

ELKS

CARE



ELKS

SHARE



## General Information

**Meals:** Texas Elks Camp provides campers with three meals per day, and an evening snack. We accommodate some special dietary needs.

**Mail:** Campers are given time the first two days to write home to parents. Parents are encouraged to write during camp. Phone calls are prohibited, except in the case of an emergency.

Texas Elks Children's Services  
1963 FM 1586  
Gonzales, TX 78629

**Medication:** All prescription medications brought will be dispensed only in accordance with written doctor's orders. Campers should only bring the meds needed for the week in their original containers.

## 2020 Camp Dates

- Session 1: June 14 - 19, 2020
- Session 2: June 21 - 26, 2020
- Session 3: June 28 - July 3, 2020
- Session 4: July 12 - July 17, 2020
- Session 5: July 19 - July 24, 2020
- Session 6: July 26 - July 31, 2020

Registration opens January 2, 2020!

Applications Available Online  
[texaselkscamp.com](http://texaselkscamp.com)

Member of the  
American Camp Association

Sponsored by the  
Texas State Elks Association  
Texas State Elks First Lady Project  
Texas State Elks Lodge Sweethearts

TEXAS

ELKS

CAMP



Helping children with  
special needs since 1987!

1963 FM 1586  
Gonzales, TX 78629-9613  
830-875-2425  
[texaselkscamp.com](http://texaselkscamp.com)  
[txelks@gvec.net](mailto:txelks@gvec.net)

## Purpose

Texas Elks Camp provides special needs and foster children an opportunity to try new things, meet new friends and make memories that will last a lifetime. Campers are encouraged to make their own decisions, become more independent and accept new challenges. Parents often notice dramatic positive changes and improved self-esteem after only one week at camp.



## Eligibility

Any child with special needs or in foster care age 7 to 15, who is a resident of the state of Texas is eligible for admission to the Texas Elks Camp. No child is denied acceptance on the basis of his or her income level, ethnic origin, race, creed, color or religion. There is no fee. Campers are accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Needs are reviewed on an individual basis.

ADD

ADHD

Amputee

Asperger's

Arthritis

Asthma

Autism

Birth Defect

Burn Survivor

Cerebral Palsy

Down Syndrome

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Fragile X Syndrome

Hearing Impaired

Hydrocephalus

Learning Disability

Intellectual Disability

Developmental

Disability

Multiple Sclerosis

Muscular Dystrophy

Neurofibromatosis

Non-Verbal

Perthes Disease

Scoliosis

Spina Bifida

Stroke

Tourette's Syndrome

Tumor Having Physical

Effect

Visually Impaired

## Criteria

Potential applicants are screened and assessed on an individual basis according to diagnosis. Campers should be eligible to participate in, and enjoy, a carefully planned camping program for children with special needs. Applicants should have normal bowel and kidney function and control as well as some degree of independence in self help skills, including feeding and dressing themselves. If the above criteria is not met or answers given are found to be false, the child will be sent home.

Elks Camp is not a stationary camp program. Children who attend Elks Camp are accompanied by trained staff for outings to attend area attractions such as swimming pools, state parks and waterparks. The structure of our program may not be the most suitable for applicants that are profoundly challenged in large group settings or over stimulated by a constantly changing environment.

Children with the following diagnoses are not eligible:

- Self injurious behavior
- Contagious Diseases
- Insulin Dependent Diabetes
- Osteogenesis Imperfecta
- Physically or Sexually Aggressive Toward Peers or Staff
- Prader Willie Syndrome
- Seizure episodes within 12 months
- Unable to follow 1-2 step prompts
- Receives nutrition enterally
- Uses a wheelchair for all mobility

## Activities

- Nature Walks
- Arts and Crafts
- Cookouts
- Leadership Skills
- Team-Building
- Weekly Dances
- Petting Zoo
- Music Therapy
- Swimming
- Tye-Dye
- Outdoor Activities
  - Fishing
  - Archery
  - Volleyball
  - Basketball
  - Field Trips
    - Sea World
    - Splashway
  - Bonfire
  - Acting Classes

## Staff

Our counselors have a commitment to special needs children, and have experience working with intellectual and developmental disabilities. All counselors, nurses and counselors in training attend a week of intense training.

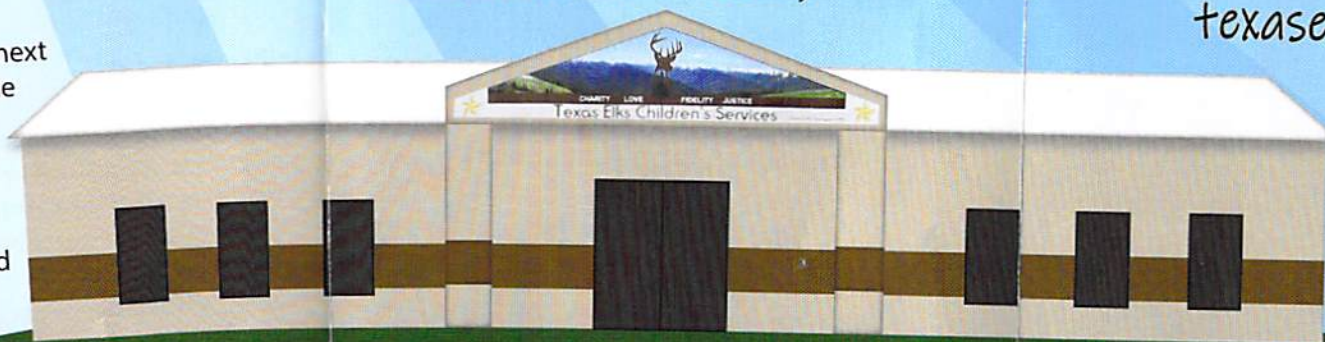
Most counselors at Texas Elks Camp are majoring in therapeutic recreation, special education, elementary education, social work, nursing or pre-med.

In addition to two head counselors Texas Elks Camp employs 18 counselors, 4 counselors in training, a camp director, 2 registered nurses, certified bus drivers, and kitchen personnel. All camp staff live on site for the duration of camp.

[texaselkscamp.com](http://texaselkscamp.com)

## Facility

Texas Elks Camp is nestled next to Palmetto State Park in the heart of Texas on 10 rural acres between Luling and Gonzales. Campers live within the 18,000 square foot air conditioned building, which is handicap accessible.



*At Texas Elks Camp  
we teach having a  
difference doesn't  
make a difference.*