

## WHAT'S IN "ACA" FOR ME?

The American Camp Association (ACA), as a community of camp and youth professionals, is dedicated to changing lives through the camp experience. As the world's leading camp resource and advocacy group, ACA has worked for nearly 100 years to bring the benefits of camp and camp-related youth development programs to generations of young people and adults. ACA provides many things both at a national level and at a local "section" level. Below are just a few highlights.

### LOCAL

- **News in Brief** – Biweekly news brief
  - **Website** – [www.acaindiana.org](http://www.acaindiana.org)
  - **Lending Library** – Books, multimedia and other resources available to borrow
  - **Scholarship Program**- Financial assistance for professional development
  - **Awards** – Recognizing contributions by members
  - **Member Directory** – Listing of all section members
  - **Camp Directory** – Available to the public seeking accredited camps within the section
  - **Professional Development** – Section conference, cluster events, training and other education opportunities
  - **Legislation Watch** – Monitoring state/section-specific legislative issues
  - **Accreditation/Standards Team** – Qualified visitors, accreditation mentors, previsits, and training
- **Collaborations** – Partnerships with organizations to share resources for mutual benefit
  - **Partnerships** – Partnering with camp fairs to bring parents the information they need

### NATIONAL

- **Levels of membership** – Individual, Business, Camp (Accredited, Affiliate) [www.acacamps.org/membership](http://www.acacamps.org/membership)  
Discounts available to students, retirees, and visitors
- **Camp Knowledge Center** – An electronically searchable, web-based database that puts camp-related information at your fingertips [www.acacamps.org/knowledge](http://www.acacamps.org/knowledge)
- **Professional Development** – National/regional/section conferences, e-Institute online courses, Basic Camp Directors Course, New Director Orientation, ACA Standards Course and more [www.acacamps.org/education](http://www.acacamps.org/education)
- **Bookstore** – Resources for staff training, youth development, behavior management, outdoor skills, risk management, programming and operational needs, and other related materials at [www.acabookstore.org](http://www.acabookstore.org)
- **Products & Services** – ACA partners with business affiliates and others to provide services to ACA camps at a reduced cost such as athletic & recreational equipment, payroll

*For a membership packet or additional information, please contact us!*

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processing and HR-related services,  
credit card processing, food, paper and  
chemical products, bulk purchase  
service, commercial  
mowers/tractors/hand-held equipment

[www.acacamps.org/partners](http://www.acacamps.org/partners)

- **Camping Magazine** – ACA's bimonthly publication

[www.acacamps.org/campmag](http://www.acacamps.org/campmag)

- **The CampLine** – Newsletter on important regulatory, legal, legislative, and accreditation-related issues

[www.acacamps.org/campline](http://www.acacamps.org/campline)

- **Inside ACA** – Bimonthly online newsletter with latest news and important developments for the camp community

[www.acacamps.org/inside/](http://www.acacamps.org/inside/)

- **Affiliated Groups** – Association of Independent Camps, The Not-For-Profit Council, Religiously Affiliated Camps

- **Crisis Hotline** – Twenty-four-hour access to ACA staff trained in crisis management

- **Camp Professionals Discussion Group** – Listserv discussion group for networking and sharing

- **Message Boards** –  
<http://bb.acacamps.org/cgi-bin/ultimatebb.cgi>

- **Staff Recruitment Assistance** – Job networking (post your resume), staff recruitment program (access to resumes and post a position), local advertising, list of job fairs, and international staffing organizations [www.acacamps.org/jobs](http://www.acacamps.org/jobs)

- **Parent Resources** – *Find A Camp* searchable database in English and Spanish (A camp listing in Find-A-Camp includes an annual email from ACA with information about web traffic to that camp's site for that year), articles, tips and checklists as tools for families.

[www.campparents.org](http://www.campparents.org)

- **Accreditation** – Educational program for camp owners and directors in the administration of key aspects of program quality and health and safety of campers and staff. It establishes guidelines for policies, procedures, and practices.

[www.acacamps.org/accreditation](http://www.acacamps.org/accreditation)

- **Public Policy** – Legislation and public policy work (e.g., public lands, PROTECTScreen)

[www.acacamps.org/publicpolicy](http://www.acacamps.org/publicpolicy)

- **Research** – Ongoing research and trends (outcomes, healthy camp, business operations) [www.acacamps.org/research](http://www.acacamps.org/research)

- **Media Center** – National media program, Media Toolkit, CapWiz (National/local media contact list)

[www.acacamps.org/media\\_center](http://www.acacamps.org/media_center)

- **Use of Logo** – Ability to describe self to public as accredited by ACA

- **Camp Operations tools** – Outcomes and program quality tools, health forms /operational forms and tools, counselor training materials, courses, events

- **Partnerships** – Cooperative educational endorsements from related associations (e.g., NRPA)

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