



Campership Application Guidelines

Nomination

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

Criteria for Awards

TTF looks to award nominees with demonstrated financial need an opportunity to attend sleep-away camp (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. TTF awards camperships for ~two to four week camp sessions and does not provide funding for a full camping season. In an effort to award as many camperships as possible, TTF often awards partial camperships and requires that you specify the estimated amount of the tuition you can contribute towards your nominee's camp experience.

Application Requirements:

1. **Application:** For each individual nominee, one application needs to be completed
 - a. The application is broken into 3 sections, asking for information on:
 - i. Nominee (candidate for a campership)
 - ii. Nominator (person nominating the candidate; can also be the parent of the nominee)
 - iii. Parent/Guardian information (Parent/Guardian of the nominee)
 1. Federal Income Tax returns (W2 and/or 1040) are required to be submitted. See note below for details on submission and confidentiality of this documentation.
2. **Letter of Recommendation:** A letter of recommendation from a non-family member (teacher, extracurricular leader, coach, etc) who can comment on the nominee's character, personal history, and why they might benefit from the experience
 - a. Submitted separately from the application by the recommender
 - b. We ask the recommender to describe how the gift of camp may be beneficial and how this nominee may contribute to a great camp experience
3. **Completeness:** The application must be complete with all the information requested before the TTF Campership Committee will consider it
 - a. NOTE: When filling out the application there are no "right" or "wrong" answers; rather, we hope to get some insight on your nominee, their character and interests, as well as what you hope they will accomplish at camp and why a campership award is needed.
 - b. The TTF Campership Committee 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.

Important dates:

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

Camperships will be awarded by April 30. TTF will notify you if a campership has been awarded to your nominee. You will receive further information about camp tuition owed directly from the camp.

The deadline for potential campership recipients to accept their award is May 15. On or before this date an application to the camp of choice must be accepted before receiving a TTF campership award. Any camperships not accepted by this date may be forfeited and awarded to other applicants.

Note on Submission of Federal Income Tax Returns:

We require that you submit a copy of your prior year's federal income tax return. If applying for a campership in a given year, please provide your redacted prior year's tax return. If this is not available, please provide all prior year's W-2(s) and 1099 forms which should be available to you by January 31st of any given year. All tax returns will be kept strictly confidential, shared only with the TTF Board of Directors. We encourage you to submit a redacted version of your tax return via email: omitting all Personal Identifiable Information (PII) such as your social security number(s), account numbers or the like. If you would prefer to mail in the tax documents through USPS you may do so by sending them to TTF's post office box. TTF does not assure the confidentiality of emailed documents.