



MECKLENBURG COUNTY
Land Use and Environmental Services Agency
Code Enforcement

Summer Camps

Based on the 2018 North Carolina Building Code there is nothing to distinguish between summer camp and Educational Occupancy.

The following are Building Code sections that will help you determine the eligibility of a facility for summer camp occupancy:

- Section 305 Educational Occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, by six or more persons at any time for educational purposes through the 12th grade.
- Section 305.2 Day cares: The use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for education, supervision or personal care services for more than five children older than 2 ½ years of age, shall be classified as an Educational Occupancy.
- Section 303.1 Assembly Occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for the gathering together of persons for purposes such as civic, social or religious functions, recreation, food or drink consumption or awaiting transportation, and a room or space used for assembly purposes by 50 or more persons.

The above code sections will help to determine if a building qualifies for summer camp. If held in a school (public or private), a church with Sunday school, or existing day care this would meet the above requirements. Summer camps can also be held in an Assembly Occupancy such as a skating rinks, cafeterias, churches etc. This would meet the referenced code sections above.

If your building fits in one of the categories above then the process would be as follows:

- A letter from a design professional (architect or engineer) is needed to verify the use and that a certificate of occupancy was issued for the building to verify compliance. The letter would confirm that the designer had made a site visit and that the facility conforms to the life safety and toilet fixture requirements of an A or E occupancy per the North Carolina building codes for the anticipated occupancy count. This letter would be sealed by the registered professional and addressed to Mecklenburg County at 2145 Suttle Ave. Charlotte NC 28208, Attention: CIRC
- A second letter from the operator that states the guidelines of their operation i.e. begin date of summer camp program, end date of summer camp program, a statement that the children attending are of school age and have attended school that year. (See Division of Child Development Guidelines)
- Both letters will be submitted to the Code Enforcement Department for review and approval before summer camp activities can start, Mecklenburg County @ 2145 Suttle Ave 28208 Attention CIRC, Phone 980-314-2633.

If for some reason your summer camp activities do not meet the above or the building has to be modified, then a full plan review will be required. If you have any questions, please feel free contact CIRC (980) 314-2633.