**Camper Eligibility GUIDELINES**

Highbrook Lodge seeks to serve all qualified individuals with vision loss who meet the essential eligibility requirements listed below. These criteria are necessary to ensure the safety of all and also to allow campers to receive maximum benefits from camp.

All acceptances of applications are conditional. Specifically, Highbrook Lodge reserves the right to accept or deny applications or defer admission on-site or prior to attendance should it later become aware that the camper no longer meets applicable eligibility criteria. While at camp, for the safety of all campers and staff, individuals whose needs and/or behavioral challenges are beyond the scope of the camp to safely accommodate will be sent home as soon as practicable. Refunds will not be given to those who are asked to leave camp due to eligibility requirements or those who do not show up to camp. Deposits are non-refundable.

**ADULT AND YOUTH ELIGIBILITY**

**An eligible applicant must meet the following essential eligibility criteria:**

1. Have vision loss as diagnosed by a medical professional.
	* 1. Young people (8-18) without vision loss may be able to attend select youth sessions
		2. Youth without vision loss are ineligible for financial assistance
		3. Priority for camper spots is given to individuals who experience vision loss.
2. Be of appropriate age for session requested.
3. Be able to benefit physically, psychologically, emotionally and/or socially from camp programs and activities.
4. Be able to adapt to and function safely in a group environment – this includes, but is not limited to:
	1. Being able to function within our established staff to camper ratios (2 staff to 6 campers);
	2. Follow directions of the staff and rules of camp;
	3. Participate in the majority of scheduled camp activities;
	4. Live and sleep in a community setting, including maintaining appropriate hygiene
	(without physical assistance from staff);
	5. Eat and drink adequate amounts for nutritional support independently;
	6. Take medication as prescribed/administered; and,
	7. Remain with assigned group (including at night).
5. Not have a criminal background that would exclude them from participation, i.e. convicted of a violent crime; a crime that is sexual in nature; or a crime involving a minor.
6. All financial obligations must be met prior to attendance, unless otherwise arranged.
7. Be at a level, behaviorally, that is manageable in our camp setting. **Unmanageable levels include**:
	1. Individuals who are abusive to self, others and/or property;
	2. Individuals with a history of running off;
	3. Physical or sexual aggression or a history thereof;
	4. Individuals who need physical restraints to manage behaviors;
	5. The need for a 1:1 staff member to manage behaviors;
	6. Individuals that need behavioral care/support throughout the night;
	7. Individuals who need physical assistance with their Activities of Daily Living—including ambulating (with reasonable accommodation), toileting, feeding, continence, and the like.
8. Be at a level of health and wellness that is manageable in our camp setting. **Unmanageable levels include:**
	1. Requiring mechanical assistance or staff members for physical transfers;
	2. Dependent on technical life sustaining equipment or apparatuses;
	3. Dependent on oxygen;
	4. With medical conditions requiring 1:1 nursing or supportive care (including unstable diabetes);
	5. Requiring overnight care or overnight medicine administration;
	6. With seizures not reasonably controlled by medication
	7. With current communicable diseases or highly contagious conditions that can be spread through casual human contact and/or community living;
	8. With medical conditions that have a substantial risk or likelihood for complication or injury;
	9. With severe allergies;
	10. Who are physically or psychologically medically unstable (ex. Those who have expressed suicidal ideation in the last 6 months; those who have been hospitalized for mental health concerns in the last 6 months);
	11. Who present with unmanageable illnesses/conditions;
	12. With recent, unresolved exposure to bed bugs (proof of initial and 14-day extermination treatment from professional company required prior to attendance)
	13. Who present with symptoms of COVID-19, have been in the presence of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within two weeks of arrival at camp, or who are not vaccinated against COVID-19.

**Family Camp Eligibility**

**Eligible applicant families must meet the following essential eligibility criteria:**

1. At least one child of the family must have vision loss as diagnosed by a medical professional. The individual with vision loss must be between the ages of 0-10.
2. Only immediate family members may accompany the camper(s) with vision loss to camp.
	1. Immediate family members are defined as parents, guardians, and siblings
3. All adult family members in attendance must not have a criminal background that would exclude them from participation, i.e. convicted of a violent crime; a crime that is sexual in nature; or a crime involving a minor.
4. Families must have paid all applicable and required fees for programming, unless otherwise arranged.
5. Siblings without vision loss must be able to function in camp’s identified staff to camper ratios, follow directions of staff, and remain with their assigned group/counselor. If they are unable to do so they may not be able to participate in programmed activities without a parent/guardian present.
6. Families must be able and willing to be housed in our traditional cabins – potentially shared with another family.
7. All family members must be able to follow the rules of camp.
8. All family members must be in good health upon check-in at camp.
9. Parents/guardians must be able to care for the health and wellness of their family while at camp, including management of medication. All family members who are eligible must be vaccinated against COVID-19.