

Summer Enrichment Activities Support (S.E.A.S.)

When Paul was younger I used to look at summer programs & think how much he would enjoy some of them. I was a little concerned if Paul could fully participate in these opportunities without some extra support in the program. I'm afraid we just didn't try to take advantage of some of these programs because I was unsure how to provide him with that support without being there myself. Let's face it, parents & kids sometimes like a break from each other. It's hard when it's always a parent or sibling who has to be there to provide that extra support.

The *DSAF Board is offering this program for members who have students w/Down syndrome. This support aligns with our vision & mission to help our children be a part of the community at large.

S.E.A.S. Guidelines

- A parent can find a summer program they would like to enroll their child in (a suggested list is shown below. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list but will give you some ideas of what would be appropriate.) An example of an approved program is Bright Lights. Many of the classes are half-day classes offered for a 5 day week.
- A family should register their child just like any other community member & the registration fee is the full responsibility of the family. (If financial assistance is needed the family will need to apply to the program in which they are enrolling.)
- The family should contact a para from their school (preferably one who has worked w/their child). The family is responsible to pay the para stipend directly but can request a reimbursement scholarship from the *DSAF for the para support.
 - Rate of pay is \$13.33 per contact hour up to \$200.00. This covers a typical half-day/5 day summer program. If the child is signed up for a program exceeding 15 contact hours, it is the parent's responsibility to pay any excess stipend.
 - It is also possible to take part in a program that is shorter than 15 contact hours, in which case the reimbursement is calculated at \$13.33 per contact hour.
 - Travel time is not reimbursed or considered contact time.
- The *DSAF will need a copy of the program registration & the reimbursement scholarship form signed by the parent & the para.
- The reimbursement will be mailed to the parent after the class is finished.
- It will be up to the parent to negotiate with the para re missed days.

It is important for families to get registered in the program they desire, line up para support, & request the scholarship reimbursement as soon as possible. We have monies available for approximately 15 families if everyone chooses a half day/ 5 day program. The money may stretch farther if there are requests for shorter programs.

- There can only be one request per family.
- This is not for Vacation Bible School type programs, swimming lessons, other types of lessons, summer long child care camps, or special needs camps where there should be extra support already available, etc.

- The scholarship reimbursement is not for the individual student but for the para support. The emphasis is on summer enrichment educational opportunities.
- A relative or nanny would not be able to be reimbursed.
- Families should arrange support w/paras their child has worked with in school.
- This opportunity is not limited to the city of Lincoln.
- Families who are paid members (membership is \$10.00/year) will receive first consideration.

We ask families to pick programs that their child will have an interest in & also be successful in with para support. If a child doesn't enjoy group activities, has disruptive behavior issues, or does not have interest in a class (but it is the only one available), simply having a para will not make the experience a success for the student or the program. We want to try to stack this for success for the child & the program as much as possible.

- If you have questions about a class we strongly recommend you contact the director to discuss specifics. Most programs would like to know a para is coming & will want to know his/her name so s/he will be recognized as a part of the class & staying with the student.
- If you are enrolling your student in Bright Lights they ask you write "DSAF" on the "health conditions" line on the registration. **If you enroll in Bright Lights please call Barb Hoppe to discuss the classes with her first.*

It is difficult to cover all possibilities. If you have a question if a program would fit these guidelines please call 402-466-7641 or email deb@dsafnebraska.org & we can discuss the program you would like to choose.

Suggested Camps/Programs

Bright Lights
www.brightlights.org

420-1115
1-888-547-1076 (outside of Lincoln)

Lincoln Parks & Recreation Day Camps
(not summer playgrounds)
Office 441-7952

First Plymouth Summer Discovery Days
dimensionsfoundation.org
476-8304

Lincoln Community Playhouse

Drama Camps

Lux Center for the Arts

Lincoln Children's Museum Summer Camps
LincolnChildrensMuseum.org
477-4000

Pioneer Park Nature Center Summer Camps
441-7895

Lincoln Children's Zoo Summer Classes

Prairie Hill Learning Center
Country Day Camp
www.prairiehill.com
438-6668