



LASSEN PARK
FOUNDATION

YOUTH CAMPING PROGRAM

GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS 2024

CAMP OPERATION FROM 6/16/24 to 9/22/24

The Lassen Park Foundation (LPF) and Lassen Volcanic National Park have introduced youth (ages 6 to 18 years) to the joys of camping in a national park since 1996. This summer enrichment program provides facilities and resources for youth groups from Northern California and beyond to camp in the park, learn and explore. Facilitating outdoor learning and environmental education provides a catalyst for change in the lives of a new generation of national park stewards.

In partnership with Lassen Volcanic National Park, LPF provides grant funding to nonprofit youth organizations, government entities, and schools to facilitate camping trips for underserved youth.

Organizations that do not require funding should not submit a grant application. They may apply to use the Volcano Adventure Camp through a separate, online reservation application that will be available March 31, 2024.

YOUTH CAMP PROGRAM GOALS

1. Educational excursions provide opportunities for participants to step into Lassen's rich natural and cultural history.
2. Through exploration of Lassen Volcanic's mountain ecosystems, participants discover their connection to the complex web of life.
3. Specially designed ranger-led activities emphasizing teamwork and cooperation enable participants to safely experience the great outdoors.
4. Participants experience the reward of outdoor activities that encourage healthier lifestyles.
5. Unforgettable experiences in the great outdoors foster stewardship for our national parks.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

For a group trip to be considered eligible they must meet the following guidelines:

1. Group must be a 501(c)3 non-profit, or public school, or government entity, or have a fiscal sponsor.
2. Group size should be a minimum of 6, maximum of 40, and be comprised primarily of youth between the ages of 6 – 18.
3. Camping trips must be a minimum of three days (two nights) and not to exceed seven days (six nights).
4. Camping trip must be scheduled between June 16, 2024 – September 22, 2024.

ONLINE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS – BEFORE BEGINNING

Youth Camping Grant applications are now available as a form online. Before beginning an application, Applicants need to visit the LPF website (www.lassenparkfoundation.org) and download a copy of the Narrative Questions. They will need to complete these and have the completed document ready to upload on the form along with a copy of the applying organization's certificate of insurance.

Applicants will also need to know their organization's taxpayer ID or their fiscal sponsor's taxpayer ID. Additional information required is the organization's estimated annual budget amount, estimated camping trip costs, and how much funding the organization is applying for (maximum \$1,000).

For trip request, Applicants should know their first and second choices for camping dates (3 - 7 days), and how many adults and youth in the group (group must be primarily comprised of youth). Please note that online applications cannot be saved mid-progress. They must be completed and submitted during the same session; applicants should have all necessary information compiled before applying.

VOLCANO ADVENTURE CAMP (VAC) – FACILITY RULES

To the extent possible, all 2024 youth groups will be housed in the Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC) facility. The VAC will be open from June – September, weather permitting. The VAC buildings are grouped into two sections with each section consisting of five tent cabins, one group fire pit, and one screened picnic pavilion. There are also four tent sites for small groups, which require the groups to bring their own tents and may not include access to the picnic pavilions. The current maximum capacity for the facility is 104 people (80 people in tent cabins and 24 in tent sites).

MEDIUM & LARGE GROUPS- TENT CABINS (15 – 80 PEOPLE)

- 1 tent cabin = 8 people total
- Medium group capacity (5 tent cabins) = 5 adult/supervisors & 35 youth (40 people total)

SMALL GROUPS- TENT SITES (6 – 14 PEOPLE)

- Tent site capacity = 1 adult/supervisor & 6 youth (seven people total)
- 1 small group capacity (2 tent sites) = 2 adult/supervisors & 12 youth (14 people total)

BACKPACKING GROUPS

There are groups that prefer to go on overnight backpack trips through the park. These groups will not be utilizing the VAC facility. These groups are still eligible for the program and grant funding, provided they still meet the minimum group size of six (6) and a maximum of ten (10) unless a larger group splits to travel and camp separately in the backcountry.

ACTIVITIES & COORDINATION

Groups will be required to schedule their camping trip with a park ranger who will guide them through the process. Each group will be required to participate in a ranger-led orientation upon arrival and a ranger-led closing discussion at the end of their trip. Failure to attend either the orientation or closing discussion may eliminate the group from eligibility of future funding.

Additional ranger-led activities will be offered to groups during the planning phases of the trip (at no additional cost). The Foundation highly encourages groups to participate in additional ranger-led educational and exploration activities during their camping trip.

TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION

SUPERVISION — Camping groups are responsible for the organization of the trip and must maintain their own supervision of youth. To that end, the VAC requires one adult supervisor be housed in each tent cabin. The Foundation does not provide for supervisory personnel. The Foundation will assist in coordination of plans with park personnel.

TRANSPORTATION –Due to the size of the park, many available activities are not within walking distance from the Volcano Adventure Camp. Organizations are highly encouraged to provide their own private transportation available during their camping trips.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

All applications must be submitted electronically through our online web portal by **Friday, March 31st, 2024**.

Please direct any questions to:

Ken Freigher, Executive Director
530.378.5199
Ken@lassenparkfoundation.org

GRANT AMOUNTS & USE OF FUNDS

Organizations can be granted up to \$1,000 per group trip. If an organization's project includes more than one group trip, a separate application must be submitted for each group trip, and the groups must schedule their trips at separate times.

Once an application has been approved, the amount of funds awarded will be based in part on the size of the group applying. Additionally, use of the Volcano Adventure Camp tent cabins will be reserved first for groups of 15 or more. Small groups may be housed in the Volcano Adventure Camp tent pads. A significant reduction (15% or more) of attendees from the application to final actual attendance numbers may affect eligibility for future LPF grants.

Grant funds may be used only to offset camping trip direct costs including transportation, food, equipment costs or rental, and camping trip personnel costs. Funds may NOT be used for other administrative overhead costs including (but are not limited to) fiscal sponsor fees, check cashing fees, insurance, medical testing, staff and/or volunteer training, or mileage reimbursement.

INSURANCE — Groups are required to submit their evidence of liability insurance coverage with their application.

PHOTO RELEASES – It is optional for grant recipients to submit photos of their trip experience as part of their closing grant documentation. Photos submitted will become the property of the National Park Service and LPF and will be used for educational and program promotional purposes. Groups that elect to submit photos of those willing to have their photos included in these activities. Group leaders should share this information with their participant's legal guardians as photo release waivers will need to be signed.

GRANT AWARD SCHEDULE - Applications will be reviewed during the month of April, with awards announced by April 30, 2024. Summer camping trips will be scheduled between June - September (weather permitting).