

2026 UK Summer Leadership Experience Camp

DEVELOPED BY UK
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE AND
SUPPORTED BY THE
KY OFFICE OF
VOCATIONAL
REHABILITATION



The UK **Summer Leadership Experience Camp** has built a rich history, offering the summer camp for the 10th year!

Summer Leadership Experience Camp

Camp dates **July 12-16, 2026.**

Takes place on the UK campus

Offered as a in-person camp AND as a virtual camp

Parents, educators and VR Counselors can join virtual informational sessions!

VR Counselors are welcome to visit camp in person!



Camper Profile



Campers represent multiple counties and high schools across KY

Age range
16-21

Rising
Sophomores/Juniors
and students graduating
in May/June

Campers represent a wide range of disability (ASD, AD/HD, OHI, LD, Mobility, seizure disorder, low vision...)

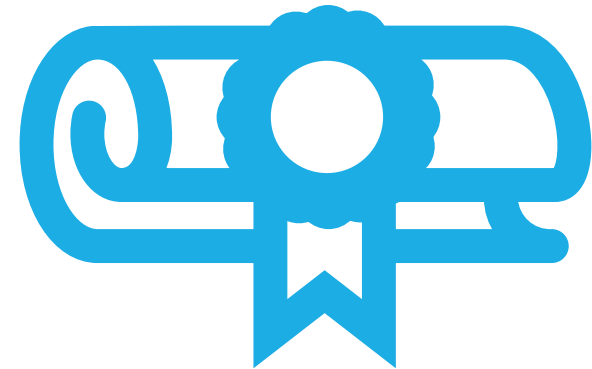
Have career interests that may require more education

Our campers

Will have idealized plans to continue their education in some capacity leading to a career.

Plans can include:

- **Community College or University**
- **Carl Perkins**
- **Technical training centers & programs**
- **Internships, apprenticeships, continuing education**
- **CTPs**



Camper Application Types

1. Student applies online as an “in-person camper”, has an **open case with a VR Counselor**, and has an Individual Plan for Employment (IEP). Camp is paid for in full by VR. Family pays \$50 application fee.
2. Student applies online as a “in-person camper” and **is currently receiving Pre-ETS services or applies for Pre-ETS(needs approval)**. Pre-ETS campers can attend by paying the cost of meals and overnights (estimated at \$230.00). Family pays \$50 application fee which reduces cost to \$180.00.
3. Student applies online as a ‘virtual’ camper. Virtual campers have a current open case with VR or are currently receiving (or applies and is approved) for Pre-ETS services. Camp is free and there is NO application fee.



So, what happens at camp?

Self advocacy

Self-
determination

Self disclosure

Team building

Foundations of
becoming a Leader

Utilizing assistive
technology for
academic success

How to be resilient in
tough times

Etiquette training

Skill building
sessions and
activities

Focused Informational sessions

Career Options with various colleges

Training opportunities with Job Corps

Vocational Training options at Carl Perkins

Obtaining academic accommodations in a college environment

Working with college Disability Resource Centers

Vocational Rehabilitation services and supports

Utilizing transportation without a driver's license

KY Higher Education Assistance Authority information



Campers hear from
Institutions of Higher
Education & Vocational
Training including;

UK

EKU

WKU

KCTCS

Carl D Perkins

Job Corps



SLE Camp is all about transitions, skill building and having access to a college experience and vital resources



Typical Camp Schedule

Sunday July 12 program starts in the evening with ice breakers and pizza.

Monday July 13 – Wednesday July 15 campers have speakers, activities both on and off campus. Overnight in the residence hall.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner on campus and off campus.

Thursday July 16, keynote speaker, family invited. Camps ends at 12 noon.

NOTE: Students interested in camp do NOT need to be interested in attending UK. Our campers attend post secondary institutions and training all over the state.



BEDROOM 1
BED A
(single)

BEDROOM 2
BED B
BED C
(bunked)

Campers and Staff stay in Residence hall

Central Campus- Ball Hall

2-bedroom suite, privacy bedroom

XL full size bed or XL twin beds

Semi-private bathroom

Common area

Campers are matched according to
information provided in application.



Campers benefit from motivational speakers that challenge them to develop interests and abilities, build career plans and work towards their dreams!



campers face personal challenges



Campers hear about the kind of support that OVR can provide.

Online application is **OPEN**

https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_74gGOHJ39I96Xps

Students will need help to complete application

Parents will need to add signature at end of application

Deadline to apply April 30, 2026.



WHAT CAMPERS SAY ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE - evaluation results (on a five-point scale)

4.8 / 5.0 campers enjoyed the camp.

4.5/5.0 campers reported that the camp helped them understand skills needed for post high school education

TOP three activities at camp included Cody Clark, The Main Event venue and the movie 23 Blast based on speaker Travis Freeman

Summary

July 12-16,2026 - UK Campus

Rising sophomores & juniors, current seniors

Current seniors with plans to enter continued education /training

Online application

Educators & OVR Counselors

Review your caseload and select students who might benefit

Send camp information to students & parents

Help students with application

Once a student applies, Director will work with family for approval process.

Deadline for registration **April 30,2026.**

