



## Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Camper Application Information

### About Camp SIGN

Thank you for your interest in Camp SIGN, a communication barrier-free environment for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Camp SIGN mission is to have all deaf or hard of hearing students from around the state participate in the program regardless of their communication mode. The philosophy of the camp is to provide an environment of acceptance and encouragement. This program operates under the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS) under Health and Human Services (HHSC).

Camp SIGN is for boys and girls between the **ages of 8 and 15** who are deaf or hard of hearing and can benefit from an outdoor training program. Counselor-in-Training (CIT) is a program for developing leadership skills and preparing boys and girls **aged 16 and 17** to become future camp counselors and leaders. Participants are former campers who meet the CIT program criteria established by the Camp SIGN committee.

The camp staff is chosen to accommodate the variety of communication needs of the campers. Most of the counselors are professionals who work with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. Many of the counselors themselves are deaf or hard of hearing had served as excellent role models for the campers. Many counselors are former campers and CITs and return year after year to work with the program.

Camp SIGN continues to use a wonderful campsite in the woodlands of Conroe, Texas, just 35 miles north of Houston. Camp Misty Meadows is owned and operated by the Girl Scout of San Jacinto. The dates for camp this year are **Sunday, July 30, 2017 - Saturday, August 5, 2017**.

### Registering your child

Complete Camp SIGN Application for Camper, and return with **a check or money order (payable to DHHS) for \$35** to cover application fee required for each child on or before **May 24, 2017**, as the deadline date. (This will reserve a space for your child.) These should be mailed to:

Camp SIGN, Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services  
P.O. Box 12306  
Austin, Texas 78711

Once the application is processed, DHHS will send out a pre-acceptance letter by **May 31, 2017**. The letter indicates the total cost for your child to attend. At that time, you will also receive the required medical and release forms. Please note that a doctor must examine your child and sign the medical form. **No child will be admitted without the required paperwork.** The **cost of the medical examination** and **transportation of the child to and from Camp SIGN** are the responsibility of the **parent or guardian.**

Camp SIGN depends on donations to keep the program running. Donations do not cover the entire cost of the camp. Parents or guardians will be asked to fill out income information located on the application form to determine the cost for their child. There are two separate fees: *application fee and camp fee*. The total cost ranges from \$35 to \$235 (both application and camp fees) depending on the income of the parent(s) or guardian(s). Medical exams and transportation **are not included** in this price.

Tax deductible gifts and grants may be sent to Camp SIGN, c/o Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, P.O. Box 12306; Austin, Texas 78711. For more information, please contact Amanda Tuite at (512) 410-0978 or by email [DHHS.Training@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:DHHS.Training@hhsc.state.tx.us).

We may accept any applications after the **May 24th, 2017**, deadline date depending on availability on slots. We encourage you to send your child's application and fees as soon as possible. All slots are filled first-come first-served.