



“Thinking Globally...Acting Locally”

Higher Ground Program Description

Higher Ground Program Structure: Higher Ground is a Christian Leadership Camp designed to encourage and equip High School students, ages 14-18, with a primary focus on Biblical Disciple-making and Servant Leadership.

Higher Ground is intended for those who are ALREADY Believers and want to grow in their faith and leadership skills. When people think of a Leadership Camp, they may assume that the only activities available are sitting around reading and studying the Bible, being taught the Bible, and praying. Although these are aspects of HG, they are fulfilled in the context of fun and enjoyable activities. Campers participate in wilderness hikes, water activities, sports, challenge course and so much more!

Every activity at HG is a teachable experience that illustrates how to apply biblical principles!

Because this Camp experience is different from any of KAA's other Camps, please make sure this information is clearly communicated with all potential HG students.

Higher Ground 1st Year Profile: Campers desiring to participate in the Higher Ground Leadership Training Program must meet the following criteria:

- Have an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ
- Possess a strong desire to grow in their faith
- Agree to participate in all training activities (spiritual & physical)
- Assume personal responsibility for learning and practice at Camp and at home
- Submit to and follow authority

Higher Ground Follow-up Process: Students will be assigned a COACH who will follow up with and mentor them throughout the school year. The COACH will assist with the following:

Communicate with the student, **O**nline engagement (monthly HG Zoom Huddle), **A**ssignments, **C**ommunity involvement, and **H**elp (COACH).



*First year campers attend 5 days of fun
and applicable equipping at Camp.*

HIGHER GROUND 1

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Our purpose is to train and equip the next generation of urban leaders to change their community and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the most hype, fun and challenging environment!!!

HG Year 1 Camper Goals:

- Abiding in Christ through a consistent devotional time
- Sharing your story and God's story
- Possess basic knowledge and skills of what it means to be a disciple of Christ and how to make disciples
- Team building and smaller camper numbers help build deeper relationships
- Properly study the Word using a variety of applicable resources
- Apply biblical leadership principles in any context
- Pre-plan personal and spiritual goals for the year
- Biblical Manhood and womanhood



*Second year campers attend 10 days of Camp
with a portion of training at Camp. They put that
training into practice on a local Mission Trip.*

HIGHER GROUND 2

HG Year 2 Camper Goals:

- Reinforce and build on the Biblical foundations from HG year one
- Acquire a Biblical understanding of what it means to lead like Jesus Christ in modern culture
- Biblical understanding of work
- Financial literacy training
- Lead a local mission trip
- On the job training

**HG 2 is only offered to students who have
already completed HG 1.**



HIGHER GROUND INFORMATION SHEET

Higher Ground Session Schedule 2026

5 Day Sessions (15M, 15F each session)

HG 1: Week 1 May 31 – June 5	Week 7 July 12 – July 17
Week 3 June 14 – June 19	Week 8 July 19 – July 24
Week 5 June 28 – July 3	

Cost of Higher Ground 1

The cost for HG 1 is \$225 for a 5 day session. The deposit is \$25 per camper.

Cost of Higher Ground 2

The cost for HG 2 is \$450 for a 10 day session. **(Part of that time is spent in camp and part in an urban/rural training setting).** The deposit is \$25 per camper.

Registration/Deposit Due Dates for HG 1 & 2

To not incur financial penalties, **all cancellations must be made in writing and in our office by April 1st 5PM CST. After April 1st you will forfeit your full deposit.**

The full payment for Higher Ground (according to the above rates) is due in our office no later than May 1st by 5PM CST. **There are no refunds after May 1st** The full tuition is lost on all cancellations after this date.

Registration Requirements of Higher Ground

- ❖ **HG 1-** Higher Ground applicants must register online, complete the online camper form (health form), submit an online Questionnaire, we request two Recommendation forms from a teacher/coach and another leader. These forms are completed online and used to help give HG an accurate assessment of your leadership development. All necessary forms and links will be emailed to you or found online and are requested to complete this process.
- ❖ **HG 2-** applicants must complete all of their HG 1 assignments before they are eligible to return. Once they are eligible, a completed online camper form (health form) is needed for each student. **Register EARLY to ensure your spot in the limited openings.**
- ❖ Ideally, a camper may only attend one session of Higher Ground. However, if special circumstances arise, please consult the Director.
If those sessions are consecutive and the camper needs to stay over, there is a \$75 charge per camper. A completed transition form must be turned in at least 2 weeks in advance for them to be eligible for this additional program.

PLEASE GIVE A COPY OF THIS PAGE TO EACH HG STUDENT

Dress code

Modesty is expected at Camp, and the clothing listed below is essential. No expensive outfits are needed. **Remember: Camp is under no obligation to replace lost or damaged clothing.**

Items to bring for HG 1, and HG 2

- Bible & pen
- **HG 2- outfit for church- Girls: knee length, loose skirts or dresses. NO low cut or sagging tops. Guys: dress slacks, Khaki or NICE jeans, shirt, tie & dress shoes**
- Modest one-piece swimsuit (FULL ONE PIECE WITH NO CUT-OUTS ONLY!)
- Jacket, sweatshirt, or sweater
- Pajamas or appropriate sleeping attire
- 5-7 shorts (athletic or loose fitting...KNEE LENGTH or below!)
- 7 days of underwear **HG 2- 10-12 pair**
- 1 pair of old shoes & clothing for service projects (possibly paint clothes)
- 7 days of socks (Required)
- 7-9 T-shirts (no form fitting or low cut, must be crew neck not V-neck) or blouses (no tank tops or spaghetti straps)
- 1 pair of blue jeans/slacks (NO form fitting or yoga pants)
- 1 raincoat or poncho
- Sneakers/tennis shoes (no sandals allowed during Camp, only travel)
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- 1 pillow w/pillowcase
- 1 set of twin sheets **HG 2- 2 sets twin sheets**
- 2-4 bath towels
- 7 wash cloths
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Other needed hygiene items
- **Money for Camp merchandise if desired**
- **HG 2 & 3- extra money for souvenirs if desired**

NO CAMO clothing of any kind is permitted!!

Items NOT to bring

There are certain items that are not to be brought to Camp. Please abide by the rules and do not bring any of these to Camp or they will be confiscated:

- FOOD
- CHEWING GUM OR CANDY
- **CELL PHONES OR TABLETS**
- JEWELRY

******CELL PHONES WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE BEGINNING OF CAMP AND RETURNED AT THE END OF CAMP******

NOTE: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND ANY FORM OF WEAPON ARE PROHIBITED AND ARE CAUSE FOR DISMISSAL FROM CAMP.

Miscellaneous Information

- If you are on prescription medication, remember to bring that too! We **MUST** have a Camper Health Form stating what medication you are taking, and the prescription name on the bottle.
- **HG 2 students leave Camp during the 2nd week to attend a rural/urban, 1 day mission trip and then return to Camp.**
- **HG 2 Students WILL have an opportunity to wash their clothes before their 2nd week!**



KAA/HG 1 & 2 TRANSITION PROGRAM

Purpose: A service provided to campers who remain at camp for consecutive sessions as they transition between KAA & HG.

Cost: \$75.00 per person includes:

- Meals
- Transportation (for any outings leaving camp)
- Laundry
- Activities and Outing
- Lodging



If you need this service, **this form must be completed and returned to KAA Registration at least 2 weeks before their session begins.** A fee of \$50 per person will be added to your group registration fees. **If we do not receive this form, you will not be able to use this service!**

Name of the Group: _____

Circle which camp: KAA 3 to HG HG to KAA 3

Circle which session needed: 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-6 6-7 7-8

M/F	Name of Camper

AT LEAST 2 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR SESSION, please return this form to:
higherground@kaakamps.org



Kids Across America Camps



Higher Ground Transportation Details

You are responsible for getting to and from Camp during your time at Higher Ground. Whether you are flying or taking a bus, the following guidelines will outline proper procedures and protocol for arranging transportation this summer. Please read carefully.

FLYING TO CAMP?

Booking: Shuttle service is only available from the following:

Airports: Springfield / Branson National (SGF) Northwest Ark Regional (XNA) Branson Regional (BKG)

Bus Stations: Springfield and Branson/Hollister

Shuttle Service: \$100 Each Way to/from SGF, \$100 to/from XNA, \$50 to/from BKG (if it meets the following requirements)

1. All requests must be made via the form link below **at least 5 days in advance** of your arrival or departure.
2. Any cancellations must be made at least 5 days in advance by email to higherground@kaakamps.org.
2. Flight or bus times must be between the hours of 9:00am and 7:00pm.

If you have any travel issues or need special accommodations for your camper, please email us at higherground@kaakamps.org

Requesting Shuttle Service:

If you are in need of this shuttle service for your Higher Ground Camper/Campers, please click here and fill out this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/rYCpdwXXkC?origin=lpLink>

You will receive an e-mail confirming your shuttle request from the Higher Ground Department. If you do not receive a confirmation, please follow up with us at the email below to make sure we received your request.

Last Minute Shuttle Request: All travel requests made less than 5 days in advance are honored based on vehicle/driver availability and at an additional cost of \$25 each way.

Shuttle Pick-Up: Gather your luggage and go to the baggage claims area and wait there for the KAA / HG representative. Because your pick-up could be coordinated and grouped with other shuttle requests due to the distance to KAA, you may encounter some wait time.

Cancelling Your Shuttle Request: Shuttle cancellations must be received in writing at least 5 days in advance of your travel date or a \$25 charge is assessed.

Paying For Your Shuttle: Transportation charges are billed to your registration/Camp account.

CONTACT US

E-Mail: higherground@kaakamps.org