

Getting Here and What to Expect on Opening Day

Choose from these four options*:

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*The Camp Bus is not available for CIT Opening Day (June 17th) or Mini Session.

Option 1: Camp Bus

Bus Transportation is available to camp from American Jewish University's Familian Campus:
15600 Mulholland Drive, Bel Air, CA 90077

Directions from the Los Angeles Area:

Take the 405 Freeway (San Diego) NORTH to Skirball Center Drive. Continue onto Skirball Center Drive. Turn RIGHT onto Mulholland Drive. Turn RIGHT onto Casiano Road. Enter Parking Lot 4.

Directions from the San Fernando Valley, Conejo Valley, and Ventura:

Take the 405 Freeway (San Diego) SOUTH. Exit at Skirball Center Drive and turn RIGHT onto Sepulveda Blvd. Turn RIGHT onto Mulholland Drive. Turn RIGHT onto Casiano Road. Enter Parking Lot 4.

Your arrival window is **10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** at the Familian Campus of American Jewish University. Please **DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY**. Buses will depart American Jewish University no later than **11:15 a.m.**

Upon your arrival at your designated time, please enter at Parking Lot 4. Park and proceed to the check-in area at the basketball courts. **Please leave your luggage in your car until *after* the check-in process is complete.**

Each camper will receive a personalized camp "Darkon" (דַּרְכּוֹן – pronounced *dar-kone* – Hebrew for "Passport"), which includes your child's bunk assignment. Each section of this Darkon must then be stamped on Opening Day in order to board the bus. Stamps are obtained at the various stations. We will also have a canteen table set up to purchase water bottles and other Alonim gear.

At one station, your child's temperature will be taken. Your child will then receive a "Health" stamp in his/her Darkon. A camp nurse will also be stationed if you need to speak with him/her or if you have brought medications to drop off that are not covered by Wellspring.

If you have already turned in all your forms and made all required payments, your child's Darkon will already show a stamp in the "Forms" box. (Thank you! This will save you a lot of time.) If, however, your child's Darkon is missing this stamp, you will need to line up at the Forms station in order to submit what we need. **If you are missing a form that requires a signature by someone who is not present (e.g., the Physician's Examination Form), you and your child (and his/her luggage) will be turned away from camp until that form can be submitted.**

Following receipt of your Health and Forms stamps, please proceed to your car, unload your luggage, and bring it to the luggage drop-off station. There, you will affix colored zip-ties we give you to all pieces of your child's luggage. **Please be sure to get your final stamp, "Luggage," on your Darkon.**

Once your child's Darkon is completely stamped, follow the signs to meet with camp counselors and fellow campers. Please have your child turn in his/her Darkon to a counselor.

Once you have given your child a big hug goodbye, you can proceed back to your car and follow the signs to exit. We will email you once the buses have arrived safely on Peppertree Lane!

Upon arrival to camp, your child will go behind a private screen to have his/her hair and scalp checked by professionals who are trained to identify signs of head lice. All camps are required to check campers for lice upon arrival. Camp Alonim

contracts with a private company specializing in lice detection and treatment to conduct lice screenings on each Opening Day of the summer. Once your child passes the lice check, your child will receive a "Hair" stamp in his/her Darkon. Every summer, a few kids don't pass the lice check initially. If a child is found to have head lice or nits, parents will be contacted and will be asked whether they would like to pick up their child to treat at home immediately, or have the lice company treat at camp. Parents are responsible for the cost of lice treatment. If lice is detected, **we strongly recommend that parents have our lice-checking professionals treat at camp.** This is the most efficient method to remove lice successfully and to have your child engaged in camp activities as soon as possible. We will wash all of your child's belongings before he/she unpacks.

Please note: We will have light snacks available at the bus stop. Lunch will be served at camp at 1:30 p.m. once all campers have arrived.

Option 2: Drop off at Camp Alonim

1101 Peppertree Lane, Brandeis, CA 93064

Directions from the Los Angeles Area:

Take the 405 Freeway (San Diego) OR the 5 Freeway (Golden State) NORTH to the 118 Freeway (Ronald Reagan) WEST. Take the 118 Freeway WEST (toward Simi Valley) to the Tapo Canyon Road exit. Exit at Tapo Canyon Road and turn LEFT. Continue on Tapo Canyon Road past Cochran Street, Los Angeles Avenue, and Guardian Street to the front gate.

Directions from Ventura:

Take the 101 Freeway SOUTH to the 23 Freeway NORTH to the 118 Freeway (Ronald Reagan) EAST to the Tapo Canyon Road exit. Exit at Tapo Canyon Road and turn RIGHT. Continue on Tapo Canyon Road past Cochran Street, Los Angeles Avenue, and Guardian Street to the front gate.

In an effort to make Opening Day at camp a pleasant and efficient experience for everyone, **camp drop off times are staggered:**

- ❖ If you have a child coming to camp who will be entering **grades 8-10**, your arrival window for *all* your family's enrolled children will be **10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**
- ❖ If you have a child coming to camp who will be entering **grades 2-7**, your arrival window will be **11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**
- ❖ If you have **multiple campers** of different ages in your car when you arrive – some kids in older grades and others in younger grades – you may check in *all* campers during the *first* arrival window that applies to you.
- ❖ *Arrival times for CITs (entering grade 11) are communicated to CIT families separately.*

IMPORTANT: You will NOT be able to check in your child on Opening Day prior to your assigned arrival time. If you're early, you'll be asked politely to leave and then return when it's your time. We appreciate your eagerness to come to camp, but please **DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY.** Please also respect our neighbors by not blocking their roads or driveways. In the past, the Simi Valley Police Department has threatened to issue tickets to drivers blocking driveways or otherwise not following traffic laws. Your cooperation on Opening Day is appreciated as we welcome hundreds of children and parents to camp in a short period of time.

Upon your arrival at your designated time, you will be directed down one of our low roads to park behind Fligelman Hall (near one of our sports fields). Stations will be set up on the Old Sports Field, where we will also have a canteen table set up to purchase water bottles and other Alonim gear. Each camper will receive a personalized camp "Darkon" (דרכון – pronounced *dar-kone* – Hebrew for "Passport"). Each section of this Darkon must then be stamped on Opening Day in order for a camper to receive his/her bunk assignment and move in to the bunk. Stamps are obtained at various stations on the field.

At one station, your child's temperature will be taken. Your child will then receive a "Health" stamp in his/her Darkon. A camp nurse will also be stationed on the field if you need to speak with him/her or if you have brought medications to drop off that are not covered by Wellspring.

At another station, your child will go behind a private screen to have his/her hair and scalp checked by professionals who are trained to identify signs of head lice. All camps are required to check campers for lice upon arrival. Camp Alonim contracts with a private company specializing in lice detection and treatment to conduct lice screenings on each Opening Day of the summer. Once your child passes the lice check, your child will receive a "Hair" stamp in his/her Darkon. Every summer, a few kids don't pass the lice check initially. If a child is found to have head lice or nits, parents will be asked whether they would like to treat their child at home immediately, or have the lice company treat at camp. Parents are responsible for the cost of lice treatment. If lice is detected, **we strongly recommend that parents have our lice-checking professionals treat at camp.** This is the most efficient method to remove lice successfully and to have your child engaged in camp activities as soon as possible. We will wash all of your child's belongings before he/she unpacks.

If you have already turned in all your forms and made all required payments, your child's Darkon will already show a stamp in the "Forms" box. (Thank you! This will save you a lot of time.) If, however, your child's Darkon is missing this stamp, you will need to line up at the Forms station in order to submit what we need. **If you are missing a form that requires a signature by someone who is not present (e.g., the Physician's Examination Form), you and your child (and his/her luggage) will be turned away from camp until that form can be submitted.**

Once your child's Darkon is completely stamped, you may proceed to the final station to receive your child's bunk assignment. You will then walk your child to the Basketball Court, where a CIT will escort you and your child to Terry Field. There, counselors will be leading games and activities with each bunk. Once you have given your child's counselor his/her completed Darkon, give your child a big hug goodbye, walk back to your car, and follow the signs to drive to your luggage drop-off area. Unload your luggage where designated, and then follow the signs to continue driving -- exiting camp via the High Road. **Parents will not be able to enter the bunk area.** We have found that the camper experience is significantly enhanced when campers unpack and settle in after lunch with the help of their counselors. Through this process, campers begin developing skills we value at camp: independence, responsibility, and a sense of community.

Option 3: Plane Transportation

We provide shuttle service (with a staff member) between camp and either Burbank Airport (preferred) or Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) for a roundtrip fee of \$36 (Burbank) or \$48 (LAX). One-way fee is \$18 (Burbank) or \$24 (LAX). Pre-approved flights are listed on the **Transportation form** on your online Alonim Account. If you would like to use pre-approved flights for your child, you may select it on our online form and book your flight according to the form's instructions. If your local airport is not listed, you **MUST** contact Aaron Goldberg at agoldberg@aju.edu or 877-225-6646 with a proposed flight itinerary -- **before** booking your plane tickets and **before** completing this form. Otherwise, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to pick up/drop off your child at the airport.

Due to heightened security measures at both airports, campers are met **at baggage claim** by Alonim staff members wearing camp t-shirts. Please consult individual airlines regarding information on unaccompanied minor services they may provide for an additional fee. When necessary, and with prior notice, camp can provide **(one day in advance of travel)** the names of staff members that will be picking up campers at the airport.

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At one station, your child's temperature will be taken. Your child will then receive a "Health" stamp in his/her Darkon. A camp nurse will also be stationed on the field. If your child has any medications to drop off, he/she will do so here. Please email alonim@aju.edu if your child will be bringing any medications directly to camp.

At another station, your child will go behind a private screen to have his/her hair and scalp checked by professionals who are trained to identify signs of head lice. All camps are required to check campers for lice upon arrival. Camp Alonim contracts with a private company specializing in lice detection and treatment to conduct lice screenings on each Opening Day of the summer. Once your child passes the lice check, your child will receive a "Hair" stamp in his/her Darkon. Every summer, a few kids don't pass the lice check initially. If a child is found to have head lice or nits, parents will be contacted and advised that the lice company will treat the child on-site at camp. Parents are responsible for the cost of lice treatment. This is the most

efficient method to remove lice successfully and to have your child engaged in camp activities as soon as possible. We will wash all of your child's belongings before he/she unpacks.

Once your child's Darkon is completely stamped, he/she will proceed to the final station to receive his/her bunk assignment! Your child will then join his/her counselors for games and activities with fellow bunkmates.

Option 4: Train Transportation

We provide staffed Amtrak train transportation (a staff member will ride the train with campers) between Simi Valley and the Santa Ana and Solana Beach train stations for a roundtrip fee of \$72 (Santa Ana) or \$100 (Solana Beach). One-way fee is \$36 (Santa Ana) or \$50 (Solana Beach). Included in this fee is the full price of the camper's train ticket(s). To express interest in staffed train service, follow the instructions on the **Transportation form** on your online Alonim Account. **IMPORTANT:** Do **NOT** purchase train tickets yourself. Camp Alonim will purchase the train ticket for you after you submit our transportation form and we contact you.

When necessary, and with prior notice, camp can provide **(one day in advance of travel)** the names of staff members that will be riding the train with campers.

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Once your child's Darkon is completely stamped, he/she will proceed to the final station to receive his/her bunk assignment! Your child will then join his/her counselors for games and activities with fellow bunkmates.

Closing Day Procedures

All campers are to be picked up **between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.** on Closing Day **at camp**.

Each family will have a Closing Day Gate Pass for entrance into camp. This will help speed your entry into camp. Anyone that arrives to pick up your child without this pass must be on your child's Authorized Grown-Ups form and will be asked to show photo ID at the gate. Cars will proceed directly to the bunks. Please sign your child out with the bunk's counselors. Your camper **must** be signed out by someone listed on the Authorized Grown-Ups form that parents are required to submit. That person will be required to provide photo ID before your child is released.

There is **no** bus service for Closing Day. Campers utilizing plane or train transportation on Closing Day: be sure to complete your Transportation form on your online Alonim Account.

If someone not already listed on your Authorized Grown-Ups form will be picking up your child, a custodial parent MUST add that person's name to the online form by noon on the Thursday before the end of the session.