LIFESKILLS CONFERENCE FAQ's

Staying at the Patton Campus, you'll be in a college dormitory-type setting, with 2, 3, 4, or in some cases 6 people in your room. Each person will have a closet and either their own or share a chest of drawers. You will be provided with clean sheets and blankets. Private bathrooms are located in each room. Males and females will be housed in separate buildings. Due to continuing COVID-19 precautions, a set of bunk beds is assigned to only one person. Roommates can be requested on your Registration Form. If no roommate is requested, Conference staff will assign roommates based on age and school district.

The pictures in this packet are intended to give an idea of the typical furniture and room set up in the different rooms at Patton Campus: Single beds, bunk beds, chests of drawers, nightstands, and upholstered chairs furnish each room. Staff rooms are on each floor of each building.

You need to bring with you the following:

Comfortable clothing for six days—all casual, with shorts, T-shirts, jeans, etc., with appropriate logos/wording. You will not need dressy clothes during the week. You should bring rain gear, sneakers (flip flops, slides, or other heel-strap sandals are okay for pool time or evening time), and a hat. Because of the very active nature of the week's program, it's preferred to not wear any type of hanging jewelry.



Necessary medications:

Staff will supervise the administration of all prescription drugs and they will remain onsite for the duration of the program. Medications must be left with staff at registration time and should remain in the original prescription packaging, if not an OTC med. If you have any medical diagnosis or physical challenges that may affect your participation, if possible please list them on your medical release so staff are aware of your needs or speak with the Conference Director upon arrival.

Please make sure to come with the above items, items that are necessary for everyday care and functioning. Be sure to label all your belongings with your name.

Toiletries:

You should bring soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, and any other necessary items. Towels and washcloths will be provided.



Other Essentials and Suggested Items:

- *Bathing suit and pool towels
- *Sports equipment such as a basketball, tennis racquet, soccer ball
- *Sunglasses and sunscreen lotion
- *A water bottle for outdoor activities

Policy on valuables:

If bringing valuables, it is at your own risk. Rooms are monitored but not locked during the day. If you have concerns about this, you may deposit valuables with conference staff for safekeeping. It is not necessary to bring any money.

Cell Phones/Technology/Devices Policy

Cell phones and other technology devices are to be used only during free time and breaks by all participants (staff and students). Staff and students may carry their cell phones and technology devices with them. The conference staff and Masonic Youth Foundation are not responsible for any lost, misplaced, or damaged technology items. It is recommended that all cell phones and technology devices are left in your room. If a facilitator uses a cell phone or asks a student to use a cell phone to take a picture for the benefit of the group, that is at their discretion.

What not to bring:

Do not bring alcohol, firearms, weapons of any kind, illegal substances, or fireworks with you. Do not bring martial arts equipment, slingshots, knives, skateboards, water guns, or tobacco of *any form*. Possession of any of the above will result in immediate removal from the Conference.



No Tobacco Use Policy

The Masonic Villages of Pennsylvania and the Masonic Conference Center – Patton Campus in Elizabethtown are strictly non-smoking facilities. No smoking is permitted anywhere on our campus at any time, whether by conference participants, employees, volunteers, or guests. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMPORTANT INFO FOR PARENTS

WHERE WILL MY CHILD BE?

Your child will be staying at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. This campus is adjacent to the Masonic Village. Activities will be supervised 24 hours a day, by a staff of trained facilitators who are conducting the educational and recreational activities at the Conference.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD BE DOING?

Your child will be participating in group discussions, team-building exercises, large group presentations, and other educational activities. Additionally, conferees will have the option of participating in sports, swimming, board games, walks, and relaxation activities, as well as other structured social times, etc.



The program is tightly scheduled to keep all the participants active, learning, and excited about the program. Our goal is to give your child an exciting week of learning activities, challenging programs, and new friendships.

WHAT ABOUT MEALS?

Participants will receive 3 meals per day, plus an evening snack. Beverages are available throughout each day. Any special dietary needs must be indicated on your Registration form as well as communicated to the staff at Check-in.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL CARE AND INSURANCE?

Emergency medical care by qualified professionals is available at a local healthcare facility. If your son or daughter should require emergency medical care, we will contact and communicate with parents and legal guardians immediately. The document labeled, "Authorization for Medical Care", must be completed and filed prior to admission to the conference. This is for quick and proper handling of medical concerns if they arise.

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD ARRIVE?

Your child should arrive at the Patton Campus between 1:00 PM and 2:30 PM on the first day of the conference, July 16, 2023.

WHEN SHOULD I COME TO PICK UP MY CHILD?

Families are encouraged to join us at 1:30 PM on the Friday of the conference for the closing session. The Conferees will share the activities and lessons of the week. The formal closing, including a slide show of the week's events, will be held from approximately 2 to 3 PM, after which all conferees will be dismissed. *Please do not ask to dismiss your child earlier; as this should be one of the highlights of the week, and they will be disappointed if you require them to miss it!*

HOW DO I CONTACT MY CHILD?



While there will be small breaks throughout the day, meal times are the best time to talk on the phone or take breaks. Meal times and a small break afterward take place from 8:30am to 9:00am, Noon - 1:00pm, and between 6:00pm - 7:00pm.

You may contact your child by mail:

PA Masonic Youth Foundation 1244 Bainbridge Road; Elizabethtown, PA 17022 Attn: (Your child's name), *LifeSkills* Conference

(If a letter arrives after the Conference is completed, we will forward it to the addressee.)

The PA Masonic Youth Foundation office can relay messages from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, M-F. An answering machine after hours will be checked each night at midnight. The numbers are **(800) 266-8424** (In Pennsylvania Only), or **(717) 367-1536**.

ONLY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

(717) 367-1121 is the Masonic Village's internal phone system. Dial "0" to get the Operator and ask for a Security Officer to deliver an EMERGENCY message to Patton Campus.