



WHAT TO BRING TO **LIFESKILLS CONFERENCE**

Staying at the Patton Campus, you'll be in a college dormitory type setting, with 2, 3, 4, 6 or 8 people in your room. Each person will have a closet and you can share a chest of drawers. You will be provided with clean sheets and blankets. Private bathrooms are located in each room. Boys and girls will be housed in separate buildings. The photos in this packet are views of typical rooms at Patton Campus.

You need to bring with you the following:

Comfortable clothing for six days—all casual, with shorts, T-shirts, jeans, etc. (T-shirts must be in good taste!) You will not need dressy clothes during the week. You should bring raingear, sneakers (no flip-flops – heel-strap sandals are okay, but not preferred), and a hat. Because of the very active nature of the week's program, you should not bring or wear large hoop-style earrings or any type of hanging jewelry.



Toiletries:

You should bring soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, and any other necessary items. Towels and washcloths will be provided.

Necessary medications:

Staff will supervise the administration of all prescription drugs. They must be left with staff at registration time. If you have any medical problems or physical challenges that may affect your participation, please be sure to list them on your medical release so staff are aware of your needs, or speak with the Conference Director upon arrival.

Please do NOT leave the above listed items behind. You will not be able to travel into town to pick up items during the week. Be sure to label all your belongings with your name.

Other essentials:

Bathing suit and pool towels.
Alarm clock.
Tennis racquet, or other sports equipment.
Sunglasses and sunscreen lotion.
A water bottle for outdoor activities.

Optional

Cameras and video cam-corders are welcome. Security can be provided for your equipment.



Policy on valuables:

You bring valuables **at your own risk**. Room keys will *not* be provided, and your rooms will not be locked during the day. You may deposit valuables with conference staff for safekeeping. It is preferable that valuables be left at home.

What not to bring:

Need we say it? Do not bring alcohol, firearms or weapons of any kind, illegal drugs, or fireworks with you, unless you want to take a quick trip home at your parent's expense. Do not bring martial arts equipment, slingshots, knives, skateboards, water guns or tobacco of *any form*. Additionally, do not bring videogames or TV sets (you won't have time to play them, anyway!)

No Tobacco Use Policy

The Masonic Villages of Pennsylvania and the Masonic Conference Center – Patton Campus in Elizabethtown are strictly non-smoking facilities. No smoking is permitted anywhere on our campus at any time, whether by conference participants, employees, volunteers, or guests. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMPORTANT INFO FOR PARENTS

WHERE WILL MY CHILD BE?

Your son or daughter will be staying at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown, formerly known as the Patton School. This campus is adjacent to the Masonic Village. Activities will be supervised 24 hours a day, by a staff of trained volunteer advisors who are conducting the educational and recreational activities at the Conference.



WHAT WILL MY CHILD BE DOING?

Your child will be participating in lectures, group discussions, team-building exercises, games, and other educational activities. Additionally, conferees will have the option of participating in sports, swimming, games, videotaping, etc.. They will be expected to take part in all scheduled activities, and there will be little, if any, "free time."

The program is tightly scheduled to keep all the participants active, learning, and excited about the program. Our goal is to give your child an exciting week of fun activities, challenging programs, and new friendships.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL CARE AND INSURANCE?

Emergency medical care by qualified professionals is available at a local health care facility. If your son or daughter should require emergency care, we will endeavor to contact you immediately. The AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL CARE, which you should have already submitted, must be completed and filed prior to admission to the campus. Without it, no one will be permitted to remain on campus.

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD ARRIVE?

Your child should arrive at the Patton Campus between 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM on the first day of the conference. WE CANNOT PERMIT EARLY ARRIVALS.

WHEN SHOULD I COME TO PICK UP MY CHILD?

Families are encouraged to join us at 1:30 PM on the Friday of the conference for the closing sessions. In these sessions, Conferees will share with families the activities and lessons of the week. The formal closing, including a multimedia slide-show of the week's events, will be held from approximately 2 to 3 PM, after which all conferees will be dismissed. *Please do not ask to dismiss your child earlier; as this should be one of the highlights of the week, and he/she will be disappointed if you require him/her to miss it!*

HOW DO I CONTACT MY CHILD?

You may contact your child by mail at:

PA Masonic Youth Foundation
1244 Bainbridge Road; Elizabethtown, PA 17022
Attn: (Your child's name), **LifeSkills** Conference

(If a letter arrives after the Conference is completed, we will forward it to the addressee.)

You may also contact your child by telephone in the following way:



There is a courtesy phone in hallway of main activity building, which also rings in two of the main meeting areas. You can reach this phone by dialing **717-367-1121**, which is the main number of the Masonic Homes complex. When you get the automated answer, dial **extension 33846**. Be sure to let it ring a long time. You will do best to call here at meal times: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM, Noon - 1:00 PM, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

The PA Masonic Youth Foundation office can relay messages from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, M-F. An answering machine after hours will be checked each night at midnight. The numbers are: **(800) 266-8424** (In Pennsylvania Only), or **(717) 367-1536**.

Your child will also be able to call you using a calling card or collect calling method.

ONLY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

(717) 367-1121 is the Masonic Village internal phone system — Call if between 5:00 PM and midnight, and the *other numbers are not answered*. Dial **"0"** to get the Operator and ask for **extension 33308**, with the specific instruction that if no one answers, you want a Security Officer to deliver an EMERGENCY message to Patton Campus Room M-112 which is the Conference Director's Suite at the Patton Campus and will be occupied between midnight and 6:00 AM.