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PERFORMING ARTS CAMPS

2025

Camper Rules and Information

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**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the world of Missoula Children’s Theatre’s Performing Arts Camps, better known as MCT’s PAC and PAC Prep! We are so glad that you are joining us (or thinking about joining us) this upcoming summer. Please use this handbook to learn more about PAC/PAC Prep and prepare for your upcoming camp experience. For parents/guardians, it will be helpful to talk through the contents of this guide with your camper before they arrive at camp, so they know what to expect.

# PAC BASICS

## **OVERVIEW OF CAMPS**

MCT is proud to host two “sleep-away” performing arts camps in beautiful Western Montana every summer.

* **PAC PREP:** Rising 6th, 7th and 8th Grade\* (in fall 2025)

A week-long, theatre skill-building camp on Seeley Lake at Camp Paxson. Students will rehearse and perform a scripted showcase that features their singing, dancing, and acting prowess. The campers’ last event is an on-site showcase (not open to the public – a video will be filmed and sent to families). This camp is meant to prepare campers for PAC, a challenging performing arts intensive (see below).

*\*Returning 8th grade campers will attend PAC and new 8th grade campers will attend PAC Prep. We are doing this to maximize our accommodations at the campgrounds and ensure as many people as possible can enjoy a PAC or PAC Prep experience.*

**2025 DATES: July 27- August 2, 2025**

* **PAC:** 9th – 13th Grade (recent HS graduates)

A two-week theatre intensive on Flathead Lake at United Methodist Camp and at the Missoula Children’s Theatre. Talented youth come from all over the world, make life-long friends, and hone their performing skills. Campers spend much of their day in rehearsals and classes preparing for their final ticketed performances held at the Missoula Children’s Theatre in Missoula, MT.

**2025 DATES: July 27- August 9, 2025**

**Visit the** [**PAC HUB**](https://www.mctinc.org/theatre-in-missoula/pac-information-hub/) **for the latest camp updates.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please get in touch with us if any questions arise, but we ask that you review the entirety of this handbook first just in case we have already addressed your question.

* **Email:** [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:pac@mctinc.org)(All PAC communication will come from this email, so please add it to your contacts! If you aren’t receiving communication, please check your junk mail or contact us.)
* **Year-Round Office Phone:** 406-728-1911
* **PAC Phone:** 406-529-4743 (July 27 – August 10 ONLY)
* **“Remind” Communication Tool:** We will be utilizing “Remind” for PAC/PAC Prep this year!It will be an easy and very safe way to communicate with parents & campers (only those with permission) via text. Please join the contact list by doing the following (no app download is needed to get reminders for camp): text **@25pac or @25pacprep to 81010**

**CAMP ADDRESSES**

**PAC Prep:**

Camp Paxson

Physical Address:

4200 Boy Scout Rd

Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 732

Seeley Lake, MT

[Camp Website](https://www.camppaxson.org/app/)

**PAC:**

Flathead Lake United Methodist Camp

21339 Methodist Camp Rd

Rollins, MT 59931

[Camp Website](https://flatheadcamp.org/)

**The Missoula Children’s Theatre:**

200 N. Adams St.

Missoula, MT 59802

[MCT Website](https://mctinc.org/)

Please note that MCT rents out the campground locations and is not affiliated with the organizations or churches that run the camps.

# BEFORE CAMP

## **FORMS & QUICK LINKS**

* [**PAC HUB**](https://mctinc.org/pac-information-hub/)
* [**PAC Application**](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_application25) – Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and camp decisions will be communicated within 2 weeks of submission via email.
* **Scholarship Application** – CLOSED as of April 5
* [**Camper Form**](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025) (Transportation, OTC Meds, Dietary) – DUE June 23
* [**Health History Form**](https://www.mctinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Camper-Health-History_Fillable.pdf) – DUE June 23
* **PAC ONLY:** [**Optional Lesson Form**](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_lessons_2025) – DUE June 23

**PAC TIMELINE**

**February 14:** PAC & PAC Prep Application, Scholarship Application go live

**April 4:** PAC Application & Scholarship ApplicationDUE

**April 18:** Acceptance emails are sent

**May 23:** Deposit DUE (Non-refundable after June 1st, 2025)

**June 23:** Lesson Form (Optional), Camper Form, Camper Health History Form (including Immunization Record & Insurance Cards), Tuition Balance DUE (Non-refundable after June 27, 2025)

**July 8:** PAC & PAC Prep Merchandiseorders due (a link will be posted to the PAC Hub when the merch sales are available)

**July 27:** First day of PAC & PAC Prep! Arrive at camp between 3PM - 5PM

**August 2:** Last day of camp for PAC Prep. Check out 10AM – 11:30AM at Camp Paxson.

**August 6:** PAC campers ride a bus to Missoula. Campers staying with friends or family locally can be picked up following rehearsal at the Missoula Children’s Theatre that evening. Campers staying at MCT provided accommodations will be taken to their hostel or homestay following rehearsal. A more detailed schedule for performance weekend to come at the end of July.

**August 8:** 7:00 PM Performance for PAC.

**August 9:** 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM Performance for PAC.

**August 10:** Last day of camp for PAC. Check-out for campers staying at MCT accommodations is 10-11:30AM at MCT. Campers staying with friends and family can check out following the final evening performance on August 9. There will be no formal event on Sunday.

*Please remember that acceptance into camp and future invitation to attend is contingent upon your behavior while at camp. We ask you to strongly consider the commitment you are undertaking in requesting to return to our program. If we do not receive your application by the April 4 deadline, we cannot guarantee you a spot at camp.*

**PAC PRICING**

* **PAC Prep:** Tuition is $728 with a deposit of $303 due May 23, 2025 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 1st, 2025). The remaining balance of $375 is due June 23, 2025 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 27, 2025).
* **PAC:** Tuition is $1,378 with a deposit of $553 due May 23, 2025 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 1st, 2025). The remaining balance of $750 is due June 23, 2025 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 27, 2025).

**Housing in Missoula - For PAC ONLY**

An additional fee per night is assessed if housing in Missoula is needed for performance weekend (approx. 4 nights total). You can indicate your housing needs on your [**Camper Form**](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025)**.**

**Special Diets - For PAC ONLY**

Due to the significant rise in food costs, MCT is instituting a food premium for campers requiring a vegan or gluten-free diet. This is a one-time fee and those requiring a special diet at North & South Shore will need to opt in via the [**Camper Form**](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025).

**Additional Camper Discount:** We charge full price for the first attendee and 10% off for any additional siblings. If you qualify for this discount, it will be automatically loaded onto your account.

## **PAYMENTS & CANCELLATION**

Payments can ONLY be made by calling MCT Patron Services weekdays from 12PM - 5PM at (406) 728-7529. Reservations are made under your camper's name. Scholarships and discounts will automatically be applied to your account. If payments are not received by the deadline, we will make every reasonable attempt to contact you prior to filling your position.

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Payment plans are available. Please reach out to [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) to discuss your options. If your plans change and you need to cancel your child’s registration, please inform us as soon as possible. Camps can fill up quickly and we may have a waitlist. Your deposit is non-refundable after June 1, 2025.

## 

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

2025 PAC Scholarship applications **are DUE by April 4.** If you received a scholarship for 2025, it will automatically be applied as a discount to your camper’s tuition. A limited number of partial-tuition scholarships were available. Awards are based on financial need and distance from camp. Scholarship applications **DO NOT** influence camp admittance decisions. Campers receive their scholarship decision upon acceptance into camp.

## **WHAT TO “PAC”K**

You will need to provide your own bedding, whether it is a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets. Nights often become quite chilly so you may want to include an additional warm blanket. Two pairs of shoes are recommended. These should be closed-toe and suitable for rehearsal. Open-toed sandals are NOT advised at camp except as shower shoes. Campers often bring a third pair of “lake shoes”. The shore of Flathead and Seeley Lake are rocky and bare feet can be uncomfortable while wading or launching a boat. A pair of old or inexpensive tennis shoes for this purpose can come in handy.

**Don’t forget a water bottle!** We want all campers to stay hydrated as the days are hot.

Campers spend most of their day in rehearsal or classes. Clothing should be comfortable and something that they can easily move in. Laundry facilities are NOT available at camp. For the performances, please bring a pair of medium to dark wash blue jeans (not black or super light in color and NO HOLES!). Tennis shoes will be the most comfortable for your performance shoes.

Make sure everything is marked with your camper’s name! Also, keep in mind that belongings need to fit into a closed suitcase when not in use. We ask that each camper restrict their luggage to two cases plus bedding.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Clothing**   * Summer clothing for 6-14 days * 2-3 sweaters or sweatshirts * 2-4 pairs of long pants * 1 pair of dark jeans (no holes!) for the show * Underwear & socks * 2 pairs of closed-toe shoes * Pajamas * Swimsuit(s) * Raincoat or poncho | **Toiletries**   * 2 towels and 1 washcloth * Soap/body wash * Shampoo * Toothbrush and toothpaste * Hairbrush * Deodorant * Sunscreen * Insect repellent |
| **Other Necessary Items**   * Sleeping bag or bedding for a twin mattress * Pillow * Water bottle * Flashlight * Medications * A supply of masks (just in case) | **Optional Items**   * Musical instrument * Book(s) * Journal/notebook and pens * Lake shoes or shower sandals * Money for Canteen ($20-$30 recommended) |

**PAC Campers:** If you have character, jazz or tap shoes and would like to bring them, please do.

If you would like to, please pack one “nice” outfit for Cabaret Night (semi-formal celebration just for PAC).

**Phone Policy:** All campers traveling with a cell phone will be asked to turn it in to the Camp Director on the first day of camp. Cell phones will be available for check-out PAC and PAC Prep twice a day: during breakfast and dinner. Campers will check their phones out with camp staff and be able to use it during those times. PAC campers will also be able to use their phones on Cabaret Night. Phones will be returned to PAC Prep campers the night before camp ends, on Friday, August 1st. Phones will be returned to PAC campers the morning before they head back to Missoula, on Wednesday, August 6th. Campers are not required to check their phones out during the allotted times.

If your child does not have a phone, that’s ok! This is our policy in order to create an immersive camp experience, as well as to stave off homesickness. We find it best that campers stay present and focused. If you need to contact your camper, the PAC and PAC Prep cell is 406-529-4743.

**DO NOT BRING:**

* **Electronic devices -** If these items are brought, their security cannot be assured. Cell phones are the exception. Please see the above phone policy.
* **Food -** CAMPERS MAY NOT HAVE ANY FOOD ITEMS IN THEIR CABINS AS IT WILL ENCOURAGE NON-HUMAN CABINMATES! Western Montana is home to black and grizzly bears and many other animals that seek out human food. Food in cabins is not safe. “Care Packages” containing food are also discouraged.If food is brought or sent to camp, it must be stored safely in the kitchen or lodge.
* **Excess money –** There will be a Canteen store at camp selling limited amounts of snacks and supplies. Any snacks purchased must be consumed right away and not brought back to cabins. We suggest that each camper bring roughly $20-$30 for this purpose. Excess cash is strongly discouraged.
* **Weapons or knives** – These are prohibited items and those in possession will be immediately dismissed from camp.
* **Drugs or alcohol** – These are prohibited items and those in possession will be immediately dismissed from camp. All prescription and over-the-counter medications must be turned into the camp nurse at check-in. Medications cannot be kept in the cabin for the safety of other campers.

## **MEDICATION & HEALTH TOPICS**

## **Medical Forms**

Every camper MUST have the medical forms and permissions signed by the due date listed below. **It is essential that these forms are completed or your child WILL NOT be able to come to PAC.** We do not keep records on file. If you are a previous camper, you will need to submit these yearly. The [**Camper Health History Form**](https://www.mctinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Camper-Health-History_Fillable.pdf) **is due June 23, 2025** and contain vital information about your child’s allergies, health history, health care providers, permission to treat, and medications.

[**Camper Health History Forms**](https://www.mctinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Camper-Health-History_Fillable.pdf) **are due June 23, 2025.** Please complete the form by filling in the information digitally and sending a copy to [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org)**.** You can also print a copy of the form and fill it out by hand, then scan and email, mail a physical copy to MCT, or drop a physical copy off (these options are less ideal). **PHOTOS OF MEDICAL FORMS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

### Medications at Camp

All camper medications (prescription and over-the-counter) must be held and administered by our camp nurses, so they are not in areas where other campers have access to them. Campers will hand over medications and discuss daily regimens with the nurse at check-in.

It is IMPERATIVE that you bring all prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines that your child typically takes on a daily basis, including vitamins and supplements. Camp is not the time to take your child off a medication or supplement. Our nurses will have general pain killers, stomach medicines, and topical ointments, but don’t generally carry items like melatonin or allergy medication.

Medications should be in their original container with the name of the camper, the name of the medication, dosage amount, and frequency on it. If the original container absolutely cannot be located, please write down that information and put it with your medication. Do not rely on your child to know their own dosage.

### Emergency Contact

During camp, there may be instances when we need to get a hold of a parent or guardian – such as an important health issue, ongoing discipline issue, or homesickness concern. We will reach out to the primary contact first, but if we are not able to reach them, please list a secondary contact that we can contact on your application. If you ever need to change contacts or add an additional contact, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:pac@mctinc.org).

In the rare case of emergencies, there are medical facilities less than 10 miles away from each camp. Any medical crisis that cannot be handled by a camp nurse will be referred there. We work hard to keep your campers safe and there are inherent risks in attending an overnight camp in the Montana woods. Emergency contacts will not normally be called about minor medical issues like an upset stomach, headache, scrape, or bruise.

### Health Concerns at Camp

We strive to provide a nurturing, warm, and encouraging environment to campers and staff at PAC. If your camper experiences mental health concerns such as anxiety or depression, has any behavior issues, or has struggled with disordered eating, please be proactive in sharing that information on your health forms. We can do our best work when informed before camp about challenges that campers may face while at camp. Together, we can develop a strategy to address your camper’s needs in a new environment.

Please also recognize that MCT does not have the capacity to support every health concern. Sometimes, our nurses or other counselors have proper training to address issues that may arise, but, in general, we do not employ experts in every field of health or behavior.

**Accommodation Policy for Overnight Camp**

Participants or their guardians are encouraged to contact MCT staff prior to the start of the program to discuss any accommodations they may require. MCT staff will work closely with participants and their families to provide appropriate accommodations and support throughout their experience.

**Accommodations and Inclusion Policy for Overnight Camp:** At MCT Overnight Camps, we are dedicated to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all participants, including those who are neurodivergent. We understand the importance of accommodating the diverse needs of our campers. Here are some accommodations that can realistically be made for neurodivergent populations, particularly those with sensory and physical disabilities:

1. **Accessible Facilities:** MCT ensures that camp facilities, including cabins, bathrooms, dining areas, and activity spaces, are accessible for individuals with mobility challenges. This may involve ramps, handrails, wide doorways, and accessible amenities.
2. **Sensory-Friendly Environment:** MCT can create a sensory-friendly environment by offering quiet spaces for campers who may become overwhelmed by sensory stimuli. These spaces can provide a calm retreat where campers can relax and regulate their sensory experiences.
3. **Flexible Schedules:** MCT can provide flexible scheduling options to accommodate campers who may require breaks or adjustments to the daily schedule. This can include allowing campers to participate in activities at their own pace or providing alternative activities during downtime.
4. **Assistive Devices:** MCT allows campers to bring and use assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, hearing aids, or communication devices as needed. The guardian of the camper is responsible for showing MCT staff how to use devices in person or via a Zoom call with our camp nurse.
5. **Medication Management:** MCT provides a system for campers to safely store and access any necessary medications, with trained staff available to administer medications as prescribed.
6. **Peer Support:** MCT encourages peer support and buddy systems among campers, where neurotypical campers can offer assistance and companionship to neurodivergent campers as needed.
7. **Open Communication:** MCT maintains open communication channels between camp staff, campers, and their families to address any concerns or requests for accommodations. MCT encourages feedback and collaboration in ensuring a positive camp experience for all.

**Accommodations MCT Cannot Provide:** Unfortunately, due to the limitations of camp staffing ratios and budgetary constraints, MCT is unable to directly provide the following accommodations:

1. **Visual Supports,** including visual schedules, maps, and social stories to help campers navigate camp and daily routines cannot be provided by MCT.
2. **Individualized Trained Staff Support,** including significant assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs) such as toileting, bedtime routines, dressing, and eating, cannot be provided by MCT.
3. **Individualized Support Plans**, including individualized plans for campers with specific needs cannot be provided by MCT.

Though we cannot directly provide the above services, we are happy to assist in facilitating these accommodations if external entities are able to offer them on a case by case basis. Please email pac@MCTinc.org to discuss the support you or your camper require to have a safe and successful experience.

### Wildfires & Air Quality Index (AQI)

Summer is wildfire season in Montana. Fire activity and air quality are closely monitored prior to the start of PAC if conditions warrant (there is fire activity which is affecting – or could affect – air quality).

MCT has developed an emergency evacuation plan to deal with such scenarios. Outdoor activities are limited if the AQI reaches unhealthy to very unhealthy levels. If the AQI reaches hazardous levels, the Camp Director may make the call to evacuate the campground and move camp to a different location. When fire activity is close to camp, MCT works with campground caretakers and the local fire department to determine the best course of action to keep all campers and staff safe.

## **TRANSPORTATION & ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE**

**Transportation:**

You are financially responsible for getting your camper to/from camp (gas, flights, bus tickets, etc.). We can assist with transporting your camper to/from the airport or bus station to camp. However, if you book tickets to the wrong airport or bus station, we cannot guarantee that we can provide transportation. If you require transportation, an additional $10 fee will be added to your account balance.

**Traveling by Car:**

For those arriving by car, you must drop your camper off at your respective camp location.We will **not** be taking a shuttle from MCT to camp this year and have limited seating on the shuttle from the airport that we need to reserve for those arriving by plane or bus. Please arrive at camp between 3-5PM for check-in. We do not provide care for your child if they arrive early to camp.

**Traveling by Plane:**

Campers arriving by plane **MUST fly into and out of Missoula International Airport (MSO) as CLOSE to mid-day as possible.** Your [Camper Form](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025) will require your airline information and flight number. If you are traveling as a registered unaccompanied minor, please let us know ASAP as you will need the name and information of the person picking up/dropping off your child at the airport. We will watch flights closely, but you can communicate any travel changes by texting or calling 406-529-4743.

The airport in Missoula is fortunately very small. Upon arrival, your camper can make their way to baggage claim where they will see MCT staff wearing PAC T-shirts and holding a sign. We will collect all passengers and then board the transport to camp.

**Traveling by Bus:**

Please travel into and out of the Bus Station in Missoula (1660 W Broadway St.). We understand that bus schedules are not always convenient. If you can travel in mid-day, that is the best option. In some cases, if your child is attending PAC and is arriving outside of the arrival window, it may make more sense to arrive at the Polson, MT Bus Station (but ONLY if your child is attending PAC and arriving past 5PM). Please contact [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) to discuss your travel plans if this is the case.

### Arrival/Departure

Please arrive between 3PM-5PM for check-in and 10AM – 11:30AM for check-out. **We do not provide care for your child if they arrive early to camp and you will likely be told to come back at 3PM.** Most of our camps do not allow us to check-in much earlier than the 3PM arrival time and we need to use all the time that we can to set up PAC and PAC Prep.

#### PAC PREP:

* + **Check-in:** Campers arriving by car should plan on arriving **Sunday, July 27** **between 3PM - 5PM** at Camp Paxson (4200 Boy Scout Rd, Seeley Lake, MT 59868)**.** If you are going to be later than 5PM, please call/text the PAC Director at 406-529-4743. Check-in can be a longer process as we require you to visit with the nurse to turn in any medications and discuss any health specifics or concerns.Please be patient and plan on 30-45 minutes to get your camper settled.
  + **Check-out:** Campers will be ready for pick up at Camp Paxson between 10AM-11:30AM on **Saturday, August 2.** Please do not be late as MCT needs to be out of camp facilities by 12PM. The last meal served will be breakfast on Saturday. If your child will be picked up by anyone other than a custodial parent/guardian, please indicate this on your [Camper Form.](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025) If this changes at all, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:pac@mctinc.org) or text 406-529-4743 with the updated information. We require changes to pick up in writing.
  + **Directions to PAC Prep:** Take MT-200, then turn left on MT-83 N. When driving north on Highway 83, watch out for Boy Scout Road on the left. Follow Boy Scout Rd for 4.8 miles, then turn left to the Camp Paxson turn-off (the sign will be on your right, the driveway into camp on your left). PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BOY SCOUT RD BRIDGE IS OUT FOR THE SUMMER, and this navigation routes you around the lake to avoid this bridge. Google Maps navigation avoids the bridge as well, so use that as a resource.

#### PAC:

**Check-in:** Campers arriving by car should plan on arriving **Sunday, July 27 between 3PM - 5PM** at the United Methodist Camp (21339 Methodist Camp Rd, Rollins, MT 59931). If you are going to be later than 5PM, please call/text the Camp Director at406-529-4743. Check-in can be a longer process as we require you to visit with the nurse to turn in any medications and visit about any health specifics or concerns. Please be patient and plan on 30-45 minutes to get your camper settled.

**Check-out:** For those staying at MCT-provided accommodations, check-out is **Sunday, August 10 from 10AM – 11:30AM** at the Missoula Children’s Theatre(200 N. Adams St, Missoula , MT 59802). Campers staying with family can check out after the final evening show on Saturday, August 9. If your child will be picked up by anyone other than a custodial parent/guardian, please indicate who on your [Camper Form](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025). If this changes at all, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:pac@mctinc.org) or text 406-529-4743 with the updated information. We require changes to pick up in writing.

**Directions to PAC:** The United Methodist Camp is located north of Polson at mile marker 89 on Highway 93 North.

If you have any questions on arrival schedules or transportation logistics, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) to discuss.

### MCT-Provided Missoula Housing – PAC ONLY

When in Missoula, you have the option of providing housing for your camper (staying with family or friends in the area or arranging a hotel on your own) or purchasing MCT-provided housing. MCT provided housing costs (still to be determined) per night and is at a local hotel or hostel. Meals and transportation are included in this cost. You can indicate your housing needs (1-4 nights) on the [Camper Form](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025). MCT has a limited number of housing options. If you can provide housing for your camper, **please do!**

### Camper Form

The [Camper Form](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_camper_form_2025) is due June 23, 2025. This form includes your transportation plans and housing plans. You will need to have made travel and housing arrangements prior to starting the form. If you have any updates/changes to information submitted on this form in the month leading up to camp, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) with that information rather than submitting a second form.

# AT CAMP

## **PERFORMANCES**

### PAC Prep Showcase:

**The PAC Prep Showcase is not open to the public.** The space is not conducive to an audience, and we focus our camp on theatre skills building without the pressure of a large final performance. We will be recording the performance and sending a link out for free to all PAC Prep families following camp.

### PAC Performances:

PAC will have 3 performances August 8 – 9 at the Missoula Children’s Theatre (200 North Adams Street, Missoula, MT 59802). You can purchase tickets closer to the date of PAC in person at our Box Office or via our website. Tickets to these performances are **not** included in the price of camp.

## 

## **DAILY SCHEDULES**

We follow these schedules most days, but sometimes have surprises that mix things up, special guests, or late sleep-in days. Schedules are subject to change.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sample PAC Schedule** | |  | **Sample PAC Prep Schedule** | |
| 7:30 | Wake Up Bell | 7:30 | Wake Up |
| 9:00 | Breakfast/Cabin Clean up | 8:30 | Breakfast/Cabin Clean-up |
| 10:00 | Warm Up Bell | 9:30 | Class  RED GROUP: Dance  GREEN GROUP: Voice  BLUE GROUP: Acting |
| 10:30 | Rehearsal | 10:30 | Class  RED GROUP: Acting  GREEN GROUP: Dance  BLUE GROUP: Voice |
| 1:00 | Lunch | 11:30 | Break |
| 1:30 | Flat on bunk | 12:00 | Lunch |
| 2:00 | Canteen | 12:30 | Flat on Bunk |
| 2:30 | Rehearsal | 1:15 | Canteen |
| 4:30 | Waterfront | 2:00 | Class  RED GROUP: Voice  GREEN GROUP: Acting  BLUE GROUP: Dance |
| 5:45 | Circle Up | 3:00 | Waterfront |
| 6:00 | Dinner | 5:00 | Dinner |
| 6:30 | Activity | 6:00 | Activity |
| 7:00 | Rehearsal | 7:00 | Rehearsal |
| 9:30 | Evening Program | 8:30 | Evening Program |
| 11:00 | Lights Out | 9:45 | Lights Out |

### Optional Lessons - For PAC ONLY

You may sign up for optional lessons while at camp by submitting the [Optional Lesson Form](https://mctinc-mzxsl.formstack.com/forms/pac_lessons_2025) (due June 23, 2025). Because of our intense rehearsal schedule, we ask that campers register for no more than 8 lessons total in no more than 2 of the 3 performance disciplines (acting, dance, and voice). Our 30-minute lessons are $20 per lesson and are taught by a professional teaching artist in a small group setting. Contact Patron Services at (406) 728-7529 weekdays from 12-5pm to submit payment for lessons. Lessons are scheduled during free times in the schedule.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

All PAC campers are expected to display appropriate and socially acceptable behavior at camp, including time spent in Missoula. MCT’s rules are designed for a reason and set to protect our program, campers, staff, and property, and to create a safe and welcoming camp environment. In general, campers should always conduct themselves in a way that is respectful, responsible, safe, and kind to all. Willful violation of camp rules can lead to dismissal at the camper’s guardian’s expense, without tuition refund. Such a break in the rules will jeopardize a camper’s invitation to return in future years. MCT adheres to the following rules, regulations, and protocols:

1. Missoula Children’s Theatre Performing Arts Camps are conducted in complete conformance with all laws governing drug use, alcohol use by minors, smoking laws, environmental protection, and health and safety.
2. Profanity, bullying, verbal abuse, and/or physical harm to another individual will not be tolerated.
3. Physical boundaries and consent are important at camp so that everyone feels safe. We recognize that romantic relationships are a positive part of many teen and adult lives, but they are strongly discouraged at camp.
4. Camper sleeping and bath areas are separated by gender. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate any gender-expansive individual. Campers must respect other people’s spaces and are not allowed in cabins that they are not assigned to. Campers should be aware that any kind of sexual activity between students is strictly prohibited and could be grounds for immediate dismissal.
5. Illicit drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, weapons, and fireworks are not allowed at PAC.
6. Campers committing damage or theft - and their guardians – will be held responsible for payment of damages.

**Building Community**

MCT is committed to creating a camp environment free of discrimination and bias –  both subtle and overt. The comfort and safety of all campers, staff, and personnel is paramount. Discriminatory behavior will not be terminated and is grounds for immediate dismissal from camp.

**MCT Behavior Policy and Procedure**

Missoula Children’s Theatre Behavior Policy and Procedure outlines our commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants. At MCT, we believe that every individual deserves to feel valued, supported, and empowered, and it is our goal to ensure that this ethos permeates every aspect of our programs. In this document, we provide clear guidelines for behavior expectations along with procedures for addressing conflicts. By adhering to these policies and procedures, we aim to create an environment where everyone can thrive, engage, and enjoy the transformative power of the theatre experience.

**Behavior Policy:** MCT strives to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants. To maintain the integrity of our programs and ensure the well-being of everyone involved, certain behaviors will not be tolerated. **Participants may be asked to leave the program if they engage in any of the following behaviors:**

1. **Bullying:** Any form of bullying, harassment, or intimidation towards other participants, staff members, or volunteers will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to physical, verbal, emotional, and cyberbullying. Bullying is grounds for immediate dismissal.
2. **Elopement:** Elopement refers to the act of a child leaving the designated area without supervision or permission, which causes a safety concern and impacts program delivery for other participants. Elopement or the threat of elopement is grounds for immediate dismissal.
3. **Disruptive Behavior:** Behaviors that disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the safety and well-being of others, such as excessive noise, refusal to follow directions, or intentional destruction of property, will not be tolerated.
4. **Dishonesty or Theft:** Any form of dishonesty, cheating, or theft will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to lying, plagiarism, or stealing belongings of other participants or staff members.
5. **Violence or Threats:** Engaging in acts of violence, aggression, or threats towards other participants, staff members, or volunteers will result in immediate dismissal from MCT.
6. **Disrespectful Behavior:** Participants are expected to always treat others with respect and kindness. Disrespectful behavior towards other participants, staff members, or volunteers, including rude language, gestures, or attitudes, will not be tolerated.
7. **Violation of Camp Rules:** Failure to comply with MCT rules and regulations, as outlined by MCT staff, may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program.
8. **Illegal Activity:** Engaging in illegal activities of any type will result in immediate dismissal from MCT programming without warnings.

**Behavior Procedure:** The purpose of this Behavior Policy is to set consistent standards and processes to promote a cohesive atmosphere. The following steps will be taken to ensure MCT follows the same sequence to ensure the safety of all participants.\*

1. **Initial Warning:** Participants who engage in behavior that violates MCT policies will be given an initial warning by MCT staff. During this warning, the participant, and their caregiver (if under the age of 18) will be informed of the behavior that is unacceptable and given an opportunity to correct it.
2. **Second Warning:** If the behavior persists after the initial warning, the participant and their caregiver (if under the age of 18) will be given a second warning by MCT staff. At this point, the consequences of continued inappropriate behavior, including potential dismissal from the MCT program, will be clearly communicated in writing.
3. **Dismissal:** If the participant continues to engage in behavior that violates MCT policies after receiving two warnings, they may be dismissed from the program. Dismissal decisions will be made by leadership in consultation with appropriate staff members.

*\*MCT reserves the right to dismiss any camper without warning if the transgression is severe and/or endangers themself or others.*

**De-escalation Procedure:** This procedure provides a framework for de-escalating tense situations and preventing conflicts from escalating into physical confrontations or harm.

1. **Immediate Response:**
   * Ensure the safety of all individuals involved.
   * Calmly verbally de-escalate the situation, if possible.
   * Remove other participants from the area if necessary.
   * Encourage participants into a safe environment while contacting guardians and support staff to ensure two staff are present during the escalated period.
   * Document the incident in detail, including the date, time, individuals involved, and any relevant information.
2. **Assessment and Evaluation:**
   * Conduct an assessment of the participant's behavior.
   * Consider whether the incident indicates a pattern of behavior or is an isolated occurrence.
   * Evaluate whether additional support or interventions are needed to prevent future incidents.
3. **Return Policy After Aggressive Incidents:**
   * Determine a clear protocol for when a participant can return to MCT programs after an aggressive incident.
   * Consider factors such as the severity of the incident, the individual’s willingness to engage in the program, and the safety of staff and other participants.
   * Establish specific criteria or steps that the participant must complete before returning to any programming, such as a safety plan or additional assessments.

**Debriefing and Relationship Repair Procedure Following an Aggressive Incident:** Having a Debriefing and Relationship Repair Procedure is essential for promoting accountability, fostering learning and growth, and rebuilding trust and relationships in the aftermath of challenging incidents. MCT follows the following steps to ensure all staff and participants are cared for:

1. **Participant Follow-Up (Day of the incident):**
   * Reach out to the participant and their family to discuss the incident, express concern for their well-being, and address any questions or concerns they may have. Discuss a plan if returning is an option for future programs.
   * Offer support and resources to help repair the relationship and prevent future incidents.
2. **Post-Incident Debriefing (Within 3 days of the incident):**
   * Schedule a debriefing session with staff members involved in the incident to discuss what occurred and identify what went well and what areas can be improved on.
   * Provide a supportive environment for staff to express their feelings and concerns.
   * Set a plan for additional training or consultation if necessary.

Participants or their guardians are encouraged to discuss these policies and procedures with MCT staff prior to the start of the program via email by contacting education@MCTinc.org if they have any questions. MCT staff will work closely with participants and their families to provide appropriate support throughout their experience.

**Cabin Clean-up**

We live in close quarters at camp. Because of this, we ask that campers are considerate of sharing space and contribute to keeping camp a safe and healthy environment. Each day, campers will tidy up their cabin spaces and cabins will rotate through daily cleaning assignments to keep the outdoor spaces, kitchen, and bathrooms clean.

**MCT-provided Housing Rules:**

You will be staying with one of our fabulous host families during the Missoula portion of Performing Arts Camp. The following are rules and expectations in effect during your homestay:

1. READ AND ADHERE TO THE MCT BEHAVIOR POLICY AND PROCEDURE, just like at camp. We maintain insistence on safety, respect, and kindness.
2. Openly communicate with your host family. Let them know of any needs or concerns right away.
3. Curfew is at 11PM each evening, regardless of where you are staying. Please be considerate of your noise levels if your homestay family goes to sleep before this time.
4. Campers are not permitted to leave MCT or their homestay by themselves. Campers must be accompanied by at least 2 other campers in the program, family members, or MCT staff members.
5. Campers cannot be in a vehicle besides their homestays without prior authorization and written consent from a parent/guardian. (The exception is MCT-provided transportation or when they are with family members.)
6. Be respectful of your homestay’s background, beliefs, privacy, and boundaries.
7. If you have an emergency, alert your homestay and call the Emergency PAC phone at 406-529-4743.
8. Be polite. Clean up after yourself. Use “please” and “thank you”. Be ready to go when your homestay gives you a ride. Use appropriate language and manners around both adults and children.
9. Be safe. Don’t engage in any activity that could result in injury, such as extreme outdoor or water sports. In show-biz, we call that “protecting your show”.
10. Shower. Daily. Enough said.

# FAQs

**When are the drop-off and pick-up times?**

Drop-off time is between **3PM - 5PM on July 27**. Pick-up time is 10AM - 11:30AM. For PAC Prep, campers are picked up at Camp Paxson on **August 2**. For PAC, campers who are staying in MCT-provided housing can be picked up at the Missoula Children’s Theatre on **August 10**.

**How are cabins separated?**

It is of the utmost importance to us that we create an environment in which ALL campers feel comfortable and safe at camp. Each camp is separated into 2 "pods" of cabins (a female pod and a male pod) with a bathhouse in each. You will select housing options on your PAC Application. To discuss housing needs, please contact [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org).

**Where are campers allowed to go at camp?**

Campers can be in all common spaces including the dining hall and rehearsal spaces. Campers are not permitted in staff housing or any pods/cabins other than their own.

**Can my child be in a cabin with their friend?**

You can send a request to [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:pac@mctinc.org) that will be taken into consideration. A lot of factors go into cabin assignments and we cannot guarantee all requests will be honored, but will do the best we can!

**Will I be able to talk on the phone with my child?**

PAC and PAC Prep Campers will be allowed their phone twice a day: during breakfast and dinner. Campers will check their phones out with camp staff and be able to use it during those times. If your child does not have a phone, that’s ok! This is our policy in order to create an immersive camp experience, as well as to stave off homesickness. We find it best that campers stay present and focused on why they are at camp in the first place. If you need to contact your camper, the PAC cell is 406-529-4743.

**Can we visit our camper?**

For security reasons, campers are **not** able to receive visitors at camp. This includes family members. If your child forgets something, please call/text the PAC cell at 406-529-4743 and we can arrange a parking lot drop off.

**What if my child is homesick?**

Homesickness is healthy and curable! We think that going to summer camp is a great way to “practice” being homesick AND happy. Before the summer starts, talk to your child about what camp might be like and discuss possible strategies for when they miss home. Strategies might include making a new friend, bringing a favorite stuffed animal, or telling their counselor how they are feeling. If homesickness persists, we’ll call and let you know. We find it helpful if parents/guardians reinforce how brave their camper is for sticking it out instead of giving them the option of going home unless it is an emergency.

**Can my child leave camp?**

Campers must always remain on the campgrounds. Any departures from camp must be pre-arranged and approved by the Camp Director and the camper must be picked up by a parent/guardian or obtain written permission by a parent/guardian to leave with someone else. Going on walks, hikes, or leaving to run an errand is prohibited at camp. Any camper that needs something should speak with the Camp Director.

**Can my child bring a car to camp?**

If a child brings their own car to camp, they need to turn in their keys to the Camp Director at the start of camp. They are not allowed to transport other campers unless the Camp Director receives written permission to transport from parents/guardians of both parties (drivers and passengers).

**What is Canteen?**

Campers are permitted to visit the Canteen for snacks once each day. Stamps, envelopes, and small PAC merchandise items may also be sold. Special orders for forgotten items such as toothpaste, flashlights, etc., can be taken and filled in town by the next day.

**What is “Flat on Bunk”?**

“Flat on Bunk” or FOB time follows lunch and precedes Canteen. During this time, campers should be in their bunks and silent. Reading or writing is permitted, but the idea is to allow time for rest. By the third or fourth day, most campers will sleep during this time.

**What is the weather like in Western Montana?**

Days can be warm (85-95 degrees) and there are not any areas of camp with air conditioning. Nights can get colder (55-65 degrees). We encourage packing layers.

**What is PAC Cabaret Night?**

Banquet Night is a night just for PAC Campers, where we celebrate the seniors attending their final year of PAC. The night is full of fun, special programming, and a “nice” camp dinner. Campers are encouraged to dress up, but don’t have to. Attire is semi-formal.

**What activities will campers participate in outside of rehearsals?**

Each day, weather permitting, we will have waterfront. Canoes and paddle boats are available for check-out if there is a counselor with the campers. Each evening after dinner there is a structured outdoor activity. Activities in the past have included improv games, capture the flag, volleyball, etc. Campers do not have to participate in waterfront or these activities, but are encouraged to.

Following the evening rehearsal, a special program is scheduled. Past programs have included Campfire, Talent Show, Counselor Switch, Trivia Night, Name that Tune, etc. Campers are required to attend evening programming.

**My child is going to PAC. Do they stay at camp the entire time?**

No! PAC campers perform their show at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts. They are only at camp through the morning of Wednesday, August 6th and then are bussed to Missoula. When in Missoula, you have the option of providing housing for your camper (staying with family or friends in the area or arranging a hotel on your own) or staying at a homestay (arranged by MCT) for an additional housing fee. Meals and transport are included in this cost. You can indicate your housing needs (1-4 nights) on your Camper Form after your application has been accepted. MCT has a limited number of housing options. If you can provide housing for your camper, please do! And if you are local, please consider being a homestay for a camper or two. Please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) if you are interested.

**Can my child get a ride to or home from camp?**

If you can get your child to/from camp, direct transportation is always easiest. Campers arriving on public transportation (bus or plane) can be provided transportation to/from the airport or bus station. If your child requires transportation, please indicate it on your Camper Form. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact us as we may be able to get your child from Missoula to camp. However, space is limited and priority will be given to those flying in or taking a bus.

**Can I purchase PAC Merchandise?**

PAC Merchandise is not yet available, but it will be later in the year. Orders will be taken prior to camp and fulfilled at camp. Please plan to purchase ahead of time as we will not be selling any clothing items at camp this year. Note that sizes on some items are limited. We are planning on selling any remaining small merchandise items along with snacks at the Canteen each day (water bottles, stickers, pop sockets, and fanny packs). Once items are sold out, they will not be restocked. **All merchandise pre-orders must be completed by 5PM MST on July 8, 2025.**

**Why do you charge a food premium for campers with a special diet at PAC?**

Due to the significant rise in food costs, MCT is instituting a food premium for campers requiring a vegan or gluten-free diet (cost to be determined). This is a one-time fee that can be paid via phone to MCT Patron Services weekdays from 12PM - 5PM at (406) 728-7529.

**When is the deposit for camp Due?**

If your deposit is not received by May 23, 2025, we will make every reasonable attempt to contact you prior to filling your position. If that deadline poses a problem for you, please email [PAC@MCTinc.org](mailto:PAC@MCTinc.org) as soon as possible and we can set up a payment plan.

**Can I cancel my camper’s registration?**

Yes. Please inform us if plans change as soon as possible. Your deposit is non-refundable after June 1st, 2025.