



ORCHESTRA CAMP

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will my child be safe at camp?

Safety at camp is our number one priority. Students are closely accounted for and supervised at all times. Students are never allowed to walk anywhere alone, and the dormitories and rehearsal sites are secured buildings. The staff to camper ratio is approximately 1 to 10.

2. Where will my child stay?

We will be housed in Emory dormitories. Students are assigned two to a room based on gender, roommate requests and age. Each room has two single beds and usually a sink. There are large restrooms on each hall that have several toilet stalls and private showers. Boys and girls halls are separated. Students must bring their own linens (see the "What to Bring" list). The dorms are locked 24 hours a day and only Encore and Emory staff have keys. Students will be given a key to their assigned room.

3. What is the food like? What about picky eaters?

We will eat our meals in the DUC, Emory's dining hall. The food is all you care to eat, and there are many, many choices at each meal. Students are encouraged to eat a balanced diet at camp and stay away from too much soda and sugar cereal!

4. How much musical instruction will my child receive a day?

Students will have two orchestra rehearsals each day, and a master class or chamber music ensembles. Students generally play their instruments for several hours each day, but with enough breaks to avoid fatigue, and they have plenty of recreational time as well. In the evenings we have performances for the students to enjoy, and on the last night we have a dance.

5. What does my child need to bring to camp?

About a month before camp, you will receive a specific packing list. Your child will need their instrument and music stand, bed and bath linens, a swimsuit and towel, an umbrella, shower shoes (flip flops), and a number of other items listed on the "what to bring" document. We have no problem with cell phones, snacks, iPods, etc. Your child may use their phone at any appropriate time to stay in contact with you (although don't be surprised if they're having too much fun to call!).

6. What paperwork will need to be submitted?

About a month before camp, you will receive the medical form and camp guidelines, which will need to be signed and brought to camp registration.

7. My child has never played an "audition" before, and she is terrified!

There are three orchestras at Encore, so we need to assess your child's level in order to place them into the appropriate orchestra. The placement audition is a very low pressure, informal playing test. Students are asked to play one or two scales and then sight read a line. It takes our experienced staff very little time to appropriately place your child. We do our best to ensure that all students are challenged in their orchestra.

8. How do I register and make payment?

Please see the tab on our website for this year's camp. You may use the online registration form and submit by e-mail, mail a completed registration form to the address provided on the brochure, or fax the form to the number on our website. Please make sure you write legibly, especially in the e-mail address field, as all communication will be sent electronically. Also, you will want to allow any e-mails from @encoreorchestracamp.com to be delivered to your inbox. The simplest way to make payment is to mail a check with your registration form. If you prefer to pay online with a credit card, you may use paypal, but keep in mind paypal charges a fee for the convenience.

You will receive an immediate return e-mail responses if your registration form and tuition submits successfully.

9. Do you offer a day camp option?

We do not offer a day camp, because our activities go well into the evening hours. The majority of your tuition goes to staff salaries, and not lodging or food. Encore Camp is for students who are comfortable staying away from home for a few nights. We prefer to have our campers with us 100% of the time so that our staff is not overwhelmed by students coming and going.

10. Do you offer scholarships?

Yes, but they are given to outstanding campers to return the next year, and to orchestra directors to give to students of their choice as an award. We do not offer individual financial assistance. You are welcome to pay your child's tuition in installments throughout the spring.

11. What ages of children will attend Encore Orchestra camp?

Children of any age are welcome at camp, but they should feel comfortable staying away from home for several nights. The majority of our students are middle school students. Students may attend between 9th and 10th grade (generally up to aged 14 or 15).

12. Who will my child's roommate be?

You are welcome to request a specific friend on your registration form. If the requested roommate does not register for camp, your child will be assigned another roommate. Campers are matched with someone of the same gender, same age, and same instrument.

13. My child wants to learn a stringed instrument. Do you take beginners?

We do not start true beginners at camp. Students should have played at least one school year in an orchestra or private studio to come to Encore camp.

14. Do I need to provide an instrument for my child at camp?

We do not provide any instruments at camp. Students who play a school owned instrument must make arrangements with the orchestra director to borrow the instrument for camp. Be sure to contact the school orchestra director well in advance of camp, because it may be difficult to arrange pickup in the summer months.

If you have a question that was not answered here, please e-mail us at info@encoreorchestracamp.com or call the camp office at 404-988-1245.