

Welcome to the Trackers Homeschool Outdoors Program!

Our 2019-2020 season marks the ninth year of our homeschool outdoor skills programming in the Bay Area. To those of you who are returning, we warmly welcome you back. To those considering joining us, we are excited to begin connecting with you and creating a relationships through wilderness skills and long-term mentorship.

We also are excited to continue to grow our innovative Micro School program. Starting this fall, we will offer four age groups of micro school: Kindergarten, Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, and Middle School. A consistent teacher and peer group for all three days allows for in-depth mentoring and personalization of projects. Please contact us using the information below to learn more about micro-school.

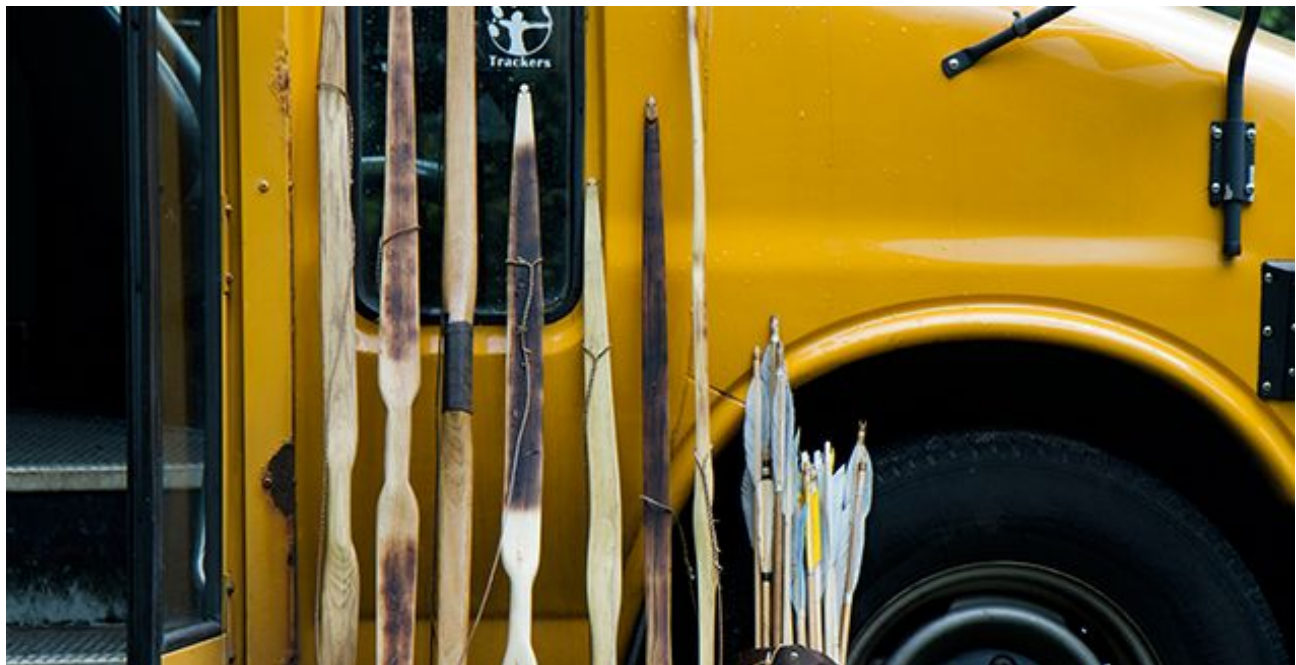
Finally, we want to remind all families of the **new check-in/out location** for fall 2019! After years of searching, we have found our new location: 1336 Channing Way, Berkeley. We can't wait to show you all around.

Please read through the following enrollment information and don't hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions. Our office may be reached by calling 510-575-9444 or by emailing bay@trackersearch.com

With kind regards,

Edan, Mandisa, and the Trackers Office Team

bay@trackersearch.com



Registration and Re-Enrollment

Our registration priority list is as follows:

1. Currently enrolled students *for the location they currently attend*
2. Siblings of current students
3. Current students wishing to switch program locations
4. Waitlisted students (in the order in which they joined the waitlist)
5. New students not currently on a waitlist

Re-enrollment timelines will consequently vary slightly by program. You will be notified when you are eligible to re-enroll your current student or enroll a sibling or waitlisted child. For all programs, to secure a space for Fall 2019, we require a non-refundable \$75 deposit per child per enrolled day. This charge applies regardless of whether you will eventually pay with charter funds.

Choose our easy monthly payment plan, or pay your balance for the year in full by 8/15 for a 5% discount. Charter school payments are not eligible for the discount. However, if you are paying partially by charter school and partially out of pocket, all out of pocket totals paid in full by 8/15/19 are eligible for the 5% discount. We will hold your \$75 deposit for the academic year. At the end of the year, you may choose to roll this deposit into next year's registration, or receive a refund. In the event of program cancellation we retain this as a withdrawal fee.

Returning Families Only: You will be sent a special registration code for re-enrollment to roll your tuition deposit into this year's registration.

If you enroll in a payment plan, your monthly payment is **your full year's tuition divided by 9**. Monthly tuition charges are **NOT** based on the number of classes in that specific month. This is for ease of accounting and budgeting. Payments are automatically debited once monthly from September – May. Please note that registrations are for a full year; however, we do allow for mid-season withdrawals per our cancellation policy (see below).

If you are unable to provide your deposit now due to financial hardship, please contact us directly so we may make alternate arrangements.



Program Dates

Please note that our programs begin the week of **Tuesday Sept. 10, 2019** and end the week of **Friday, May 23, 2020**.

Trackers Homeschool will not meet the following dates, which are **not included in total tuition**:

- Nov. 25 - Nov. 29: Thanksgiving Holiday ([Camps Available](#))
- Dec. 23 - Jan. 3: Winter Break ([Camps Available](#))
- Jan. 6 - Jan. 10: Trackers Staff Winter Break Holiday Week (No Camps Available)
- Feb. 17 - 21: February Break ([Camps Available](#))
- March 30 - April 3: Spring Break ([Camps Available](#))

Trackers Homeschool: 2019-2020 Tuition

| Location, Age, and Day | 2019-2020 Tuition |
|--|--|
| Berkeley: Tuesday Rovers Age 4-5 - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | 31 Weeks: \$1,860 (\$207 per month) |
| Berkeley: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays Age 6 - 16 - 8:45 AM - 3:15 PM | 31 Weeks: \$2,294 (\$255 per month) |
| Berkeley Micro School: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, AND Thursdays Grades K - 8 / age 5 - 14 - 8:45 AM - 3:15 PM | 31 Weeks: \$6,882 (\$765 per month) |

Beginning September 2019, all programs check in and out at our new Headquarters: 1336 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94702

Trial Days & Mid-Season Enrollment

If you are a prospective family and would like to try a day before joining the program, please contact us to see if space is available on your day. We will begin taking trial day reservations on Tuesday, August 21st, subject to availability.

We offer mid-season enrollment pending space in the program. All program fees will be pro-rated based on the number of program days remaining in the year.

Age Eligibility by Program

Please see below for our age eligibility guidelines. To provide the most well-tailored experience in a developmentally appropriate environment, we do hold very firmly to the below guidelines. For each year, the age cohort will remain together. This applies even to mid-year enrollment.

| Program | Age Guidelines |
|---|---|
| Berkeley Tuesday Preschool | Must be 4 or 5 years old on September 1, 2019 |
| Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday Berkeley Homeschool | Must be 6 - 16 years old on September 1, 2019 Grouping into age cohorts will be assigned based on enrollment |
| Berkeley Micro School: Kindergarten | Must be 5 years old on September 1, 2019 |
| Berkeley Micro School: Lower Elementary (grade 1-2) | Must be at least 6 years old on September 1, 2019 |
| Berkeley Micro School: Lower Elementary (grade 3-5) | Must be at least 8 years old on September 1, 2019 |
| Berkeley Micro School: Lower Elementary (grade 6-8) | Must be at least 11 years old on September 1, 2019 |

What to Bring and What to Wear

Each day, all students should bring:

- Clothing appropriate to spend a **full day outside**. Remember microclimates and plan for layers! Foggy mornings may become hot, and a sunny morning may become foggy and cool.
- If rain is forecast, we strongly recommend full waterproof (**not** water resistant!) rain pants, jacket, hat, and boots. Cotton hoodies become **very uncomfortable** when it is cold and wet!
- Sturdy, closed toe shoes (broken in already, please)
- Hearty lunch and snacks
- Water bottle, full of water
- Optional: Carbon steel or stainless steel knife (we have loaners as needed)
- Any medications your student needs during the day (please check in with your child's instructor on the first day about medications)

Charter School Policies

Charter school enrolled families will have their estimated contribution subtracted from their total due for the year *before* monthly payments are calculated. Charter school families should contact their schools to determine this estimated contribution. A form will be sent via email to all charter families in August to collect this information. If an adjustment is needed due to unexpected changes in your charter's contribution, please contact us immediately so we may adjust your monthly payments.

Trackers is currently a vendor for many different charters. However, not all charters will cover Trackers programs due to campfire building, woodcarving, and archery. Other charters have a percentage cap of tuition they are willing to cover. Please contact our office to ask if your charter school covers Trackers programs, and to discuss any restrictions.

Sibling Discounts and Scholarships

We offer a 5% sibling discount off the total tuition due for two or more registrations. Limited scholarship funds are available for cases of financial hardship. Please contact us for more details or to request a scholarship application. Scholarship applications are due by July 1st. In order to hold a space in any specific program, we do require non-refundable payment of the registration deposit. Discounts (i.e., sibling, or pay in full) cannot be combined.

Inclement Weather / Air Quality Policy

The Trackers mission includes teaching kids to be resilient and safe in the outdoors in all types of weather. As a Transported program, we also often have options for destinations that allow us to avoid unsafe weather or hazardous air quality (in the case of wildfire smoke impact). Additionally, sometimes we are able to substitute indoor activities such as a science museum visit. **Very rarely**, Trackers may choose to cancel programming if we decide we are unable to offer a safe outdoor program. We will strive to give parents as much notice as possible when this occurs, which will generally be no later than 5 PM the previous day.

If Trackers cancels a regularly scheduled program day, we will provide credit to all families for a day of break camp, redeemable on any Trackers no school day, winter break, February break, or spring break day camp. These make-up options will *only* be offered and staffed if Trackers cancels a program day.

Cancellation and Withdrawal Policy

Because of our small group sizes, we are greatly impacted by mid-year cancellations and withdrawals. Nevertheless, we understand that the needs of families may change during the year. Our cancellation policy is as follows:

- We request a two-week courtesy notice prior to withdrawals, made in writing via email.
- For all withdrawals, we will retain your non-refundable deposit as a \$75 withdrawal fee.
- Tuition due at the time of withdrawal will be calculated based on elapsed program days. Due to our monthly payment schedule, this will not always match up perfectly with tuition paid. Any overpayment will be refunded and should a balance be due an invoice will be sent.