



# OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAMP 2020

*Parent Handbook*



**PELAGIC**  
RESEARCH SERVICES

**Thank you for registering your student for Ocean Science and Technology Camp this summer! We are excited to have them join us this season.** Ocean Exploration Camp is an educational camp sponsored by The University of Southern Mississippi's (USM) Marine Education Center (MEC). The MEC is the education and outreach extension of USM's School of Ocean Science and Engineering (SOSE) and Gulf Coast Research Laboratory.

We know that your student will enjoy learning about oceanography, ocean engineering, and marine exploration. Here are a few points of information that you need to know prior to your camp experience.

### **Facility Location and Contact Information**

***Ocean Science and Technology Camp will be taking place at The University of Mississippi Gulf Park campus located at 730 East Beach Boulevard Long Beach, MS 39560. This provides a more central location for camp transportation needs for both residential and nonresidential campers.***

The Marine Education Center is located on USM's GCRL Cedar Point site at 101 Sweetbay Drive, Ocean Springs, MS 39564. The facility's phone number is (228) 818-8095 and hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### **Registration**

Students are to arrive Monday morning between 7:45 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Parents and children will gather in the USM Gulf Park campus Fleming Education Center (FEC) <sup>1</sup>rotunda for registration. Fleming Education Center can be accessed from the designed parking areas. Ocean Science and Technology instructors are available to answer any questions, comments, or concerns with parents and students during Monday morning sign-in.

### **Tuition**

Tuition includes all instructional materials, field trip transportation, admission fees, field equipment, and a t-shirt. A \$50 non-refundable pre-registration deposit is required. The deposit will be applied toward the total due. ***Tuition must be paid in full 30 days before the first day of camp (June 20, 2020). Your student will not be able to participate in the program until they are paid.***

### **Refund Policy**

Refunds for paid tuition balances will be made if requested in writing by fax, email, or in person at the MEC administration office according to the schedule below. If a student is registered for a camp session and becomes unable to attend, full credit can be obtained if applied to an alternate session of camp. This refund will apply only if space is available in the Ocean Science and Technology Camp session. Refunds in the form of a personal check may take up to eight weeks for processing. We reserve the right to grant exceptions to this stated policy in certain situations.

#### Time of Request - Refund/Credit for Tuition Balance

- (6/22/20) At least 30 days before start of the requested camp session = 50% minus \$50 deposit
- (7/6/20) Less than 14 days before start of the requested camp session = No Refunds
- Leaving camp early or camper is sent home = No Refunds

### **Arrival/Departure Procedures**

Parents may drop off students between 7:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **Monday will be the only day you will need to exit your vehicle to register and sign your child in the Fleming Education Center building.** You will drop off your student off with an Ocean Science and Technology camp counselor each morning at the USM Gulf Park

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<sup>1 1</sup> See attached map, USM Gulf Park Fleming Education Center (FEC) is location number C5.

campus (for your child's safety, please make sure they are signed in/out EVERY day). Only those listed on the deliver and receive section of the registration or those given written permission can pick up a child from camp at 3:00 p.m. each day.

### **Off-Site Transportation/Safety Policies**

State owned/operated vehicles, and/or authorized automobile rentals will be utilized for scheduled field trips. Most field trips involve traveling off-campus within the coastal in-state area, by both land and sea. All vessels are Coast Guard certified and maintained.

### **Meals**

Students should bring a lunch and two snacks each day. ***Please note that lunch is NOT included as part of Ocean Science and Technology Camp tuition, unless you have opted into the residential housing option.*** We will be outside a majority of the time so plenty of water and hydrating sports drinks are recommended. We will provide water throughout the day but ***PLEASE BRING A REUSABLE BOTTLE*** for drinks. This helps us to be responsible environmental stewards by minimizing our use of disposable plastic products.

### **Dress Code**

T-shirts and shorts are appropriate. Please wear clothes that you do not mind getting dirty. We will be outside much of the time or in the laboratory with fish. Your student may even want to keep a spare change of clothes available during camp in case they get really wet or dirty.

Please dress modestly for camp; shorts and shirts of appropriate length should be worn at all times. Bathing suits worn under clothes are a great option to wear on boat days. One-piece bathing suits for girls and swim trunks of appropriate length for boys are recommended; all swimwear must be conservatively cut and tasteful. Shorts must be at fingertip length and no higher than mid-thigh; "short-shorts" or spandex shorts are not permitted.

***The University of Southern Mississippi's policies mandate that closed-toed shoes be worn on all University vessels and on all University field trips (NO Chaco's or flip-flops; Crocs™ are allowed only with a heel strap).***

Failure to comply with this policy will result in expulsion from the trip or activity for the day.

### **What to Bring**

Here is a list of items your student will want to bring to camp:

- Lunch
- Snacks (2)
- Drinks (Water, Sports Drinks)
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Reusable Water Bottle
- Hat
- Insect Repellent
- Camera
- Towel
- Change of Clothes (Optional)
- Backpack or Other Bag for Personal Items
- Poncho or Light Rain Gear (Optional)

## Electronics

To ensure your student's safety, it is vitally important they be able to clearly hear instructions given to them, particularly on boat days. We find that cell phones and iPods create a distraction that inhibits student attention. If you choose to send these devices with your student, please leave them on silent and in their bag. Please note that the USM Marine Education Center is not responsible for electronic devices that have fallen overboard or gotten wet. We require students to restrict their use of electronic devices to lunch and designated breaks only. Should you need to reach your student throughout the day, you may contact the Marine Education Center at (228) 818-8095. Excessive use of electronics will result in confiscation of the item, to be returned to the parent at the end of the day.

## Behavior

Working with scientific equipment, tackle, and being over water requires the full attention and complete compliance of students. Failure to comply with instructions is a safety hazard and will **NOT** be tolerated. Behavior problems will result in a call to parents, and depending on the severity of the problem, potential expulsion from camp.

## What Will My Student Be Doing?

All activities are tentative and subject to cancellation due to weather conditions. We will have camp, rain or shine, and have a full suite of alternative activities planned in the case of inclement weather. **All vessel excursions are dependent on both weather and environmental conditions and/or boat maintenance.**

### **Monday**

A majority of this day will be spent in the classroom learning about the history ocean exploration, remote operated vehicles (ROVs), and careers within the ocean sciences field through hands-on activities.

### **Tuesday**

Campers will begin the day by traveling to the Port of Gulfport to take a behind-the-scenes tour of the R/V *Point Sur* and the Marine Research Center discussing the university's involvement of ocean engineering and the blue economy in the Gulf of Mexico.

### **Wednesday**

Students will board the R/V *Jim Franks* for a full-day of scientific sampling in the northern Gulf of Mexico! They will get a close up look at equipment and techniques used to take water quality, handline for sharks, launch an automatic underwater vehicle (AUV), plus many more!

### **Thursday**

Campers will travel to the Stennis Space Center (Bay St. Louis, MS) to talk with scientists in the Department of Marine Sciences, NOAA National Data Buoy Center, and Naval Oceanographic Office.

*\* ALL STUDENTS/PARENTS MUST SIGN AND RETURN ENTRY FORMS IN ORDER TO GET ONTO THIS CAMPUS! \**

### **Friday**

Friday will be spent at the Marine Education Center (Ocean Springs, MS), diving deep into the world of ocean science and technology. Student will partake in a telecommunication presentation with the E/V *Nautilus*, tour the new Marine Education Center campus, and kayak through Davis Bayou.

### **Medication Storage/Administration**

Medication is not administered to a child without obtaining a parent/guardian's signature on the required medication form. Camp counselors are responsible for maintaining any medications a student may need. Tylenol/Benadryl may be administered to a child only after checking the camper's registration form. Parents should discuss any medication issues with counselor and/or camp coordinator during registration.

### **Medical Crisis**

Should an emergency situation arise, the camp coordinator or the student's counselor will tend to the child while the parent is notified. If necessary, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital or clinic until the parent(s) arrive. If parent(s) are unable to be contacted, the camp counselor will then proceed down the emergency contact list until someone is notified. All staff members are CPR/AED/Basic First Aid certified by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons.

### **Medical Crisis Exemptions**

If your child is exempt from medical care on religious grounds you **MUST** provide the name, address, and phone number of a certified practitioner to be contacted in the event of a medical emergency. ***This information must be provided prior to your child's involvement in the camp.***

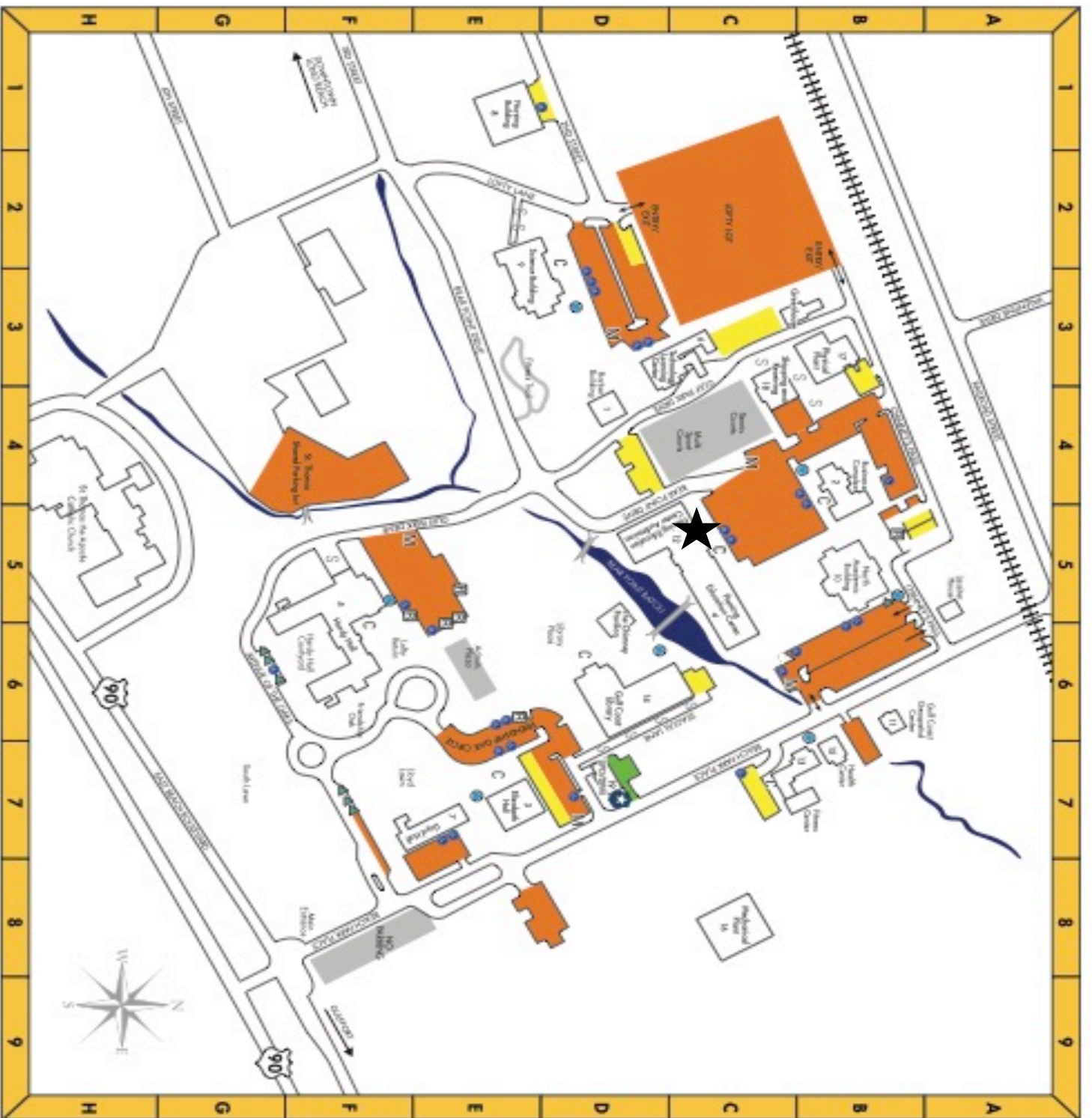
### **Reporting Child Neglect**

The staff of the USM Marine Education Center has a legal obligation to report any suspected case of child abuse or neglect in the state of Mississippi. The Mississippi State Department of Health provides guidelines on identifying abuse and neglect. Any suspected abuse or neglect will be brought to the attention of the camp coordinator immediately.

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions regarding your upcoming Ocean Science and Technology Camp, please contact the Marine Education Center (228) 818-8095 and/or Jessi A. James (*Summer Camp Coordinator*) at (228) 818-8091 or [jessi.james@usm.edu](mailto:jessi.james@usm.edu)





  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN  
MISSISSIPPI**  
 Department of Parking Management  
 Phone: 601.266.4943  
 Website: [usm.edu/parking](http://usm.edu/parking)

## GULF PARK CAMPUS

Please go to the Department of Parking Management for visitor parking points and campus information.

- ACADEMIC**
- 1 Barber Building ..... 04
  - 2 Baskin Complex Bldg ..... 04
  - 3 Baskin Hall ..... 04
  - 4 Blaney Education Center (BEC) ..... 05
  - 5 Henry Hall PHH ..... 05
  - 6 Technology Learning Center ..... 05
  - 7 Judd Hall (JH) ..... 07
  - 8 Hearing Building (HB) ..... 07
  - 9 Science Building (SB) ..... 08
  - 10 North Academic Building (NAB) ..... 08
  - 11 Gulf Coast Development Center ..... 08

- SUPPORT**
- 12 Housing Education Center Auditorium ..... 05
  - 13 Fossil Center PC ..... 07
  - 14 Gulf Coast Library ..... 06
  - 15 Health Center ..... 06
  - 16 Mechanical Plant ..... 08
  - 17 Physical Plant ..... 08
  - 18 Shipping/Receiving ..... 08
  - 19 University Police Department (UPD) and ..... 07
  - Department of Parking Management (DPM) ..... 07

- LOCATIONS OF INTEREST**
- Admission (for Rice, North)
  - Baskin and Huber Baskin (1st Floor, North)
  - Bank View Cafe (1st Floor, North)
  - Business Office (Floor 213)
  - College of Arts and Letters (Eurasia)
  - College of Business (Baskin)
  - College of Education and Psychology (2nd Floor, North)
  - College of Health Services
  - College of Nursing (Physical)
  - College of Science and Technology (Science)
  - Research Aid and Services (Asian) (Floor 220)
  - Herman Rosenow Physics 300A
  - Rack REC 300
  - Parking Management (PMT)
  - Student Affairs (Floor 224)
  - West President Physics 208
  - West President Physics 226

### CAMPUS PARKING LEGEND

- Visitor
- Handicap
- Service Zone
- Bicycle
- Motorcycle
- Emergency Phone
- UPD
- Reserved Parking
- Faculty/Staff
- Open - All Permits
- Police Vehicle Only