



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## 2021 FAQ: BERKSHIRE FAMILY YMCA ABENAKI SUMMER PROGRAM

Questions? Kathy Mancini, Camp Manager, (413)663-6529 x 245, kmancini@bfymca.org

### WHY CHOOSE THE Y FOR YOUR CHILD'S SUMMER?

Our Summer Program provides a safe place for kids where they will develop decision-making and problem-solving skills, learn about team building, make new friendships, and much more. Berkshire Family YMCA's Abenaki Summer Program provides parents with peace of mind knowing that their children are safe, learning new lifelong skills, and having fun. Berkshire Family YMCA (BFYMCA) is committed to recruiting and developing an outstanding group of counselors and directors that are dedicated to providing the best possible summer program experience. Many of our staff members are college students who have been program participants. The staff participates in extensive training, and our lifeguards are certified. All staff members are certified in First Aid and CPR, as well as CORI checked. Policies and procedures are available in the manager's office. Abenaki Summer Program at BFYMCA Northern Berkshire branch, 22 Brickyard Court, North Adams, MA must comply with regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

### OUR GOAL:

At YMCA Summer Day Programs, caring professional role models create experiences that help youth build character, gain confidence, and learn social skills. All of our Y Summer Day Summer Programs instill the Y's four core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility into every activity, every day.

- **Caring:** Considerate to the feelings of others
- **Respect:** Treating others, the environment and yourself with dignity
- **Honesty:** Being trustworthy and truthful
- **Responsibility:** Accepting accountability for your actions and role in the community

### COVID-19 PREVENTION

Berkshire Family YMCA complies with all MA state or local health and safety standards, requirements, or orders in response to COVID-19.

### SUMMER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES: SWIM, STEAM, & SPORTS!

Our Northern Berkshire Abenaki Summer Program offers curriculum in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). Activities include nature, weather, dance, music and talent shows! YMCA counselors provide hands-on lessons focusing on science experiments creating volcanoes, galaxies in a bottle, exploring engineering using circuit boards, Legos and tower building with environmental resources.

- Free/Recreational swim time
- Field, group games
- Arts and crafts
- Sports, Play & Active Recreation for Kids
- Team building
- Traditional sports
- Field Trips

**BERKSHIRE FAMILY YMCA:** [www.bfymca.org](http://www.bfymca.org)

**Pittsfield (Corporate Office):** 292 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201 **P:** 413-499-7650 **F (All Locations):** 888-965-0663

**Northern Berkshire:** 22 Brickyard Court, North Adams, MA 01247 **P:** 413-663-6529

**Bennington Recreation Center:** 655 Gage Street, Bennington, VT 05201 **P:** 802-442-1053

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## Theme Weeks:

- **The Great Adventure** (June 28 - July 2): Bask in the sun and breathe in that Berkshire air in a nature-themed week!
- **Community Hero** (July 5 - 9): Enjoy visits from our local PD and other community helpers!
- **Enrichment** (July 12 - 16): Spend the week creating and learning about your artistic side!
- **Sports & Play** (July 19 - 23): Try out different sports and games each day!
- **STEAM** (July 26 - 30): Get your brain working with fun experiments and building activities!
- **Fun & Fitness** (August 2 - 6): Try out different forms of exercise! Zumba, obstacle courses, and more!
- **Hometown History** (August 9 - 13): Learn about all the different historical components of our community!
- **Color Wars** (August 16 - 20): A field day style week with physical, mental, and creative competitions!
- **End of Summer Celebration** (August 23 - 27): Enjoy the last week of summer with fun games and activities and lots of free play!

## PARENT PROVIDED DAILY SUPPLIES:

**Technology-free zone:** Please do not send your child with a cell phone, tablet, laptop, Chromebook or other electronic device.

**Lunch is provided by BFYMCA for Summer Program participants through a partnership with North Adams Public Schools!**

### Please do send:

- Mask/Face Covering (1 – worn & 1 – back up)
- Water bottle – no glass
- Swimsuit and towel
- Sunscreen
- Sneakers must be worn
- Snacks x2
- Flip flops are permitted for swim
- Bug spray

## OUR NORTHER BERKSHIRE SUMMER PROGRAM:

- Abenaki Summer Program at BFYMCA Northern Berkshire branch, 22 Brickyard Court, North Adams, MA
- Hours: 6:30 AM – 5:30 PM

## AGES SERVED:

- Abenaki Summer Program: Children entering Grades 1-5

## SUMMER PROGRAM GROUPS:

- **Pioneers:** Entering 1st grade
  - Our youngest children begin the Summer Program experience with the excitement of trying new things! Daily schedules provide a balance between active and quiet play and group and individual activities.
- **Explorers:** Entering 2nd grade
  - Our more experienced Summer Programers will enjoy new challenges and new excitement. We emphasize increased self-confidence, encouraging others, responsibility and team building.
- **Voyagers:** Entering 3rd grade & **Trailblazers:** Entering 4th grade
  - As the child grows so will his Summer Program experience. Emphasis in this unit is on increased self-confidence, encouraging others, responsibility and team building. Summer Programers may also choose their activities in the mornings and the afternoons.

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- **Pathfinders:** Entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Our most experienced Summer Programers will take leadership programs and specialized activities that are designed to be progressive and challenging, as well as fun and entertaining. As the oldest unit, Summer Programers may choose their morning and afternoon activities.

## 2021 ONE-WEEK SESSIONS: ABENAKI SUMMER PROGRAM: June 28 – August 27, 2021

Session 1: June 28 – July 2	Session 4: July 19 – 23	Session 7: August 9 –13
Session 2: July 5 – 9 (7/5 no camp)	Session 5: July 26 – 30	Session 8: August 16 –20
Session 3: July 12 – 16	Session 6: August 2 – 6	Session 9: August 23 – 27

## COST:

- Abenaki Summer Program: \$202.55/Week

## SUMMER PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION:

- **There is no bus transportation.**
- Abenaki Summer Program at BFYMCA Northern Berkshire branch, 22 Brickyard Court, North Adams, MA
  - Parents must accompany children into the building to be dropped off.
  - Per EEC guidelines, COVID-19 Daily Health Screening must be completed each day for each child at drop off.

## IS YOUR FAMILY TRAVELING THIS SUMMER?

Per Massachusetts COVID-19 prevention guidelines, families traveling out of state or out of country may not return to Summer Program until they either a) provide a negative COVID test OR b) quarantine for 10 days.

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Three emergency contacts are required. Every effort will be made to contact a parent/guardian in the event of an emergency requiring medical attention for your child. However, if you or one of the three listed emergency contacts cannot be reached, per your registration form, you will authorize the program to transport your child to the nearest medical care facility to secure necessary medical treatment for your child.

## PROVIDE CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION

- Proof of medical physical and immunizations by licensed physician within the last 12 months is required.
- Children with allergies must include individual health care plan and medication consent.
- Provide details of child's sensitivities (i.e.: food, sensory, noise, etc.) and helpful tips.
- Children with chronic health conditions must include individual health care plan and medication consent.
- YMCA staff must be authorized (indicated on Summer Program registration form) to apply sunscreen for my child.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (FA):

The Berkshire Family YMCA offers Financial Assistance for children to participate in summer day Summer Program. Eligibility is based on household size and income. Applications for Financial Assistance can be downloaded from our website – bfymca.org – or picked up the Welcome Center of either branch location. The Y reserves the right to

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deny or discontinue service at any time. Applications for Financial Assistance MUST be received at least two weeks prior to first Summer Program week. Financial Aid is given on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified families. Vouchers are also accepted.

- **FA Eligibility**

- Families must work or reside in the Y service area.
- Assistance will be granted on financial need for low income on a first-come first-serve basis.
- Financial assistance is for the current Summer Program year only.
- Prior account balances must be paid in full before applying.

- **FA How to Apply**

- Applications must be filled out completely. See complete details on Financial Assistance Packet.
- Federal tax form and one month of current pay stubs or other form of income (SSI, food stamps, etc.) must be submitted.
- Copies of documentation must be provided.
- A registration fee of \$25 is required for NEW registrants in order to process an application. This is a non-refundable deposit if you decide not to attend the Summer Program.
- Applicants will be notified by mail of their award.

### **PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

- Make all checks payable to the Berkshire Family YMCA, 292 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201.
- Summer Program fees must be paid in full the Friday before the week of Summer Program by check or automatic EFT from a bank account or credit card. Put your child's name on the check.
- Full Voucher or Partial Voucher with parent fee accepted.
- After the program has met twice, no credits or refunds will be issued.
- There will be a fee of \$1 per minute for children who are picked up after 5:30pm. Please note that after Summer Program care ends promptly at 5:30pm.
- Payments accepted at the YMCA only, not at Summer Program.