

Therapeutic Recreation Inclusion Policy

The City of Steamboat Springs Recreation Division provides quality recreation opportunities to all members of the community. Individuals of all abilities have the opportunity to participate equally in any program of their choice as long as they are eligible for the age requirements of that program. The Recreation Division works with all program areas to make reasonable modifications to program policies, practices, and procedures to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability and to ensure that people with disabilities have the accommodations or support they need to participate in any recreation program at their highest level of independence.

Inclusion Objectives:

- To welcome and support individuals with disabilities into any recreation program, activity, or facility as long as the individual falls within the age requirement for that program or activity and the city can maintain a safe and healthy environment for all children enrolled.
- To provide reasonable modifications to program policies, practices, and procedures as needed for individuals to participate independently in the least restrictive environment.
- For individuals to be included and benefit equally from all the physical, cognitive, and social values that the program offers.

Inclusion Policies:

The Youth Program Supervisor will make reasonable modifications to program policies, practices, and procedures to include individuals with disabilities in recreation programs and activities if they meet the essential eligibility requirements of that program. The Youth Program Supervisor will not make modifications that fundamentally alter recreation programs or activities or would result in undue financial or administrative burdens.

All modification requests must be processed through the City of Steamboat Springs Parks and Recreation offices. A minimum of two weeks advance notice in writing is requested in order to allow for implementation of reasonable modifications to program policies, practices, and procedures; however, more notice may be necessary in some cases. Requests must be made using the "Therapeutic Recreation Request for Services" form.

The City of Steamboat Springs will assess an individual's needs and abilities through parent and teacher interviews and develop a participation plan as stated in the Therapeutic Recreation Request for

Services form

Considerations before registering a person with a disability:

- Our programs do not accommodate diapering for any children. If your child requires diapering, your child may participate in Recreation Division programs only if you or an aide provided by you accompanies the child and provides diapering services. City staff will not modify this policy to accommodate children who require diapering services.
- Our summer programs incorporate a field trip schedule with extensive time in a vehicle almost daily.
- Our programs require many transitions on a strict schedule throughout the day. Children who react negatively to these transitions and repeatedly cause delays in the program may be unenrolled from our programs.
- Our programs incorporate a high-volume and high-energy environment. Children who react negatively to these factors may not have a positive experience. While we will work with parents to create a plan for occasional outbursts, any child who reacts violently towards themselves, other children, or staff may be required to un-enroll for their safety and the safety of others.

All T-Rec registrations are subject to the availability of an appropriately trained staff member. The registration will not be confirmed until a suitable staff member has been secured. The City of Steamboat will make every attempt to have staff available and will give as much notice as possible to parents if a staff cannot be found for their child. Please recognize that occasionally staff have emergencies or illness that will prevent them from being at work. In this situation, the child will not be allowed if a substitute staff cannot be found and a full refund will be given.

Our programs are recreation-based and consist of physically active activities both indoors and outdoors. Children must have appropriate equipment and clothing to participate in scheduled activities. If an activity is deemed inappropriate for a child, the aide will work with the parent to have the child enrolled another camp or activity. We do not allow 1:1 aides to do individual activities off-site with the child in their care. We will allow multiple aides to do activities as a group with the children in their care if alternative camps cannot accommodate the child.

Modifications may include additional staff and/or modified equipment or techniques. The Recreation Division may arrange volunteers, interns, students or City staff for support. Participants may provide their own aide who will be admitted at a lower cost of 20% of the daily fee to cover the cost of transportation, snacks, and activities. The aide must be there solely to support the participant in the activities provided by the program.

Evaluation and follow up will occur after the program has ended.

If it is deemed that the program atmosphere is not appropriate or conducive to safe participation for participants, arrangements will be made to un-enroll the participant from the program. A refund of tuition will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

For questions or more information contact (970) 879-4300

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____