tamwood Office where you will go through the intake process with the Director and Coordinators!

WELCOME

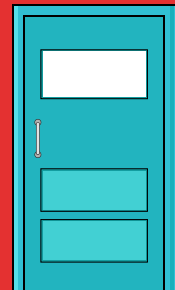
INTAKE (CHECK-IN)



You will receive a Tamwood t-shirt, laundry bag, lanyard and room key from the staff. You must hand in your passport, prescription medications and a damage deposit of \$150. You can also hand in any excess cash you want to keep safe.

AFTER INTAKE

The counselors will then take you to your dorm room, as well as show you your bathroom. They are there to answer any questions you have about camp too! Once you are settled, they will let you know the plan for the rest of the day!



ACCESSING YOUR MONEY



Typically, we allow campers to access their personal envelopes the day before an excursion, before dinner. Our camp director will be available to assist you during these times and ensure that you can access your belongings safely and securely.

LIFE AT CAMP

		SUNDAY June 28	MONDAY June 29	TUESDAY June 30	WEDNESDAY July 01	THURSDAY July 02	FRIDAY July 03	SATURDAY July 04	
AM	8:00 - 8:45	Breakfast			Late Wake up	Breakfast	Late Wake up		
	8:45 - 12:45	Camper Arrivals Intake Settle in & unpack	Group Team-building Activity	Full Day Excursion: Luna Park Coney Island Kings Plaza Shopping Center	Breakfast	Half Day Excursion: American Museum of Natural History Central Park	Breakfast	Camp Wide Game	
PM	12:45 - 1:30		Campus Adventure		Self Choice Morning		Lunch	Tamwood Mystery	Lunch
	1:45 - 3:30		Language Classes		Language Classes		Language Classes	Language Classes	Language Classes
	3:30 - 5:30		Dorm Time / Dinner		Dorm Time / Dinner		Dorm Time / Dinner		
	5:30 - 7:00	Weekly Kickoff	Tamwood International Carnival	Wacky Fashion Show	Discovery Time	Excursion: Baseball Game	USA Disco		
	7:00 - 9:00	Conversation Club		Conversation Club					
	9:00 - 9:30	Dorm Time		Dorm Time					
	9:30 - 10:30								
	10:30	Quiet Time & Lounge Closed							

*Our goal is to provide the best possible experience. Activities and excursions may be adjusted due to weather, availability, or other unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety and quality.
 ** Sunday is designated as arrival & departure day for weekly campers. Multi-week campers participate in our Sunday Options program, which offers a selection of free on-campus activities or paid off-site excursions.
 ***As a host city for the FIFA World Cup, we want our students to feel the excitement! Some schedules may shift slightly so everyone can safely enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

At Tamwood Camps, we want to make sure that you have all the information you need to make the most of your experience with us. That's why we provide a detailed schedule of activities and events throughout your stay. The schedule includes information about classes, excursions, sports, and other fun activities that you can participate in during your stay.

Scan Here to access our schedules:



HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health and safety of our campers is our top priority at Tamwood Camps. We have strict protocols in place to ensure that all campers are able to participate in our programs safely and comfortably.

STAFF

All of our staff members are trained in first aid and emergency response procedures, and we have an on-campus health attendant to provide medical assistance as needed.

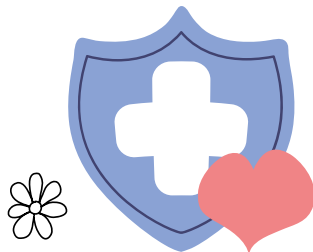
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

If your child takes Prescription medication, it should be turned into the Health Attendant upon arrival.

Medication must be in its original container or marked clearly with dosage, frequency, and camper's name.

Tamwood team members do not administer insulin shots or other medications requiring similar procedures. Any medication that our staff are not familiar with will be handed over to the Health Attendant who will monitor the usage.

If a camper, counselor, or other member of staff is displaying symptoms of illness, they will be asked to wear a mask and seek medical attention as needed. We also have isolation and quarantine protocols in place to prevent the spread of illness within the camp community.



Staying healthy at camp!

- Carry a water bottle around
- Eat at least 1 fruit & vegetable at each meal
- Apply sunscreen regularly



During your child's time at camp, a parent or guardian will be contacted by the Health attendant within 24 hours if...

- Your child is ill or has an oral temperature of over 37.8°C
- Your child is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
- Your child requires any off-site medical treatment
- If there are questions regarding medications or healthcare for your child
- Your child is severely homesick and expresses a need for immediate contact

HEALTH AT CAMP: WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP



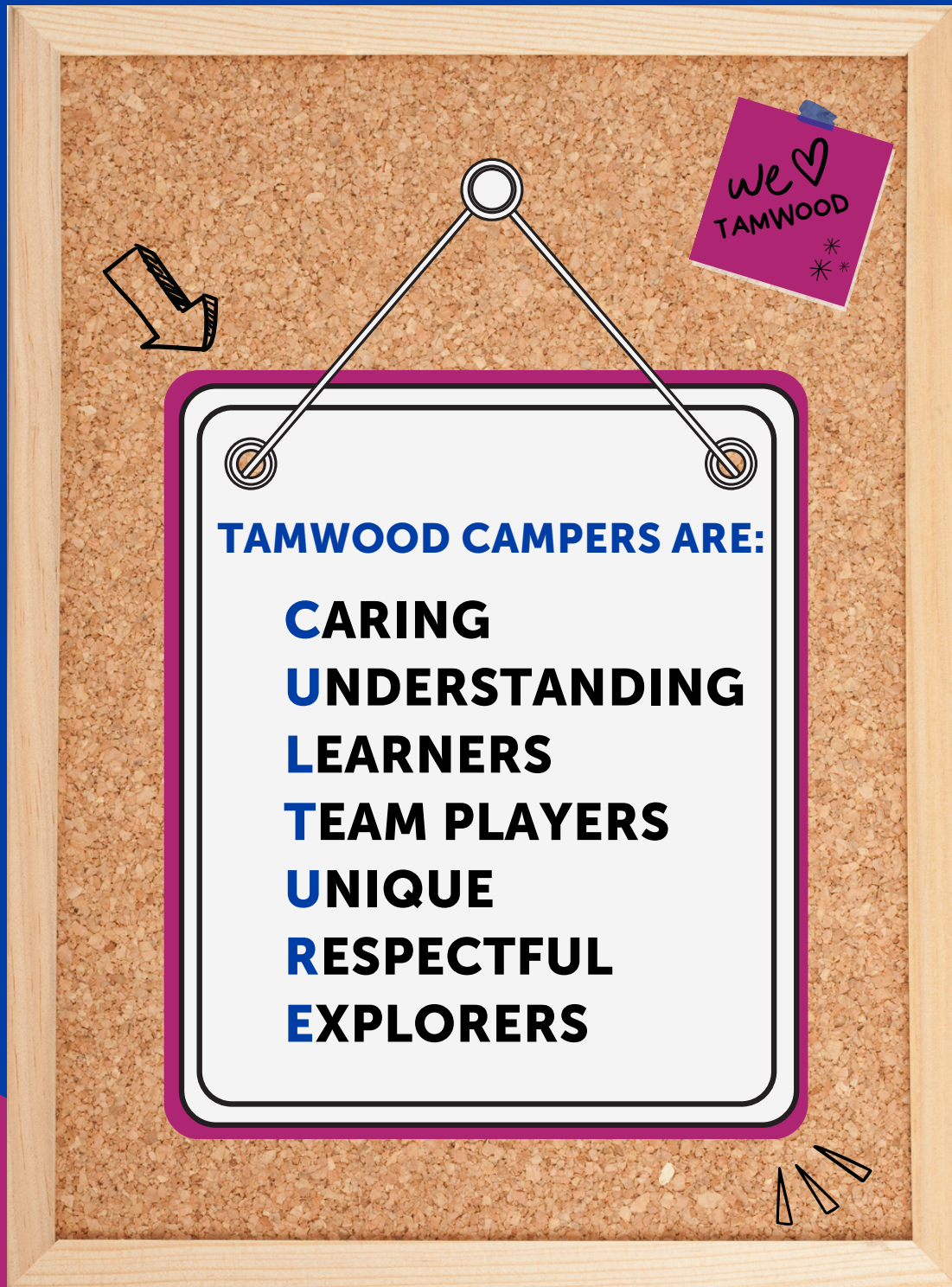
PREPARING FOR CAMP:

A healthy camp begins at home! Here are some things parents/guardians can do to prepare kids to ensure a great camp experience:

- Remember to pack sunscreen! There are lots of sunny days in New York ahead!
- Encourage your camper to inform their counselor, health attendant or director about any problems they have at camp. We are here to help!
- Pack a reusable water bottle in their luggage, and remind them the importance of staying hydrated during camp. Counselors will also remind the children to fill their water bottle regularly.
- Ensure your child packs enough clothes to dress in layers. Some days mornings can be chilly, but then the afternoon can be hotter. It is important they are prepared for the different temperatures!
- Camp can be a very busy place, with lots of fun activities and excursions for your child to take part in! It is therefore important that they get enough rest. Remind them that going to sleep at bedtime is very important; more important than playing on their phone all night!
- To prevent illness, campers will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently, especially before mealtimes and after outdoor activities. If you are sending a young child, please show them how to wash their hands effectively to help them get into the habit before camp.
- Please inform the Camp Director if your child needs a particular nutrition plan so that they can inform the Dining Hall to work out a plan to address their needs. If your child is not comfortable with the plan whilst at camp, it is possible to arrange a staff member to assist and monitor the process.
- It is important to communicate any mental, emotional or social health challenges that your child has before your child arrives to ensure the camp staff are best prepared to accommodate them.

TAMWOOD CULTURE

Tamwood strives to create a family away from home for all of our campers and staff members! Summer camp culture is important for the development of children as it provides a unique and fun-filled environment for personal growth, character building, and skill development. Like all families, Tamwood Camps has a unique culture. These are the culture values we hope to instil in all our campers this summer!



TAMWOOD CAMPERS ARE:

CARING
UNDERSTANDING
LEARNERS
TEAM PLAYERS
UNIQUE
RESPECTFUL
EXPLORERS

CAMPER AGREEMENT

The primary focus of Tamwood Camps is to help support our campers on their journey to becoming respectful global citizens with cross-cultural understanding. At Tamwood Camps, we strive to create a safe space for campers from all countries, cultural backgrounds, ages and gender identities. In order to do this, we need our campers to agree to support us in upholding a positive learning environment. The expectations listed below are to be followed for the camper's duration at camp in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all campers in our care.



- 1** *Campers must be on time to all classes, meals and other scheduled meeting times set by their counselor.*
Campers are to remain in their assigned rooms after lights out (except to go to the washroom). Since each day is full, campers need to sleep and be ready for the next day. Lights out is 10:00 PM for juniors and 10:30 PM for youths and seniors unless otherwise specified by senior staff.
- 2** *Campers are responsible for keeping their rooms clean. Those who do not have clean rooms will be asked to tidy them and may miss out on activities or an excursion.*
- 3** *To ensure campers are not distracted by their phones and other technology, Tamwood campers must follow our Reduced Technology policy (found on the next page of this guide).*
- 4** *Campers will not express any inappropriate public display of affection during their stay at camp including kissing and inappropriate touch. Tamwood camps have students of all ages and cultures, therefore to respect for these differences campers are to reserve any relationships that form for after camp.*
- 5** *Campers must be respectful of the property and environment around them. Stealing or intentionally damaging property that belongs to another camper, Tamwood camps or any of the facilities may be sent home (without refund) and expenses to repair/replace the item will be passed on to parents.*
- 6** *Campers must respect each other, counselors, teachers, and guests. Bullying of any kind is not allowed. This includes physical fighting, name-calling, verbal threats, or using social media to hurt an individual/group. Campers who are not respectful of other campers and staff may be sent home (without refund).*
- 7** *Drugs, alcohol and cigarettes are not permitted at Tamwood camps. In accordance with provincial and state laws in Canada and the United States, minors cannot have alcohol or tobacco in their possession. Use of any drug or alcohol will be grounds for immediate dismissal (without a refund).*
- 8**

Creating an Unplugged Camp Experience

Creating Real Connections, Unplugged Moments, and the Best Summer Ever!

At Tamwood Camps, we believe summer is the perfect time for kids and teens to disconnect from screens and reconnect with the world around them. Our Device-Free Policy helps campers enjoy camp life to the fullest — with more friends, more fun, and fewer distractions!

What's the goal for our Device-Free Policy?

The goal isn't to take something away—it's to give them something better in return:

A summer full of memories.

In today's society, we understand that kids are more connected to their phones than ever—and it's not always easy to imagine them without one. But at camp, our goal is to help them truly disconnect from screens and reconnect with the people and experiences around them. Our Device-Free Policy isn't about cutting off contact—it's about giving your child the chance to be fully present, build independence, make real friends, and enjoy all the fun and growth that camp has to offer.

We've seen it over and over: when campers put their phones away, everything changes for the better. They make deeper friendships, get more involved in activities, sleep better, and show more confidence and independence. Without the constant buzz of notifications or the urge to scroll, campers become more present — and that's when the magic of camp really happens.



Device-Free at Camp (Youths & Seniors)

Youth & Seniors

Tamwood Camps designates certain days as Device-Free to support a focused and engaging camp experience, while helping youth develop responsibility, self-control, and balanced phone use habits.

Device-Free Days

Device-Free Days are typically on-campus days. Please refer to the Device-Free icon on the weekly schedule for exact dates. Signage will also be posted in residence as a reminder.

*You can find the "Device-Free" icon on our schedules.

Phone Collection

On Device-Free Days, phones are collected before breakfast and placed into secure phone lockers.

Phone Return for Device Free Days

- Phones are returned at the end of Conversation Club (around 9:30 PM).
- On Disco Days (usually Saturdays), phones are returned before the disco starts (around 5:00 PM).

Responsibility, Enforcement & Communication

Campers are responsible for their devices. If a phone is not turned in when required, staff may hold it for longer periods on subsequent days, and additional supportive steps may be taken at the discretion of camp leadership. Tamwood is not responsible for charging, loss, or damage.



Phone & Device FAQs



Q: Is Tamwood a device-free camp?

A: Yes. Tamwood operates as a mostly device-free campus so campers can focus on activities, friendships, and being present. Phone access is limited and varies by age group.



Q: Why do we have this policy?

A: We have this policy to help campers disconnect from screens and fully engage in camp life. It helps them build friendships, stay present, and develop independence.



Q: How can I reach my child in an emergency?

A: If you need to reach your child urgently, please contact the camp team directly. Staff are always available to support communication in urgent situations.



Q: What if my child doesn't have a phone?

A: That's completely fine. Recharge and downtime periods include non-phone options such as relaxing, reading, drawing, writing postcards, or spending time with friends.



Q: Should my child bring tablets or gaming devices?

A: We strongly discourage bringing tablets, gaming consoles, or other personal electronics, as they are not part of the camp experience.



Q: What if a phone is lost or damaged?

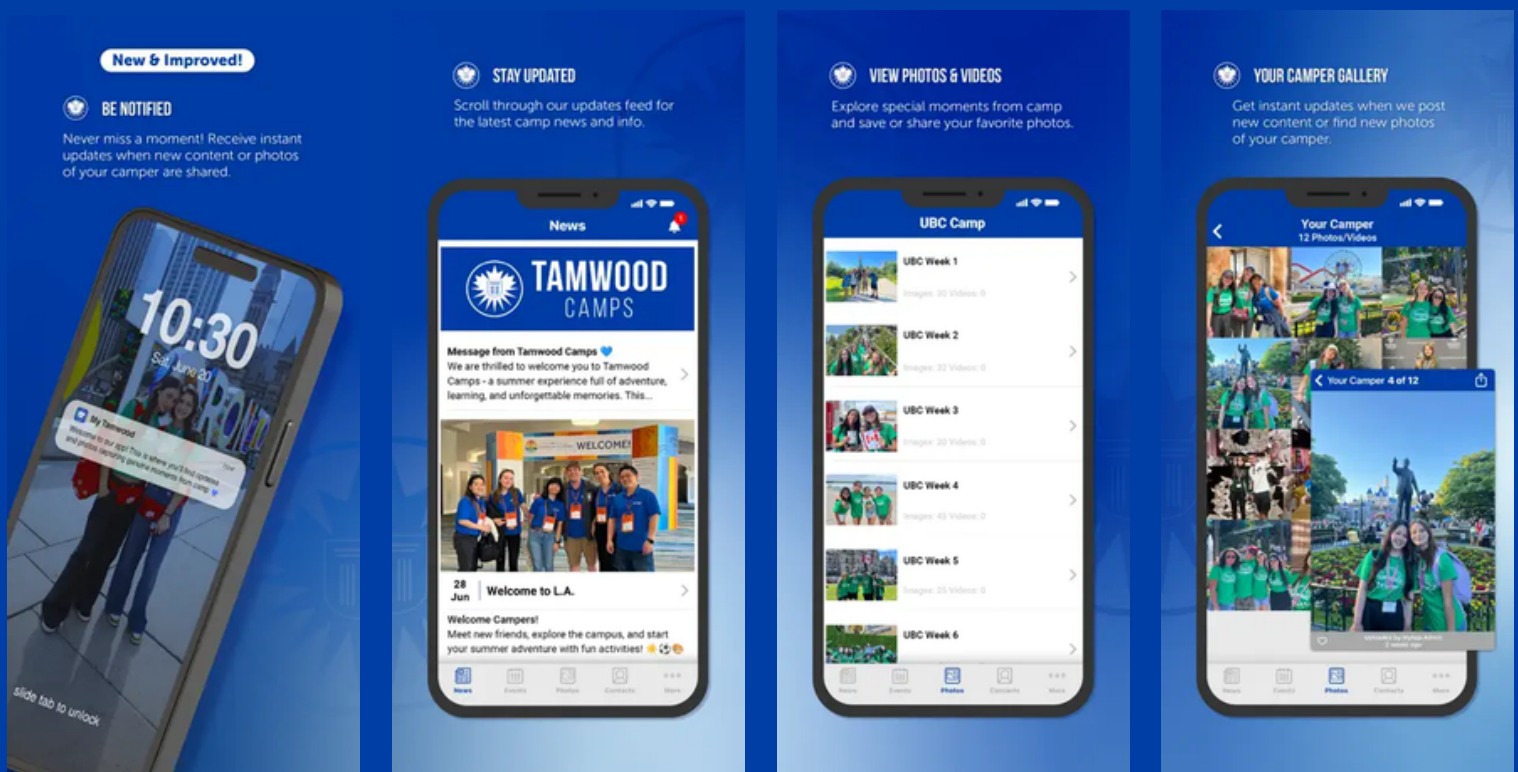
A: If a phone is lost or damaged, our staff will provide reasonable assistance where possible. However, please note that Tamwood is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal devices.

MY TAMWOOD APP

Their Camp magic – shared with you.

The My Tamwood App is designed to help you stay connected to your child's camp adventure! While they're exploring, making friends and having fun, we'll bring the highlights straight to you.

Setting up the app gives you a secure platform where you can view photos, videos and camp updates, so that you can share in the fun and excitement of camp from wherever you are!



News

Stay in the loop with camp highlights and announcements

Photos

Browse, download, and share high-quality photos of your child's summer adventure

Events

See what your child will be up to any given day or week

Contact

Need to reach out for an urgent inquiry or emergency? Find all the contact information you need in the app

MY TAMWOOD APP

STEP-BY-STEP SETUP GUIDE

Step 1: Complete the App Registration Form

Complete the [App Registration Form](#). This helps our team verify your details and link your account to your child's camp location.



Scan to register for the app.

Step 2: Keep an Eye on Your Inbox

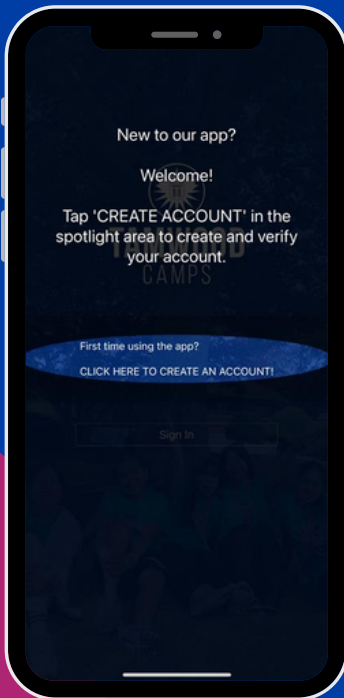
Once we've verified your registration, we'll create your secure profile. Look out for your Welcome email letting you know your account is ready!

Step 3: Download the My Tamwood App

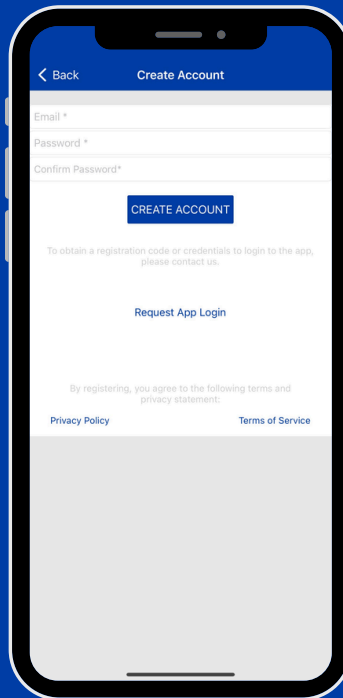


For more info, FAQs, and support please visit: [MyTamwoodApp](#)

Step 4: Create an account, login and explore!

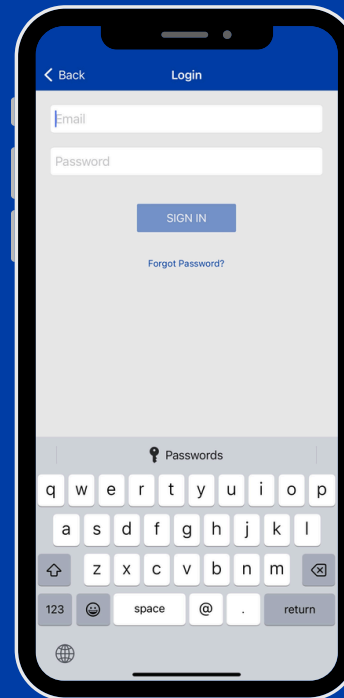


Once you receive the confirmation email, you can open the app and create an account.



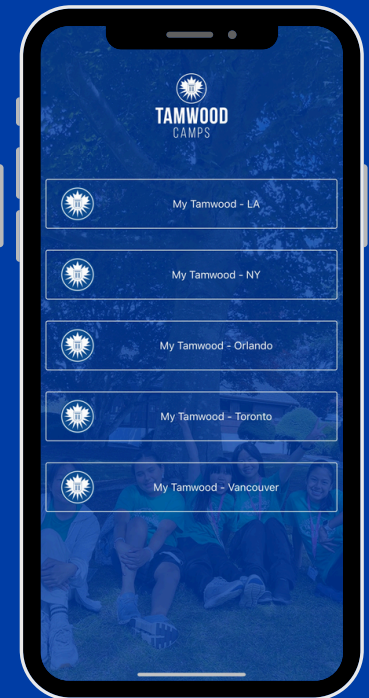
Use the email address you provided and setup your own password. Click on "Create an account."

"Create an account."



The app will redirect you to the login page. Enter your credentials to enter the portal.

Click on "SIGN IN"



Once you logged in, you will have access to the camp location your child signed up for.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS


IS NEW YORK SAFE?



**SAFETY
FIRST**

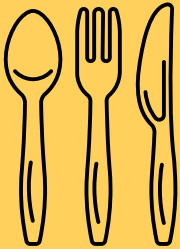
Yes. Our New York program operates on a closed campus with restricted access for verified guests only. Campers are always supervised by Tamwood staff and are rarely unattended. Students are encouraged to stay aware of their surroundings and follow staff guidance at all times.

HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I BRING?




Campers should bring enough money to cover any personal needs, including shopping for any personal items and/or souvenirs at local malls and attractions. Campers must also bring additional \$150 USD cash for damage deposit.

WHAT IF I DON'T LIKE THE FOOD?



Please communicate any food concerns prior to camp. We will try our best to work with you to ensure a balanced diet is achieved. It is also extremely important that your director is informed of all dietary restrictions you may have.

WHAT SHOULDN'T I BRING/BUY?



Do not bring cigarettes/matches/lighters/illegal drugs/alcohol. Smoking & drinking are not permitted for campers in Canada/USA due to state and provincial laws. Any items that can be seen as weapons, like pocket knives or toy weapons, should be avoided.

DO CAMPERS WEAR UNIFORMS?



Tamwood Camps does not require students to wear a uniform every day, but they are asked to wear a Tamwood lanyard at all times. Campers are also required to wear the Tamwood T-shirts on all excursions off-campus.

MORE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAN A PARENT OR FAMILY VISIT CAMP?

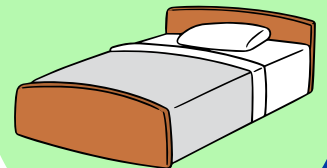


We do not allow parents into residence buildings, and we also do not host parent visits during camp to ensure the safety and consistency of our program, as many campers are attending without their parents in town.

Parents are welcome to take their child off-campus on Sundays, with pick-up around 10:00am and return before dinner. If you need to drop off items for your camper, please contact the Camp Director in advance to make arrangements before coming to campus.

WHEN CAN OUR CHILD ENTER THEIR ROOM AFTER THEY ARRIVE AT CAMP?

Rooms are usually ready by 4:00 PM on check-in Sundays. Since it's the university's turnover day, cleaning may still be in progress if your child arrives early. They'll be able to enter once the room is cleaned and released.



WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO THE CAMP LEADERSHIP TEAM HAVE?



Our summer leadership team consists of individuals with previous camp experience, as well as specific skills and training in their area of responsibility. All staff have an up-to-date Criminal Record check, First Aid Certificates & have participated in camper safety training.

I TAKE MEDICATION. WILL I BE ASSISTED WITH THIS?

If you require our assistance, we can accommodate. All medication is secured by the Health Attendant and dispensed as required. We ask parents to provide double the doses of medication separated in two waterproof bags with legible writing providing clear instructions of use (in English).



SEE YOU SOON!

If you have
questions before
camp, please email:

KEVIN HUANG
kevin.huang@tamwood.com



YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

NY DIRECTOR

If you have
questions during
camp, please email:

MIMI BREAU-LETT-EVANS

director.NYC@tamwood.com



TAMWOOD
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