

Gems Camp 2018: “Imagine the Impossible”

August 21st-23rd, 2018

From: Jessica Lee, Coordinator for Student Engagement
Re: Gems Camp 2018 Confirmation Packet
Date: May 30th, 2018

Gems Camp 2018 “Imagine the Impossible” is set to be the Gemstone Honors Program’s most successful Gems Camp experience yet! An assorted group of fun-loving camp leaders and staff members are looking forward to introducing you to Gemstone with a TON summer fun! This memo confirms that you have registered for and secured a spot for camp.

Enclosed in this confirmation packet you will find additional details about Gems Camp. This information will let you know how to prepare for your early move-in to campus, and what to pack as you prepare for Gems Camp. If you have any additional questions, please contact gemscamp@umd.edu or call 301-458-0784.

We are looking forward to meeting you soon!

From,
The Gemstone Staff & The Gems Camp Planning Committee



Contact Jessica Lee, Coordinator for Student Engagement, at 301-314-7451
or gemscamp@umd.edu for specific questions about Gems Camp!

Gems Camp Packing List

Every year, weather conditions are unpredictable, so make sure you check the forecast to give you extra ideas on what to pack. For now, here is a recommended list of what you should bring for Gems Camp 2018. **Keep in mind that camp is three days and two nights!**

TIP: Consider bringing a **pre-packed bag** with all of your camp necessities to move-in to avoid packing for camp right before departure!

Must Have...

- ✓ Your Gems Camp shirt (will be handed out on move-in day/Gems Camp check-in).
- ✓ Tennis shoes, preferably old ones, as they may get dirty at the campsite.
- ✓ Appropriate clothing for outside activities and the predicted weather conditions. For example, if it's going to be hot, pack shorts and t-shirts. If the weather calls for rain or cool conditions, make sure you bring a light jacket.
- ✓ Extra changes of clothing for each day at camp. It's camp, and you may get a little dirty, so this is a must!
- ✓ Bathing suit. *There will be an opportunity during free time to swim, so bring a bathing suit if you'd like to hop in the camp's pool!*
- ✓ Towel and additional hygiene items.
- ✓ Shower shoes. *We'll be at camp for two nights, so you'll want to take a shower!*
- ✓ Sunscreen and bug spray.
- ✓ Sleeping bag and/or bedding (sheets, pillow, blanket). *You will be rooming in one room with four beds, which are bunked, so make sure you bring appropriate material to sleep on!*
- ✓ A fantastic attitude!

Might Want...

- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Snacks, especially if you are a picky eater
- ✓ Flashlight for night activities

Leave on campus...

- ✓ Laptops, tablets, etc. There is no Wi-Fi or Internet at camp.
- ✓ Anything valuable that could be damaged during camp activities!
- ✓ A bad attitude!

Note: You will be provided with a water bottle the morning before heading to camp, so there's no need to bring an extra.

Please try to pack lightly!

Contact Jessica Lee, Coordinator for Student Engagement, at 301-314-7451
or gemscamp@umd.edu for specific questions about Gems Camp!

Move-In Information

Move-In Date and Time

Students attending Gems Camp will be able to move into Ellicott Hall on **Tuesday, August 21st, from 9:00am-1:00pm**. This is a few days before the regular move-in date for the rest of University of Maryland first-year students. ***You must move in on Tuesday, August 21st by 1:00pm to ensure that you will be settled and ready to make the trip to the campsite the same day. If you do not move in by this deadline, you will not be able to attend camp, as we will be departing promptly at 3:30pm. Students must take the transportation provided by the University.*** Unfortunately, no matter the circumstances, you will not be able to move in any earlier than August 21st.

******IMPORTANT:*** *You will most likely still receive the general move-in packet from the Department of Resident Life, which will list the move-in date for incoming first-year Honors College students as Thursday, August 23rd. Please note that the Department of Resident Life does not send out special packets for Gems Camp, but **as long as you are registered for Gems Camp** you have permission to move in on Tuesday, August 21st beginning at 9am!*

Not Living in Ellicott Hall or Commuting to UMD?

Students living in residence halls other than Ellicott or students who are commuting to UMD should come to Ellicott Hall lobby (1st floor) with their packed bags for Gems Camp **no later than 2:30pm** to check-in. Students may stop by and enjoy the activities provided at Ellicott Hall on move-in day as early as 9:00am. You should be able to enter Ellicott Hall by using your University ID card at the back entrance across from the Diner.

Gems Camp Check In

Please report to the Ellicott Hall lobby (1st floor) for Gems Camp Check-In between 9:00am – 2:30pm. on Tuesday, August 21st.

Gems Camp Departure Time: Be Ready to go by 3pm!

Please bring everything that you plan to take to camp with you (see packing list above) and meet in the Ellicott Hall basement at 3:00pm (Tuesday, August 21st) to prepare for departure. Students must use the transportation provided by the University.

General Gems Camp Notes

Meals

All meals will be provided at camp, beginning with dinner on Tuesday, August 21st through breakfast on Thursday, August 23rd (total 5 meals). After returning from camp, students living on campus will be able to use their meal plan for meals at the Dining Hall beginning with lunch on Thursday, August 23rd.

What to Expect

Gems Campers move into the residence halls several days prior to other University first-year students. While the buildings will be staffed and supervised, your move-in day will be a great deal calmer than subsequent move-in days. **Look out for staff and students wearing the neon colored “Gemstone Move-In Crew” shirts!** These students and staff members will help assist with your move-in process to make it as smooth as possible.

Don't forget to check-in for Gems Camp at the tables near the elevators on the first floor lobby of Ellicott Hall!

We will be preparing for camp departure at 3:00pm on Tuesday, August 21st, 2018. Students will return from camp in time for the regular University of Maryland campus new student welcome activities on the afternoon of Thursday, August 23rd.

Information for Parents

Students may bring their cell phones to camp so that they are reachable during this time. However, many past students have reported not having cell phone service at the camp location. Additionally, there is little free time for the students to make calls during their time at camp (they are getting to know their peers and having lots of fun!). Please try to refrain from calling your students unless there is a dire need or emergency. If it is absolutely necessary to reach them, please call (301) 458-0784.

Questions?

If you need additional information, or just have questions not addressed here, please contact Jessica Lee, Coordinator for Student Engagement at jlee1021@umd.edu or 301-314-7451. Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you at camp in August! ☺