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Campership Application and Instructions

Nomination

The Turtle's Trail Foundation (TTF) welcomes all nominations for its campership awards and encourages parents, teachers, neighbors, and friends to nominate girls between the ages of 6 and 16 years old.

Criteria for Awards

The TTF looks to award girls with demonstrated financial need an opportunity to attend sleep-away camp. In addition to a financial need, we look for applicants who will both benefit from spending time at camp and be able to contribute to a camp community in a meaningful way. Typically, the TTF awards camperships for three and a half week camp sessions and does not generally provide funding for full season.

Application

A Campership Application Form may be downloaded from the TTF website.

We require one application be completed for *each* nominee, even if nominees are members of the same family. In addition, we require a letter of recommendation for each nominee from a non-family member adult who knows the nominee well, such as a teacher, scout leader, or coach.

The application has three parts. Your application must be complete with all information provided and reference received before the TTF will consider it. Please do not omit any of the required information or the application may not be considered.

In Part I we ask for some brief biographical information on the nominator (which can be a parent), the nominee, and her parents. In an effort to award as many camperships as possible, the TTF often awards partial grants, and we require that you specify the estimated amount of financial assistance needed to fund your nominee's summer camp experience and provide all requested financial information on the nominee's family.

In Part II we ask you to comment on (1) why your nominee should be considered for a campership and (2) any financial or personal hardships she or her family may be currently experiencing. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers; rather, we hope to get some insight on your nominee, her character and interests, as well as what you hope she will accomplish at camp and why a campership is needed.

Part III needs to be completed by a non-family member adult who knows the nominee and can comment on her character, personal history, and why she would benefit from a summer camp experience.

The deadline for applications for the summer season is March 30. Applications received after this date may not be considered.

The TTF requests that applications be submitted through its website, www.turtlestrailfoundation.org. The TTF Board of Directors will acknowledge and review all applications, which will be kept in confidence. We will contact you if any additional information, including further income verification, is needed.

Camperships will be awarded by April 30. TTF will notify you as to whether a campership has been awarded. You will receive further information about the amount of the campership, and any tuition owed, directly from the camp.

You must also submit an application and be accepted by the camp as a prerequisite to receiving a TTF campership award.

The deadline for potential recipients to accept their camperships is May 15. Any camperships not accepted by this date may be forfeited and awarded to other applicants.

SUBMISSION OF FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN

We require that you submit a copy of your prior year's federal income tax return. For example, if you are applying for a campership award for the summer of 2015, we require a copy of your 2014 federal tax return. Tax returns can be mailed to our post office box address (where they will be picked up by TTF's Treasurer) or faxed to a secure fax line at 215-248-2031, where they will be picked up by TTF's President. All tax returns will be kept strictly confidential, shared only with the TTF Board of Directors and shredded after all campership award decisions have been made. **PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL TAX RETURN DOCUMENTS TO US. TTF CANNOT ASSURE THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF EMAILED DOCUMENTS.**