

Dear Sci-Tech Families,

We're here to update you on all things packing and luggage! While the options from last summer remain the same, our premiere shipping partner, Ship Camps, has lowered their prices in order to make this resource more accessible to families! 100% of inbound shipments managed by Ship Camps were delivered on time, and families who used the resource reported to us that their customer service was timely and helpful!

## **Packing List**

The 2025 Packing List is available! You can access it in the "Forms and Documents" section of your <a href="CampInTouch account">CampInTouch account</a>.

# **Options For Getting Luggage to Camp**

There are three different options for getting your camper's luggage to and from camp:

- 1. Ship luggage ahead of time (Ship Camps)
- 2. Drop luggage off the night before Opening Day (NOT available for Machon)
- 3. Bring luggage on Opening Day (via car drop-off or plane)

For the best possible Opening Day experience, we recommend that campers' bags arrive at camp before the campers do (option 1 or 2). This guarantees that your camper's luggage will be ready and waiting for them in their room when they arrive! However, families can also bring it with them on Opening Day if shipping luggage or bringing it the night before is not an option.

### Why We Recommend Luggage Arriving at Camp Before your Camper

Our Opening Day procedures are a huge hit with families, both in terms of comfort, efficiency, and health and safety. Since families do not move their campers into the dorms on opening day, we recommend families getting their luggage to us ahead of time. That way we can guarantee that your camper's luggage will be waiting for them in their dorm room.

We know that many families love the idea of not having to schlep luggage to camp in the heat of summer. Others, though, may feel hesitant about not being able to settle their camper and help them unpack. Making campers feel comfortable, happy, and right at home is very important to us. That's why our staff will be specially trained by our expert Camper Care and Inclusion staff on how to support our campers getting settled into camp.

On Opening Day, you will focus on the health and lice checks and then hugging your camper tight before they go off on their summer adventure! Your camper will walk into their dorm and be greeted by the sight of their luggage already there for them. Their highly trained counselors will be there ready to greet them and assist them in unpacking and getting acclimated to their summer home at Sci-Tech!

## **How To Sign Up for Luggage Shipping through Ship Camps**



We are so thrilled to partner with **Ship Camps**. Our policy, in consultation with Ship Camps and our host site, **is to have all shipped luggage arrive a few days before your camper's session starts**. This ensures that everyone's luggage will arrive on time, with a buffer for any shipping delays, and be ready for your camper on Opening Day. Ship Camps has calculated the optimal times to ship your bags and will provide those options through their sign-up form.

Standard shipping typically takes 3-7 business days, which can be faster on the east coast and/or from major metropolitan areas, but plan on shipping your bags 2 weeks before opening day to avoid any rush delivery fees.

All luggage will be shipped out of camp the day after their session closes as long as it doesn't fall on a federal holiday. Weekend service is not available in most postal codes, which makes shipping on Monday a more reliable system.

As part of the sign-up process, the <u>Ship Camps webpage</u> provides pricing estimates and measurement guidelines to help you choose the correct category between Standard and Oversize. Please pay attention to the information they provide on dimensions and weight to avoid unexpected overage charges.

You can access detailed information on how to sign up for Ship Camps on their website at <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-it-works">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-it-works</a>. We also compiled a list of Sci-Tech-specific FAQs to help guide your luggage shipping process at the bottom of this document.

## **How Day Before Opening Day Luggage Drop-Off Works**

If you are not using Ship Camps, you can drop off your camper's luggage at camp the

night before opening day during our designated drop-off times:

- Arriving Session 1: Monday, June 23rd from 6:30 8:00 PM ET
- Arriving Session 2: Monday, July 7th from 6:30 8:00 PM ET
- Arriving Session 3: Monday, July 21st from 6:30 8:00 PM ET
- Arriving for Taste of Camp: Monday, July 21st from 6:30 PM 8:00 PM ET

\*\*There is no day before luggage drop off for Machonikim! Machon program participants should either ship their luggage or bring it with them on their arrival day.\*\*

Since we will be in the thick of pre-session preparation during these drop-off times, the director team will not be available to greet you or speak with you while you're dropping off your luggage. Our luggage and logistics staff will help you unload your child's belongings from your car and then deliver them to your child's dorm. Dropped off luggage must be packed as if it were being shipped with no loose items, and labels with your camper's name are highly recommended.

## **How Opening Day Luggage Drop-Off Works**

If you would prefer not to, or are unable to, have your camper's luggage in their room before opening day, you can also bring it with you on Opening Day either by car or as checked luggage if your camper is flying by plane. If you bring luggage on Opening Day by car, you will give it to our luggage and logistics staff as part of your Opening Day procedure. If you send it with your camper as checked luggage, the staff will help them get it from baggage claim and bring it with them on the shuttle back to camp. However, please know that **bringing luggage on opening day means that we cannot guarantee your camper's luggage will be waiting in their room when they arrive**. There may be a delay between when you drop off the luggage with the logistics team and when it arrives in the room, but rest assured our camp counselors will be excited to spend time with your camper until it arrives!

#### What's Next?

Please complete the short online form "2025 Luggage" form in your CampInTouch account by 6/1/2025 to let us know how your camper's luggage will get to camp. General information about opening day and arrival logistics are available on our website at <a href="https://6pointsscitech.org/camper-travel/">https://6pointsscitech.org/camper-travel/</a>.

More specific details on opening day, including instructions for how families should sign up for their arrival time if they're arriving by car, will be sent in late May. We appreciate your partnership and cooperation in creating another incredible opening day experience this summer. If you have any other questions in the meantime, just let us know. We're happy to help!



# **FAQs**

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# What is Ship Camps?

Ship Camps is an easy way to ship luggage, trunks, and boxes. They specialize in shipping services for campers, and we're excited to continue our partnership with them this summer. Ship Camps works directly with logistic carriers (e.g. FedEx, UPS) to ensure your child's bags are shipped safely and on time. They provide real-time tracking for all items and send you updates and push notifications as the camp gear makes its way to the destination.

Their services help people cut down on interactions at check-in, avoid outdated airline processes, bypass crowded baggage claims in airports, and make Opening and Closing Days at camp as seamless and fast as possible!

## **General Shipping Process**

#### **How To Sign Up for Luggage Shipping through Ship Camps**

We are so thrilled to partner with **Ship Camps**. With our Sci-Tech specific <u>Ship Camps webpage</u>, it's easy to get your camper's bags all set to ship for the summer. You can access Ship Camps through the banner at the top of the CampInTouch site or visit <a href="https://www.shipcamps.com/urj-6-points-sci-tech">https://www.shipcamps.com/urj-6-points-sci-tech</a>.



Our policy, in consultation with Ship Camps and our host site, **is to have all shipped luggage arrive a few days before your camper's session starts**. This ensures that everyone's luggage will arrive on time, with a buffer for any shipping delays, and be ready for your camper on Opening Day. Ship Camps has calculated the optimal times to ship your bags and will provide those options through their sign-up form.

Standard shipping typically takes 3-7 business days, which can be faster on the east coast and/or from major metropolitan areas, but plan on shipping your bags 2 weeks before opening day to avoid any rush delivery fees.

All luggage will be shipped out of camp the day after their session closes as long as it doesn't fall on a federal holiday. Weekend service is not available in most postal codes, which makes shipping on Monday a more reliable system.

After entering an address and type of travel (round trip or one way), the <a href="Ship Camps">Ship Camps</a>
<a href="Webpage">Webpage</a>
provides pricing estimates and measurement guidelines to help you choose the correct category between Standard and Oversize. Please pay attention to the information they provide on dimensions and weight to avoid unexpected overage charges.

You can access detailed information on how to sign up for Ship Camps on their

website at https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-it-works.

# Why don't the shipping dates match the dates of the session(s) my child is attending?

The shipping dates listed on the website are the dates that luggage needs to <u>arrive</u> at camp and <u>depart</u> from camp, which are a few days before and after the official session dates to ensure that all luggage makes it safely in and out of camp.

Our policy, in consultation with Ship Camps and our host site, is to have all luggage arrive a few days before your camper's session starts. This ensures that everyone's luggage will arrive on time, with a buffer for any shipping delays, and be ready for your camper on Opening Day.

\*\* **Important note:** Planning for luggage to arrive 5 days before your camper's session begins means that you need to set a date to have your luggage shipped/picked up ahead of time. Ship Camps will calculate this for you.

We cannot accept luggage more than two weeks ahead of opening day.

While standard shipping typically takes 3-7 business days, to allow enough time for shipping and early arrival, please plan to ship the bag(s) no later than 2 weeks before Opening Day. Otherwise, you'll likely be charged an overnight or rush fee and their luggage might not make it in time for Opening Day.

After entering in some basic information, the <u>Ship Camps webpage</u> provides pricing and measurement guidelines to help you choose the correct category between Standard and Oversize. \*\*

All luggage will be shipped out of camp the day after their session closes as long as it doesn't fall on a federal holiday. Weekend service is not available in most postal codes, which makes shipping on Monday a more reliable system.

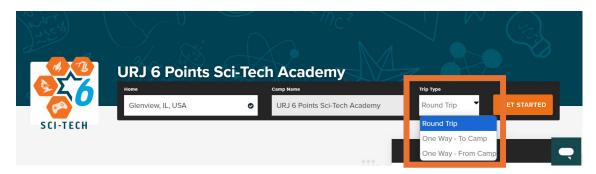
#### What if my child is attending multiple sessions?

Under the "Select your camper's session" section on the Ship Camps website, you can choose from individual and multiple sessions in the dropdown menu.



## Does Ship Camps do round-trip delivery?

Yes! When you go the Ship Camps webpage, on the opening page, it will ask you for your location and what type of trip you'd like: "Round Trip," "One Way – To Camp" or "One Way – From Camp." Select the "Round Trip" option, and Ship Camps will ask you for all of the information they'll need to meet that request.



# Can we just do one-way delivery for Opening Day and pick it up ourselves on Closing Day?

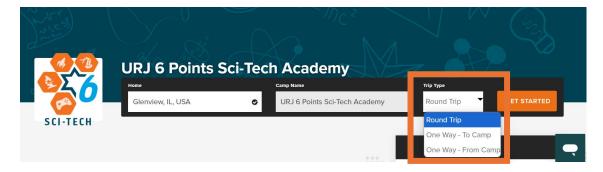
Yes! When you go the Ship Camps webpage, on the opening page, it will ask you for your location and what type of trip you'd like: "Round Trip," "One Way – To Camp" or

"One Way – From Camp." Select the "One Way – To Camp" option, and Ship Camps will ask you for all of the information they'll need to meet that request.



#### Can we arrange for One-Way delivery to send luggage back home from camp?

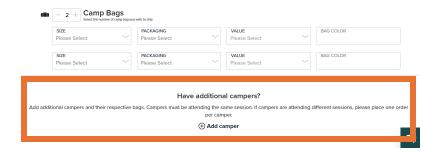
Yes! When you go the Ship Camps webpage, on the opening page, it will ask you for your location and what type of trip you'd like: "Round Trip," "One Way – To Camp" or "One Way – From Camp." Select the "One Way – From Camp" option, and Ship Camps will ask you for all of the information they'll need to meet that request.



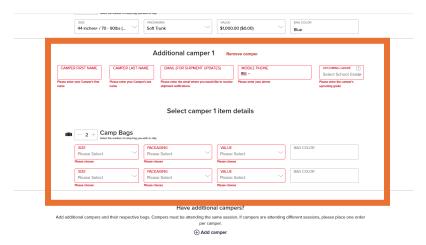
#### Can you place one Ship Camps order for multiple children?

Yes, you can place a single Ship Camps order for multiple children if they are attending the same session.

- 1. Start by scheduling a shipment for the first camper through the <a href="Ship Camps">Ship Camps</a> webpage. You'll need to enter the details for the first child's luggage and trunks and then click "continue."
- 2. On the following page, there will be an option to add an additional camper and their respective bags.



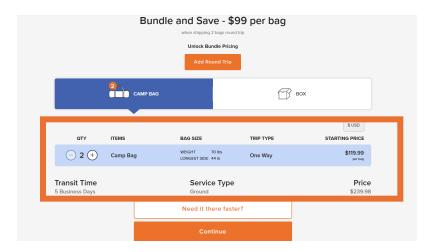
3. Fill out the new form with the second camper's details.



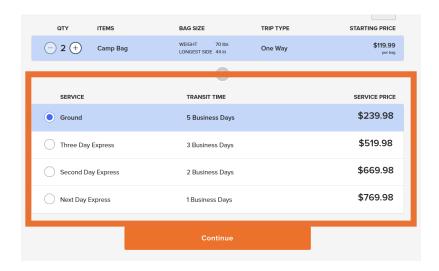
If the campers are attending <u>different sessions</u>, <u>please place a separate order for each camper</u> to ensure that their belongings are properly managed according to their specific camp schedules.

### What do different prices for shipping options mean?

After entering in your address and the type of trip you'd like (Round Trip, One Way), on the next page of scheduling your order, enter the number of luggage items to receive an estimated cost based on the standard Ground shipping.



To view more shipping choices, click "Need it there faster?" This will reveal a table with a range of options from the economical "Ground" to the most expensive "Next Day Express," with estimated transit times and costs. Select the shipping method that aligns with your family's timeline and budget.



Towards the end, after entering in your campers' information, your trip details (pick up, etc) and session dates, these shipping options will be presented again. This time it will have additional details like the latest delivery date for your campers' camp session. Here, you can adjust and finalize your choice as needed.

#### When do you want your bags picked up and delivered? Available dates are based upon your selected camp PICKUP DATE PICKUP OR DROPOFF 05/30/2025 Pick up between 12pm-1pm +\$100.00 Deliver by Mon 06/02 Wed 06/04 Tue 06/03 Fri 06/06 \$384.99 \$334.99 \$259<sup>.99</sup> **\$119**.99 **Next Day Express** Second Day Express Three Day Express Ground

#### Is there a limit to the number of bags, weight of bags or shape of the bag?

There is no limit to how many bags you can ship, although we suggest no more than a large duffle/suitcase/trunk and a smaller carry-on size bag. Additionally, each bag has a set weight and dimensions. Make sure to stay inside the category you selected to ship to avoid any overage fees.

Ship Camps offers two weight options. If the weight of your shipped item exceeds the specified maximum for its category, your bag may be delayed in transit, and you may be charged an overage fee. We recommend shipping bags up to 70lbs. However, you can ship up to 90 lbs. Bags over 90 lbs are NOT permitted.

It is very important to accurately measure the weight and dimensions of the bag(s). Check out Ship Camp's "What Can I Ship?" page for more information and ensure you avoid any potential overage fees: <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/what-can-i-ship">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/what-can-i-ship</a>

# **Packing Guidelines and Help**

## Can I pack musical instruments?

We do NOT recommend shipping musical instruments unless they are professionally packed for shipping. Whether your camper is bringing anything from a guitar to a violin

to a keyboard, all instruments are fragile, precision equipment that is easily damaged during shipping. We recommend that you include your instrument in the car, or as a carry-on item if you're flying, as part of your Opening Day travel plans.

# What recommendations are there for how to pack (I.e. soft duffel vs hard suitcase)?

Whether you're shipping a camp duffel bag, trunk, or roller bag, make sure the item is completely sealed, and all zippers, buckles, and latches are tight and secure. Ship Camps recommends securing any fragile or loose items with bubble wrap. Check out Ship Camp's packing guides for more information:

- How to pack a trunk: <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-to-pack-trunks">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-to-pack-trunks</a>
- How to pack luggage: <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-to-pack-luggage">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/how-to-pack-luggage</a>

#### Do bags need to be labeled in a certain way?

After you have placed your order, shipping labels and instructions can be printed from your confirmation email or account page.

#### **Duffle/Canvas Bags and Roller Bags**





- 1. Attach the barcoded label to the shipping luggage tag.
- 2. When attaching the label to a duffel bag, never tape the shipping label to the canvas area.
- 3. For roller bags, labels can also be taped to the upper area of the hard case, and Ship Camps recommends double-checking the tape once applied.
- 4. Run a zip-tie through the shipping luggage tag at the top handle of the case.
- 5. Close the zip-tie and double check the connection.

#### **Trunks**



- 1. Place the shipping label on the upper side of the trunk.
- 2. Affix your shipping label by taping all four corners of the label to the trunk.
- 3. Double check the label by sliding hands over the tape to secure it.

#### How do medications arrive at camp?

All medications should go through our partnered camp pharmacy. More information about our pharmacy will be released in late April/May and will then be available in your CampInTouch account.

#### What happens if a bag is lost or misplaced by the mail carriers?

Every shipment with Ship Camps is backed by the most reliable on-time delivery guarantee in the industry.

In the rare event that a bag is lost, misplaced, or damaged, Ship Camps offer **complimentary protection on every shipment!** Every shipment comes with \$1000 of complimentary insurance. Ship Camps also offers additional protection up to \$7,500 for a nominal cost. Shipment insurance protects against complete loss of your shipping item or against any physical damage that occurs to the shipment while in transit. For items not shipped in a box, the outside casing is considered the shipping container and will not be insured.

- Here is how to file a claim: <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/claims">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/claims</a>
- Here is Ship Camps Claims form: <a href="https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/form/damaged missing items form">https://6-points-sci-tech.shipcamps.com/form/damaged missing items form</a>

I have questions or concerns about the luggage shipping process. Who can I speak to about this?

Please contact us directly with any questions at <a href="mailto:scitechtravel@urj.org">scitechtravel@urj.org</a>. We can either help provide assistance or connect you with a member of the Ship Camps team.

\*\*Last Updated February 28, 2025\*\*