



Fall 2026

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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Dear LEA Applicant,

LEA applications are live, and you are invited to apply! Year after year, campers look up to our LEAs as role models and many of you have thought of becoming one for a long time. Our LEAdership program, which started in 1956, is full of tradition and history. Now it is your turn to be a part of it!

Our LEA program places a great deal of emphasis on personal growth and development. LEAs grow as individuals and leaders, as they seek out engaging opportunities for leadership and learning. As LEAs you will be participating in Skill classes, Leadership workshops, lead group activities, and a whole lot more. LEAs are still campers, yet they will take on a whole new camp experience.

Our LEA program has grown immensely in the last few years. As it continues to grow, the LEA program has become a much more competitive process, so please be mindful of deadlines. This summer we will have 60 spots available, 20 in each of the three sessions, for LEA applicants. We will have more applicants applying than will be accepted.

For those accepted as a LEA, there will be an opportunity to take part in a complementary (\$250 refundable deposit required) Lifeguard Training Class that will be offered three times throughout the summer during our first week of camp (6/27 – 7/2), our second week of camp (7/4 – 7/9), and our second week of Session B (7/18 – 7/23). For those interested in being a Lifeguard, you can sign up for one of these sessions. You cannot attend a Lifeguard Training Session that would coincide with the dates of your LEA session. More information about the LGT LEAs classes is included on the back of this letter.

Remember, you are applying for a LEAdership position and with this comes opportunities for self-reliance, so you will now be solely in charge of contacting us with questions, comments or concerns, or simply scheduling an interview. [Please make sure to discuss your application plans with your adults at home.](#)

Although this is primarily a Leadership Program, promoting communication skills, self-discovery, and leadership development, it is also a pre-requisite to apply to be an Assistant Counselor at Camp Hazen YMCA for the summer of 2028. Out of the 60 LEAs we have for the summer of 2027, less than half will be hired the following year to be an Assistant Counselor. The commitment to be an Assistant Counselor is a skills training weekend in May, a week of Staff Orientation, and then four weeks working directly with the campers.

So excited to talk with you soon!

All the Best,

Jake Fernandes
Senior Program Director
jfernandes@camphazenyumca.org

Application Deadline:
October 15, 2026

PLEASE FLIP THE PAGE TO SEE [2027 SUMMER DATES](#) AND
INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFEGUARD COURSE.

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CAMP HAZEN YMCA

2027 SESSION DATES

LEA 1: June 27th – July 16th

LEA 2: July 18th – August 6th

LEA 3: August 8th – August 27th

AND THE NEXT STEPS ARE...

1. Talk with your adults at home as they will be emailed a link to the application on [CampInTouch](#).
2. Complete the "Camper Application" with your adults, Select your 1st choice of LEA Session. No deposit is needed now.
3. Under "Forms and Documents" on [CampInTouch](#), complete the "LEA Questionnaire." Here you will list your session preferences.
4. Please be sure to [include YOUR email address and phone number](#) on the Questionnaire.
5. Upon acceptance into the program, a \$500 deposit will be required.

When we receive your application, Jake will contact you to set up your interview via Microsoft Teams.

LEA Lifeguard Classes (LGT LEAs)

We offer the American Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguarding class to our LEAs as an optional add-on to their LEA experience. These classes are not concurrent, nor are they back-to-back with our LEA sessions. There is a \$250 deposit to sign up for a course, which will be refunded upon arrival, meaning there is no extra cost for participation in the class.

Courses Available

- LGT LEA 1: (6/27–7/2) – Session A Week 1
- LGT LEA 2: (7/4 – 7/9) - Session A Week 2
- LGT LEA 3: (7/18 – 7/23) - Session B Week 2
 - LGT LEAs will arrive on Sunday at 2pm and checkout at 6PM on that Friday.

Requirements of the LGT Course

- 4-Part Pre-Requisite Skills Test upon arrival to the course.
 - This includes:
 - 550 Yard Continuous Swim (Must demonstrate competent Front Crawl and Breaststroke)
 - 2 Minutes of Treading Water with hand tucked into armpits.
 - Swim 20 yards (using front crawl or breaststroke), dive 7-10 feet, retrieve object, return to surface, swim back to starting point, and remove object and self from the water within 1min 40 sec.
 - Swim 5 yards, submerge and retrieve 3 dive rings placed 5 yards apart, then resurface and swim 5 additional yards.
- Attending and participating in all class sections, achieving a 75% or better on 3 written exams, and achieving a "Meets the Objective" on three skill-based scenarios.

Please note...

- Upon finishing the course and after meeting all necessary objectives, the LEAs will receive a Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED and a Waterfront Skills Certification valid for two years from the point of completion.
- LGT LEAs will stay at camp during their course. They will sleep in a cabin and will be supervised by Hazen staff during the week.
- This is a separate program from the 3-Week LEA Program. LGT LEAs will operate within their own small group and allow the 20 LEAs to have their experience with their current LEA peers.