
Life Threatening Allergy Form

For:

We are not a special needs camp. If your child has a life-threatening allergy, this is a serious consideration. Although we try to accommodate as many campers as possible, we also have to look at each unique situation and make a decision in the best interest of the individual's safety, the other campers as a whole, and our staff's abilities. Merriwood has the right to refuse acceptance to a camper if Merriwood does not feel comfortable with the severity of the life-threatening allergy. However, if the camper is accepted, it is still ultimately the responsibility of the parent/guardian to determine if Merriwood is the best environment for their child with a life-threatening allergy.

Campers, Serve Team volunteers, staff members, retreat guests, or any other parties present at Merriwood must realize that Merriwood in no way can guarantee that we will be a completely nut-free environment or bee-free environment, nor can Merriwood Christian Camp guarantee that individuals will never come in contact with a life-threatening allergen.

Any camper who has been prescribed Epinephrine MUST bring the medication to camp with them AND provide us with the doctor's treatment plan. You may upload a copy in the Document Center, or you may mail or email the treatment plan.

Please indicate any life-threatening allergies your child has. If the allergy is FOOD RELATED, please indicate the allergy here and also complete the section below.

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peanut | <input type="checkbox"/> Soy | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Nut | <input type="checkbox"/> Seafood | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bee Sting | <input type="checkbox"/> Sesame | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egg (*answer additional question below) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit | |

If "other," please list:

Please list the reaction that may occur if camper comes into contact with the allergen:

Please indicate the treatment you would like us to give the camper if an allergic reaction should occur:

Has the camper ever had to use an Epi-pen or similar medication?

- Yes No

If "YES" please provide more details concerning when this happened, the cause of anaphylaxis, treatment you gave, and the outcome of treatment.

FOOD-RELATED ALLERGIES

For: _____

If the camper has a known, life-threatening allergy to NUTS, please note:

Merriwood does not cook foods in peanut oil. MCC's breakfast, lunch, and supper meals, and desserts do not have nuts as a main ingredient. However, there are a few desserts with ingredient labels that say, 'may contain nuts' or 'processed in a factory that also processes nuts.'

If your child is not allowed to consume the dessert for allergy reasons, the camper will be offered a safe alternative dessert.

If the allergen is not listed as an ingredient, but the label says MAY CONTAIN (allergen that you have indicated above):

- My child MAY consume the product
- My child MAY NOT consume the product. (In these cases the camper will be offered an alternate dessert.)

If the allergen is not listed as an ingredient, but the label says PROCESSED IN A FACTORY THAT ALSO PROCESSES (allergen that you have indicated above):

- My child MAY consume the product
- My child MAY NOT consume the product. (In these cases the camper will be offered an alternate dessert.)

If allergy is to EGG,

- My child can have egg if its baked into the product (like a cookie or brownie).
- My child may not have anything with egg on the ingredient label at all.
- Other (Explain below.)

Please list any other information we need to know about your child's allergy or any details concerning the ingredient label.

CAMP AND PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Please download a PDF of this policy to keep for your reference: [Life Threatening Allergy Policy](#)

CAMPER PARENT MUST MAKE MERRIWOOD TEAM AWARE: It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian/retreat guest/camper/volunteer to ensure that Merriwood is aware if there is a life- threatening allergy, specifically those that could cause an anaphylactic reaction such as a nut allergy, bee sting allergy, Asian Tiger Mosquito allergy, or other. In our summer camp program, Merriwood will make sure that this information is passed along to the camp counselor or appropriate Merriwood staff.

- Merriwood requires that this policy be completed, signed returned to our office no less than two weeks before the camper's arrival to ensure necessary data is in our system, etc.
- During the camp week, it is our policy that those with life threatening allergies will be wear a yellow wristband so the allergy is easily recognizable to our team members.

For: _____

ALLERGIC PERSON MUST BE AWARE OF ENVIRONMENT: Those with a life-threatening allergy must be aware that life-threatening, high-risk allergens are present in our camp facility.

- Campers, Serve Week volunteers, staff members, retreat guests, and all parties present at Merriwood must realize that Merriwood in no way can guarantee that we will be a completely allergy-free environment.
- MCC does not serve food in the dining hall or at canteen that has NUTS in the main ingredient label. However, some items may be processed in a factory that also processes nuts and/or may contain nuts.
- As of Summer Camp 2022 season, MCC's camp details ask parents not to send items containing nuts with their child to camp or in care packages. However, MCC cannot guarantee a completely nut-free facility.
- Please feel free to ask for a listing of our canteen items in case you want to direct your child (or their counselor) as to what things your camper may be allowed to have. Otherwise, the camper will need to read the labels (and staff can assist them). The allergic camper must commit to not eating anything that that says, 'may contain ____,' or 'manufactured in a facility that also manufactures ____' if that pertains to them.
- Keep in mind that menu or canteen items are subject to change without notice should there be supply chain issues.
- Concerning bees, wasps, hornets, etc.: The allergic guest must realize that, while we take care of any bee nests we are aware of, we cannot know where any and all bee nests are located and cannot ultimately keep all bees at bay.

AVOIDANCE AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY -

- The person who is allergic must recognize that they are first and foremost responsible for their health and safety and must personally do all they can to avoid allergens that could cause anaphylaxis. The allergic must bring two unexpired EpiPens or Auvi-Q's to camp with them. The allergic will turn in the epinephrine to the Medication Table at check-in on the first day. The Epinephrine will be kept in the first aid room (easily accessible by staff members as well and located in the dining hall building).
- The allergic person must commit to wash their hands with warm water, soap, and paper towel before eating or drinking anything every time, recognizing that hand sanitizers do not remove peanut/nut oils. The allergic person must not share food, drink, utensils, straws, or other such personal items with anyone else. Carelessness on the part of the allergic person will be taken seriously and could be cause for dismissal from camp without refund.
- The allergic person agrees to inform a staff member immediately if they are exposed to any known life-threatening allergies (whether on purpose or accidentally). The allergic person also agrees to inform a staff member immediately even if they think they may have potentially been exposed to the known life-threatening allergy.

ACTION - If there is a suspected or positive exposure to a life-threatening allergen, Merriwood will follow your anaphylaxis emergency care plan if it is provided to us. If we don't have this on file for your camper, the following protocol will be followed:

1. If the individual is not having severe difficulty breathing:

- We will give correct dosage of Benadryl for the individual's age/weight.
- We will document the time the Benadryl was given and watch the individual for 4 hours.
- We will notify the parent/guardian of the possible exposure, to discuss treatment.

Because a reaction can still occur up to four hours later, MCC will discuss with parent/guardian how the individual will be watched for that four-hour period, either at camp, with the parent/guardian, or in a hospital. This may require the camper going home to be the parent's care for this time period. If this is not possible, and if deemed necessary, the individual may be transported to the hospital and assessed for at least four hours.

2. If the individual exhibits wheezing, is in distress/anxious, is having difficulty breathing, is blue around the lips/fingernails, etc.:

- The first Epinephrine will be administered by injecting it into the outer, meaty part of thigh (can be injected through thin layer of clothing if needed) and held in place for a 10 second count then massaging the area afterwards and discarding the needle safely. MCC will call 911 as soon as possible if an epi-pen is injected.
- MCC will take note of the exact time the Epinephrine was administered.
- MCC will call the parent/guardian as soon as possible. If symptoms continue even after 10 minutes, MCC will give the second Epinephrine. and continue to wait for EMS.

I (parent/guardian) have read this policy and agree to do my part, particularly concerning making Merriwood Christian Camp aware of any life-threatening allergies and training my child to avoid allergens as well as make staff aware if contact was made with a life-threatening allergen. Signing here indicates I have read the Life Threatening Allergy Policy as well as read and signed Merriwood Christian Camp's Medical Wavier and am in agreement with all statements in both documents.

Life Threatening Allergy Form (continued)

For: _____

I agree.

I (parent/guardian) have read this policy and agree to do my part, particularly concerning making Merriwood Christian Camp aware of any life-threatening allergies and training my child to avoid allergens as well as make staff aware if contact was made with a life-threatening allergen. Signing here indicates I have read Merriwood's Life Threatening Allergy Policy as well as read and signed Merriwood Christian Camp's Medical Waiver and am in agreement with all statements in both documents.

Signature _____ Date _____