**Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services**

# Camp SIGN 2016

**Camper Application Information**

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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 Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS).

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. The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program developes leadership skills and prepares boys and girls **aged 16 and 17** to become future camp counselors and leaders. CIT 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 and serve 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 Scouts of San Jacinto. The date for camp this year is **Sunday, July 31, 2016- Satuday, August 6, 2016.**

Applying for your child

Complete DARS3930, Camp SIGN Application for Camper, and return with **a check or money order for $35** to cover the required application fee for each child. Applications and fee must be received on or before June 3rd, 2016, to be considered for camp. Applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications received after June 3rd, 2016 will not be considered.

Mail application and $35 fee to:

Camp SIGN, Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

 P.O. Box 12306

 Austin, Texas 78711

Once the application is processed, DHHS will begin sending pre-acceptance letters starting June 6, 2016. 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**. **Paperwork must be completed and submitted to DARS DHHS by July 5th, 2016 for your child to be admitted.**

The **cost of the medical examination** and **transportation of the child to and from Camp SIGN are the responsibility of the parent or guardian**.

**CANCELLATION and REFUNDS:** Camp fees collected will not be refunded for cancellations with less than 14 days’ notice, for any reason. In addition, camp fees collected will not be refunded when a camper does not arrive for his/her assigned session, or has been sent home for any reason before completing the session. If Camp SIGN is cancelled refunds will be issued for fees collected**.**

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 fees for their child. There are two separate fees: *application fee and camp fee*. Fees range 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 fee.

Tax deductible gifts and grants may be sent to Camp SIGN, c/o Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, P.O. Box 12306; Austin, Texas 78711. For more information, please contact Ann Horn at (512) 410-1387 or by email ann.horn@dars.state.tx.us.

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| DARS_LogoH_BW | **Division for Rehabilitation Services****Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services****Camp SIGN Application for Campers** |
| Complete this application and return it with the $35 application fee toOffice for Deaf and Hard of Hearing ServicesPO Box 12306Austin, Texas 78711    | If you need help or have questions, contact us at(512) 410-1387 Fax: (512) 407-3299Email: ann.horn@dars.state.tx.uswww.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs   |
| **Applicant Information**   |
| Last name:      | First name:      | Birth date:      | Age at camp date:      |
| Enter X to select gender:   Male    Female | School:       | Grade:      |
| City:       |
| Enter X to select from each of the following categories.    |
| T-shirt (adult size):   S   M   L   XL   XXL   XXXL | Ethnicity:      Hispanic or Latino   Not Hispanic or Not LatinoRace (enter X to select all that apply) :   American Indian or Alaska Native   Asian    Black or African American   Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander   White | Status of hearing loss:      Deaf   Hard of hearing   Use Hearing Aids   Cochlear implant   Other(specify):       | Method of communication:      American Sign Language (ASL)   Signed Exact English (SEE)   Sign Language   Oral   Other (specify):      |
| **Parent or Guardian Information**   |
| Enter X to select one.    |
|    Parent |    Grandparent |    Guardian |    Other (specify):      |
| Last name:      | First name:      |
| Address:      | City:      | State:      | ZIP code:      |
| Home phone:(   )       | Work phone:(   )       | Cell phone:(   )       |
| Pager number or pager address:(   )       or       | Email address:      |

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| **Person to Contact in Case of Emergency**   |
| Name:      | Phone number:(   )       | Relationship:      |
| **Medical Information**   |
| Enter X to select all that apply.    |
| Diseases the applicant has had:   None   Chicken pox   German measles   Measles   Mumps   Other (specify):      | Chronic or recurring medical conditions:      None   Asthma   Bleeding disorders   Constipation   Ear infection   Fainting   Nosebleeds   Seizures   Other (specify):      | Known allergies:      None   Animals   Hay fever   Insect stings   Medications   Pollen   Plants   Other (specify):      | Emotional or behavioral problems:      None   Attention deficit   Bedwetting   Emotional disturbances   Sleep disturbances   Other (specify):      |
| Does the applicant take medicine? | Does the applicant have behavior problems? |
|    Yes    NoIf yes, list medicines below:      |    Yes    NoIf yes, enter X to select all that apply.   Temper tantrums   Hitting others   Disobeying   Uncooperativeness   Attention deficit   Other (specify):       |
| **Note**: Any camper who becomes a continual problem at the camp site will be sent home.   |

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| **Income Reporting**   |
| List the average monthly income for each member in the household including children. Report gross income (amount before taxes, insurance, or deductions). You may choose not to provide the income information. If so, you must pay the full camp fee plus the application fee for your child. The amount due is listed in the preacceptance letter.   |
| If you do not wish to list the income information and agree to pay the full camp fee for this camper, enter or print your initials here:     . |
|  | **First name** | **Last name** |  | **Monthly income** |
| 1. |       |       |  |       |
| 2. |       |       |  |       |
| 3. |       |       |  |       |
| 4. |       |       |  |       |
| 5. |       |       |  |       |
| 6. |       |       |  |       |
| 7. |       |       |  |       |
| 8. |       |       |  |       |
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| **Signature**   |
| By signing this form, I affirm that I am providing true and correct information regarding my child or foster child; I am applying to Camp SIGN for my child or foster child. I am submitting a nonrefundable application fee of $35.00. I understand that I will be charged and held responsible for any fees incurred by checks submitted with insufficient funds; I agree to release and hold harmless DHHS Camp SIGN from any damages arising out of personal injury or sickness caused by any accident occurring on or off the camp premises;I give permission to DHHS Camp SIGN officials to provide any and all medical attention to my child in the event of injury or sickness;    I give permission for DHHS Camp SIGN to photograph, use, and release photographs of my child for the purpose of publicizing and promoting Camp SIGN; I understand that complete cooperation is expected from my child or foster child; andI understand that I am responsible for transportation to and from the camp for my child or foster child.   |
| Signature of parent or guardian:**X**       | Date:      | Printed name:      |