



Ascendigo Summer Adventures Policies and Procedures

PREFACE

Ascendigo Autism Services, Inc. is a seasonal 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. In the Summer we offer Residential camp services from June to August. Our staff to camper ratio meets one-to-one. This document describes the policies and procedures as they pertain to our child care license and residential camp program; Our permanent office is in Carbondale, Colorado. We use public and private facilities throughout the Roaring Fork Valley to implement our daily activities.

1. THE CENTERS PURPOSE AND ITS PHILOSOPHY ON PARTICIPANT CARE

Ascendigo's purpose is to provide a positively safe and fun learning environment to teach adventure sports, social and life skills to young people with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Our Philosophy on participant care is to use positive behavior support and apply developmental understanding of ASD.

2. THE AGES OF CHILDREN/PARTICIPANTS ACCEPTED

Ascendigo accepts children/participants 7 years old and up.

3. SERVICES OFFERED FOR SPECIAL NEEDS PARTICIPANTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADA

Services offered: Sports Instruction designed for people with ASD, as well as social growth components.

4. THE HOURS AND DATES WHEN THE CENTER IS IN OPERATION

Summer adventures run Monday-Friday 8:45am to 4:15pm from June 13th 2022- August 5th, 2022. There are limited residential opportunities for ages 18+ that run 24hours 5 days a week or 7 days a week.

5. THE POLICY REGARDING SEVERE WEATHER

In case of severe weather (as determined by local authorities and/or Ascendigo supervisor staff), we will evacuate from dangerous areas as quickly and safely as possible.

We will use vehicles as shelter when away from our Office (if the vehicle is safer than surrounding areas).

We will use lightning drill position whenever more permanent structures are unavailable. At the daily facilities we will follow all posted guidelines on evacuation and emergency weather drills.

6. THE PROCEDURE CONCERNING ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Parent's and/or Guardian fill out a detailed registration form that includes pertinent medical history, behavior questionnaires, insurance waivers, and other necessary information.

7. AN ITEMIZED FEE SCHEDULE

Fee options for each program are listed at the time of registration on our website: www.ascendigo.org

8. THE PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFYING THE LOCATION OF PARTICIPANTS AT ALL TIMES

Each staff has one camper who is always with him/her. Each camper also has a photo stored in a lock box. Additionally, each camper has an emergency nametag in case of this situation. If a staff member does lose sight of the camper, the camper should only have had a very small amount of time to go anywhere. Ascendigo Staff have been trained to calmly locate the camper using any necessary resources including but not limited to contacting the Pitkin, Garfield and Eagle County Sheriff's Offices.

9. THE POLICY ON DISCIPLINE

Our philosophy is to use positive behavior support, including: positive reinforcements, redirection, rapport building, addressing physical needs, and preventing sensory overload. The most common action is to remove anyone with unwanted behaviors from any external stimuli that are negatively affecting the participant, so the participant can regain equilibrium. Thus, keeping the camper, staff, and any third parties safe. In the most extreme cases we reserve the right to contact the parents and ask them to take the participant home for the day or until positive behavior returns.

10. THE PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING ILLNESSES, ACCIDENTS, AND INJURIES

Every staff member at Ascendigo is first aid and CPR certified at a minimum. We also have Wilderness First Responders on scene for each activity. Additionally, for circumstances beyond our level of training: we have arrangements with local hospitals for emergency response to any illness, accident, or injury. If it is a lift threatening situation, emergency medical transportation would evacuate to the nearest full-service emergency facility. Minor illnesses are treated with rest and quarantine from the group. All accidents and injuries are reported using an incident report and kept in the child's locked file. Parents are notified immediately under any major circumstances.

Valley View Hospital: 1906 Blake Ave., Glenwood Springs, CO, 81601 (970)945-6535

Grand River Hospital: 501 County Rd 346, Rifle, CO, 81650 (970)625-1100

Aspen Valley Hospital: 0401 Castle Creek Rd., Aspen, CO, 81611 (970)925-1120

Basalt After Hours Clinic: 234 East Cody Lane, Basalt, CO, 81621 (970)544-1250

11. THE PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING LOST PARTICIPANTS

If a participant is lost, meaning out of the line of sight or voice range for more than 15 minutes; we contact the local authorities and show them a picture of the participant. We also communicate the most accurate description of the participant's current appearance. If necessary, we also will contact the Sheriff's Department. All free hands and eyes will be used to locate the participant. The one-on-one nature of our program is designed to prevent this situation.

12. THE PROCEDURE FOR TRANSPORTING PARTICIPANTS

Ascendigo Summer Adventures Policies and Procedures

Designated drivers use camp vehicles to transport campers and staff to and from each activity. Seat belts are required for each passenger. All local, state, and federal laws and regulations are followed precisely.

13. THE WRITTEN POLICY ON FIELD TRIPS, TELEVISION AND VIDEO VIEWING, SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, AND THE STAFF'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF PARTICIPANTS

Participants are directly supervised while viewing television or videos. They are to ensure that participants are only viewing age appropriate materials and that they have parent consent to do so.

14. THE POLICY FOR PARTICIPANT'S SAFETY RELATED TO RIDING IN A VEHICLE, SEATING, SUPERVISION, AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES ON THE ROAD

Campers ride in the back seats of the vehicle next to a staff member. Seatbelts are always worn, and all local, state, and federal laws and regulations are followed precisely. If emergency shall arise, the vehicle will be pulled over immediately once a safe area is determined. Radio and telephone communication will proceed immediately to inform the rest of the staff of the situation. Each participant is under the direct supervision of his or her trained counselor.

15. THE PROCEDURE FOR RELEASING PARTICIPANTS ONLY TO PERSONS FOR WHOM THE CENTER HAS WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION

The registration packet has space for up to 4 designated people for transferring care of the participant at the beginning and end of each day. Each staff member has the parent's contact information and we remain in close communication with the parents. If anyone other than the parents' attempts to pick up the participant, our staff will know prior to the transfer of care and will ensure that the person has been designated on the registration authorization. We will not release any camper without explicit consent from the participant's parents or legal caregiver.

16. THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED WHEN A PARTICIPANT IS PICKED UP AFTER CLOSING HOURS, OR NOT PICKED UP AT ALL; AND THE PROCEDURES TO ENSURE ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE PICKED UP BEFORE STAFF LEAVES FOR THE DAY

Each staff member has the contact information of every parent. The parents know specifically when and where to meet the staff to pick up the camper. Staff supervisor will remain on-site until each camper has been picked up and transfer of care has been returned to the parent/guardian caregivers. If parents have failed to make the transfer of care and failed to contact Ascendigo staff; we will notify local law enforcement and CDHS 2 hours after the designated time of transfer, and the child will be transferred to local law enforcement and the Colorado Department of Human Services.

17. THE PROCEDURES FOR CARING FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO ARRIVE LATE TO THE CENTER AND THEIR CLASS/GROUP ARE ALREADY AWAY

During the Summer program campers have a staff member assigned to them. If a child is late, the staff member will contact the parents to determine when and where the transfer of care will take place. The staff member will be solely focused on determining where the child is and what the situation is. We do not leave the center until we have all the participants or have coordinated a pickup on the way to the daily activities.

18. THE PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTERING PARTICIPANT'S MEDICINES AND DELEGATION OF MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "NURSE PRACTICE ACT"

Ascendigo has a Nurse on staff who is responsible for administering medications. When the camp nurse is not present, administration will be delegated to a certified staff member. All medicine administration will be done by trained professionals and will be recorded and filed according to state regulations. No medication shall be administered without written consent from the parent/guardians and physician; which is all found in the registration packet.

19. THE PROCEDURES CONCERNING PARTICIPANT'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND MONEY

Every precaution will be made to ensure participants go home with all the items they came with. Personal money is handled directly between the parents and the assigned Ascendigo staff members. Every precaution is also made to ensure participant's belongings are legal and appropriate for them to possess. A packing list is provided to parents to ensure participants are only bringing the necessary belongings.

20. THE POLICY CONCERNING MEALS AND SNACKS

Residential participants consume breakfast and dinner before and after day time activities at the Colorado Mountain College Dining Hall. If the participant is not a residential camper breakfast and dinner will be consumed before and after the participant is in our care. Lunch is provided for each Residential participant, while Day Camp participants will be required to pack their own lunch each day. We also have nutritious snacks on hand to ensure participants receive all the nutrients they need for an exerting day of physical activities. Ascendigo is also very diligent about ensuring that campers are only eating food that follows the participant's specific nutrition plan.

21. THE POLICY REGARDING VISITORS

The Summer program does not allow for any visitors outside of the parent/guardian/aide team that was determined in the registration packet. For the sake of a more effective learning environment we encourage parents to leave their participant in our capable hands during the duration of their camp session.

22. THE PROCEDURES FOR FILING A COMPLAINT ABOUT CHILD CARE

Any complaints involving Ascendigo should be reported to:



Ascendigo Summer Adventures Policies and Procedures

CDHS Division of Child Care: 1575 Sherman St., 1st Floor, Denver, CO, 80203-1714 (800)799-5876

23. THE POLICY REGARDING THE REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE

Please be aware that all staff members of Ascendigo are Mandated Reporters; meaning that if we suspect any level of child abuse we are required by law to report it to the authorities. Child abuse should be reported to CDHS above as well as:

Pitkin County: (970)927-1611 **Garfield County:** (970)945-9191 And in the case of emergencies **dial 911**

24. THE POLICY REGARDING THE CHILD CARE FACILITIES' RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTIFY PARENTS WHEN THE PROGRAM WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE TO SERVE CHILDREN

Ascendigo will take all measure to notify parents as soon as possible regarding a cancellation of a program session. In most circumstances, Ascendigo will reschedule events indoors if unable to participate outdoors. Due to unforeseen circumstances if any given camp day is cancelled, parents will be notified via phone from Ascendigo staff and will receive a refund.

25. THE POLICY REGARDING PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTIFY CHILD CARE PROGRAM WHEN THE PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S WITHDRAW THEIR PARTICIPANT FROM THE PROGRAM

Cancellations made less than 24 hours before start date of the program (unless for medical reasons) are not eligible for a refund. Cancellations made for a proven medical reason are eligible to be rescheduled for the next applicable program date.