

2024 CBS Families with Young Children Shabbaton

FAQs

Q) What is the cancellation policy?

A) We ask for a non-refundable deposit of \$100 to hold your family's spot. Cancellations made up to 2 months before the event (on or before 3/17/2024) will be fully refunded minus the deposit. After 3/17, cancellations will receive a 50% refund (minus the deposit).

Q) Can grandparents sign up?

A) We love grandparents! For this program, however, we want to focus on building community among parents and young kids. Please don't be mad at us! We promise to organize more Shabbatonim in the future with opportunities for multigenerational participation.

Q) One or more of my kids is outside the age range (birth-age 10). Should I sign up?

A) Older siblings are welcome, but be advised that we are designing the weekend for younger kids. If you have a high schooler or college student who wants to participate, please reach out to us about babysitter and *madrichol* (teacher's assistant) opportunities.

Q) How will we be spending Shabbat / will there be Shabbat services?

A) We will bring in Shabbat together with candle lighting and a short, musical Kabbalat Shabbat program on Friday night, followed by a festive dinner. On Shabbat morning we will gather for an interactive, musical Shabbat service and parsha-based story activity. We will be "unplugging" in public spaces but there will be plenty of activities to keep everyone as busy as they want to be. Other Shabbat activities planned include:

- Arts and Crafts
- Havdalah and S'mores
- Nature Walks
- Games
- Adult Torah discussion
- Sports (gym, pickleball, etc)

Q) How will childcare work?

A) We are hiring high school and/or college students to help facilitate the weekend and babysit after bedtime to allow parents a chance to spend time together. If you know someone who might be interested, please let us know!

Q) What should I pack?

- A) Approximately 4 weeks prior to the Shabbaton, we will provide you with a recommended packing list. You know your family the best, and can customize this list to meet your family's needs. Should you need any last minute items, Walmart and Walgreens are just minutes away!

Q) What about dietary needs?

- A) All food served in the dining room will be certified Kosher under the supervision of the Chicago Rabbinical Council (cRc). CBS will be providing additional kosher snacks, served in other spaces throughout the weekend. If you have any additional allergies or dietary restrictions, please notify us upon registration so that we will work with the Perlstein staff to try to meet those needs.

Q) What are the rooms like?

- A) Each guest room comfortably sleeps 4-5 people. Rooms include a mix of queen, twin, bunk or double beds. All rooms have private full bathrooms with shower/bathtub.

Q) Can I bring my stroller? What about our bicycles?

- A) Yes! While the space is not large, Perlstein Retreat Center sits on paved roads with plenty of space to park your stroller. Perlstein shares space with Camp Chi and is separated by a small footbridge. Your stroller will be able to cross the bridge and the ground is paved to the gymnasium/activity building, however, beyond this space are packed gravel roads. Sturdy "jogger" strollers and bicycles should not have trouble navigating these roads, but smaller umbrella strollers will have some trouble. Much of our programming will take place within the areas that are along the paved roads.

Q) If there is a lot of walking between activities, can I bring a scooter for my child?

- A) As mentioned above, the space is not large. There is a large driveway which children can ride their scooter down. This is very dangerous as the hill is steep and they can run into people. You don't need it for 2 days

Q) How far is the drive?

- A) Perlstein is located in the Wisconsin Dells and is approximately 3 hours from Northbrook. It is located just minutes off of I-90/94. It is approximately 40 minutes past Madison, WI. We'll provide a playlist for your car trip!