



2026 GRANT INFORMATION

For COCA Members ONLY

Application Open for Submission: March 9 – April 6, 2026

Overview & Requirements

Care Camps Foundation is very pleased to provide our annual grant opportunity this year for members of the Children's Oncology Camping Association (COCA) to apply for funding. Your camps are why we exist and we are so proud to work for you all year long to provide as much funding as possible to your camp.

Our grant application will be open for submission: March 9-April 6, 2026, *for COCA Members ONLY*.

Requirements to apply for a Care Camps Foundation grant are as follows:

- Your camp or parent organization must be a member of COCA and dues must be paid for the current membership year.
- Your camp must be currently engaged or accredited with COCA's Gold Ribbon Accreditation Program.
- A member or members of your camp staff must have participated in COCA's professional education programs in 2025, i.e., COCAcon, webinars, staff training summit, and/or online learning center courses.
- **NOTE: Beginning next year, to apply for 2027 grant funding, your camp's attendance at COCAcon once every three years will be an additional requirement. So, if your camp has not attended COCAcon in the past three years, please make sure a representative attends the 2026 COCAcon.**

These requirements are to ensure your camp's commitment to uphold the highest standards for medical oversight, quality, safety and care for the children and families you serve.

For questions or more information about COCA's membership, Gold Ribbon Accreditation Program, and professional education programs, contact Jennifer Amundsen, COCA Executive Director, at jennifer.amundsen@cocai.org.

2026 Grant Funding

Care Camps Foundation acknowledges the complex environments of your camp that require specialized staff, medical resources, and thoughtful programming – and we are committed to providing COCA members consistent and reliable funding each year. Additionally, with our funding, we want to give your camps the flexibility to respond to real needs, maintain medical oversight, expand access, and plan for the future.

This year, Care Camps Foundation is providing unrestricted grant funding that can be used to cover general operating expenses, such as salaries, rent, materials, etc., and anything else that is related to your camp's pediatric oncology services and programs.

Please note that all grant funding awarded to your camp must be used solely for your pediatric oncology camp program/s this calendar year and cannot be carried forward in the following year or used for other programs that your camp may offer.

- **For camps who did not apply for Care Camps funding in 2025 (new or existing members), refer to pages 3 & 4 in this document.** You will be completing a different and separate application than those camps who applied last year. See the details provided and *it is strongly recommended to gather the required information before you begin filling out the application.*

2026 Grant Terms & Follow Up

In addition to completing the grant application, the items below must be provided to Care Camps Foundation in order to receive funding. **All documentation should be emailed to: info@carecamps.org.**

- **Submit the following five documents from your camp no later than April 6, 2026:**
 1. Your camp's most recent IRS 990 form or their Canadian T3010
 2. Certificate of liability insurance stating the current amount of liability coverage
 3. P&L (profit and loss) financial statement for 2025 (if final numbers are not available yet, then drafts may be submitted)
 4. Projected operational budget for 2026
 5. Financial statements for 2025, if available (or 2024, if 2025 is not yet available)
- **After receiving funding by or before May 31, 2026:**
 - **On your camp's website, highlight Care Camps Foundation as a supporter and add a link to the [Care Camps Foundation website](#).**
 - **Follow Care Camps Foundation on social media:** Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Please like, tag, and share with us as we grow our social sphere to increase funding for camps.
 - **Insert the [Care Camps Foundation logo](#) on any and all marketing and communication materials within your organization where applicable – and *please send us the materials for our records.***
- **During your camp sessions:**
 - **Add the [Care Camps Foundation logo](#) to your promotional materials as a sponsor when possible.**
- **By or before September 18, 2026:**
 - **NEW! Submit two short "Thank You" videos (10–15 seconds each)** from your camp that Care Camps Foundation may use in our marketing and communications efforts.
 - Record campers, counselors, staff, volunteers, etc., simply saying "Thank you!" We are not looking for a thank-you directed specifically to Care Camps Foundation, but rather a general message of gratitude that we can share with our donors and supporters.
 - **Submit two impact photos** from your camp that Care Camps Foundation can use with our marketing and communications:
 - Choose three impact photos, preferably of the child alone, with siblings, or of the family. *Please send high resolution photos.*
 - Include a signed photo release for each impact photo submitted.
 - Provide a brief description of what occurred when that photo was taken, i.e., age, first name, and cancer diagnosis (if feasible).
 - If possible, include a quote related to each impact photo (Example: child sitting on large dinosaur; quote is "The best part of camp is the dino nuggets, Trevor, age 10, Leukemia").
 - Care Camps Foundation will credit your camp's name and location when using the photo if possible.
 - ***Please email ALL impact photos, photo releases, and additional information to info@carecamps.org.***

- **By or before December 18, 2026:**
 - **Submit an end-of-year report from your camp.** We will send a survey to all the grant recipients **by mid-November** for your camp to report your accomplishments, outcomes, and activities in 2025.

Grant Timeline

- **March 9:** Grant application open for submission.
- **March 17:** COCA/Care Camps Foundation webinar #1 for potential applicants.
3:00pm EST – 4:00pm EST: [Register](#)
- **March 26:** COCA/Care Camps Foundation webinar #2 for potential applicants.
5:00pm EST – 6:00pm EST: [Register](#)
- **April 7:** Grant application closes for submission.
- **May 4 – May 8:** Camps notified via email re: grant awards.
- **May 22:** Awarded funds will be distributed via electronic transfer to U.S. camps and via check to camps located in Canada.

Grant Application Preparation

WHO CAN APPLY:

- **Care Camps Foundation funding is provided only to Pediatric Oncology Camping Programs (POCP).** For the purposes of this grant application, a “Pediatric Oncology Camping Program” (POCP) is:
An entity that operates experiential camp programs for children living with cancer (ages 6-18) and their family members. Programs and services may include some, or all, of the following: day camp, overnight camp, family retreats, virtual camp experiences, as well as other similar camp-like experiences.
- **Organizations that operate camping or other programs for other populations** (such as children with non-cancer, life-limiting illnesses, or disabilities; adults with cancer; children with parents or siblings who have cancer) in addition to a POCP, **may apply for funds ONLY for the POCP.** *All information on the application must pertain ONLY to the POCP.*
- **Funding is available only to members of the Children’s Oncology Camping Association (COCA).** If the camp, or parent organization, is not a member, you can apply for membership on the [COCA website](#). Once your membership has been accepted, you can apply for Care Camps Foundation funding.

INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION:

- **Geographic Location** – Latitude and Longitude of all camp locations of your pediatric oncology camps programs.
- **Programs and Services** (**Note: Camps that did not provide programs in 2025 will not be asked to answer these questions.**)
 - **Total Number of each of the following campers** that participated in any of the POCP programs and services in 2025. *Include all programs and services. COUNT each person ONLY ONCE* no matter how many days/nights they participated in camping programs.
 - Children living with cancer or in remission
 - Siblings

- Parents
- Other family members
- Others not listed above
- **Total Number of each of the following camping programs** provided to any and all of the people listed above.
 - **Days of in-person day camp** only (do not include two-day weekend programs or virtual camp days)
 - **Sessions of Overnight Residential Camp** (in person and sleeping overnight)
 - **Sessions of Sibling Camp**
 - **Number of Family Retreats**
 - **Days of Bereavement Camp Programs**
 - **Days of In-hospital Camp Programs**
 - **Days of Virtual Camp Programs** **Number of Camp-in-a-Box Kits** distributed

➤ **Financial Information**

- **Total operating expenses** expended in 2025 by the individual POCP named in the application
- **Additional income from each of the following:** Foundations, *other than Care Camps Foundation*, Individuals, Corporations, Events, and Others.
- **The average cost for your camp** to provide **one session of overnight camp to one child**.

TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE ONLINE APPLICATION (via SurveyMonkey):

- **Use the NEXT button to move through the application.** Use the PREV button to go back to any prior page. Do not use the browser forward (>) or back (<) buttons.
- **For any numerical or currency (dollar) responses:** Enter WHOLE NUMBERS ONLY, without commas, periods, or currency signs. If you enter incorrectly, you will not be moved to the next page, and an error message will appear above each question where the format is incorrect. You must correct the format in order to proceed.
- **You can exit the application and return at any time** (even after completion) to review or change your answers. You can leave and return as many times as you wish before the application closes on April 6, 2026.
 - *To leave the application before it is completed*, click on the **EXIT** button in the top right corner of the page. To re-enter the application, click on the original link (in the email) you used to get started. The application will open on the page where you exited.
 - *To return to the application any time* after you click the DONE button at the end (which submits the application), click on the original link (in the email) you used to get started. The application will open at the beginning with all your original, saved, answers shown. You can page through the application and change any of your answers. Then you **MUST** continue to the end and again click the DONE button to save your changes.

CONTACT

For questions, contact Lexi Bickford, Care Camps Foundation Program Director, at Lexi@carecamps.org.