



Join us & let the WORLD of

CAMP COLLEGE

Fill your CUP

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM



SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Health & Human Services Building
493 Fitch Street
New Haven, CT 06514

Lunch included with registration!

SCHEDULE

- 9:00 9:30 AM • Registration
- 9:30 9:40 AM • Kickoff Comments
- 9:45 10:45 AM • Team Building
- 10:50 11:30 AM • Breakout Sessions 1
- 11:35 12:15 PM • Breakout Sessions 2
- 12:20 12:45 PM • Halftime Refuel
- 12:50 1:30 PM • Breakout Sessions 3
- 1:45 2:30 PM • World Cup Challenge

2026 CAMP COLLEGE SCHEDULE

9:00 - 9:30 am	Registration: Outside (rain location Pelz Gym)				
Location:	<u>Pelz Gym 1</u>	<u>HHS 116</u>	<u>Room 178</u>	<u>Room 112A</u>	<u>LRN111</u>
9:30 - 9:40 am	Kickoff Comments: Pelz Gym				
9:45 - 10:45 am	United for the Cup: Team Building: Pelz Gym				
10:50 - 11:30 am	Lead the Vibes	The Camp Director Playbook: A World Cup Roundtable	Mentorship in Motion: Everyday Mentoring Skills for Confident Camp Counselor Leadership	Goalkeepers of Safety: A First Aid Challenge	Design, Delivery, & the Pivot: What Makes a Program Tick?
11:35 - 12:15 pm	Lead the Vibes		Mentorship in Motion: Everyday Mentoring Skills for Confident Camp Counselor Leadership	Goalkeepers of Safety: A First Aid Challenge	Design, Delivery, & the Pivot: What Makes a Program Tick?
12:20 - 12:45 pm	Halftime Refuel: Lunch Break: Lobby (<i>eat inside or outside</i>)				
12:50 - 1:30 pm			Understanding Current Trends: Vaping, Alcohol, and Supporting Youth	Sideline Diplomacy: Parent Communication/Conflict Resolution	Design, Delivery, & the Pivot: What Makes a Program Tick?
1:45 - 2:30 pm	World Cup: Camp Challenge / Wrap-Up: Pelz Gym				
				Customer Service from a Mouse	The Juggling Mindset: Building Focus, Flexibility & Team Trust
				Ending the Silence	The Juggling Mindset: Building Focus, Flexibility & Team Trust

9:30 9:40 am
CAMP COLLEGE KICKOFF

Presenters: Camp College Committee Members & SCSU
Location: Pelz Gym 1

9:45 10:45 am
UNITED FOR THE CUP: TEAM BUILDING

Presenter: Dan Jaskot, *Empower Leadership*
Location: Pelz Gym 1

This presentation will take place during the opening of the 2026 Camp College. This active presentation will include a series of games and activities, led by Empower Leadership, focused on relationship building, collaborative teamwork, and team bonding fun!

10:50 11:30 am
BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1:

Lead the Vibes

Presenter: Ashley Wooten, *New Britain Parks & Recreation*
Location: Pelz Gym 1

Camp culture doesn't happen by accident — it's created. In this high-energy, interactive session, we'll break down how staff set the emotional tone of the day and how intentional engagement during downtime can make or break the camper experience. Explore creative games, quick resets, and leadership techniques that keep energy high and behaviors low.

**The Camp Director Playbook:
A World Cup Roundtable**

Presenter: Madison Fostervold, *Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services*
Location: HHS 116

Step onto the pitch with fellow camp leaders for a World Cup themed Directors' Roundtable. This interactive discussion brings camp directors together to share strategies, tackle common challenges, and learn from each other's experiences. We'll talk about the wins, the challenges, and the situations that don't always have a clear playbook. From staffing and camper behavior to program ideas and tough situations, participants will talk it through together, share what has worked for them, and pick up new ideas they can bring back to their camps this summer.

**Mentorship in Motion: Everyday Mentoring Skills for
Confident Camp Counselor Leadership**

Presenter: Aristede Hill, *The Governor's Prevention Partnership*
Location: Room 178

This interactive workshop equips camp counselors with practical tools to build and sustain high quality, supportive relationships with the youth they serve. Through hands-on, experiential activities, participants will explore the importance of strong youth-adult connections, strengthen essential mentorship skills, and practice real-world problem-solving strategies that promote positive youth development.

Goalkeepers of Safety: A First Aid Challenge

Presenter: Stephanie Crane, *Newington Parks & Recreation*
Location: Room 112B

Are you ready to step up and test your skills? Welcome to the Goalkeepers of Safety: A First Aid Challenge, a fast-paced, hands-on challenge where camp counselors will be placed into soccer teams. Their task? To work together and solve a series of first aid scenarios, applying real-world first aid skills with an athletic twist. Each group will face various scenarios inspired by the world of sports. Teams will need to think on their feet, demonstrate their knowledge of first aid, and collaborate to keep athletes safe.

**Design, Delivery, & the Pivot:
What Makes a Program Tick?**

Presenter: Joe Milone, EdD, *SCSU*
Location: Room 112A

A great camp activity doesn't happen by accident. It requires a balance of intentional design and the ability to adapt in the heat of the moment. This workshop starts with the basics to give participants a solid foundation for building high-engagement programs. Participants will learn how to build programs that meet the needs of their campers, learn how and when to pivot, and how to successfully engage campers so they

make those core memories. Sharing tips and tricks among participants in the workshop will be highly encouraged.

Customer Service from a Mouse

Presenter: Samantha Charette, *East Windsor Parks & Recreation*
Location: LRN111

The Walt Disney Company has long been a worldwide leader in customer service, innovation and creativity. Its founder and namesake, Walt Disney created a business model which has stood the test of time. Camp counselors and summer staff alike can take leadership lessons from the man himself to ensure they are providing exceptional customer service in their programs. Join Samantha Charette, Recreation Lead for East Windsor Parks & Recreation (and former Disney CM) on a magical journey as we talk about the man behind the mouse and the remarkable customer service standard he created.

**The Juggling Mindset:
Building Focus, Flexibility & Team Trust**

Presenter: Hilary Sweeney & Carlo Pellegrini, *Westchester Circus Arts*
Location: Big Field (rain Pelz Gym 2)

This dynamic, hands-on team building experience, led by Carlo Pellegrini (former Big Apple Circus Ringmaster, Founder of Juggling Matrix team building programs, and co-founder of Westchester Circus Arts) uses juggling as a powerful metaphor for the real-life demands placed on camp counselors and youth professionals. Through engaging juggling-based activities, participants explore focus, adaptability, persistence, and teamwork in a supportive environment. Designed for all experience levels, the workshop celebrates mistakes as an essential part of learning while building confidence through individual, partner, and group challenges that strengthen communication, awareness, and trust. Counselors practice staying present under pressure, supporting peers through frustration, and embracing flexibility. Participants also identify their learning styles using a color model, helping them step into the camper mindset and better support diverse learners. This uplifting experience energizes teams while reinforcing resilience, connection, and a positive camp culture.

11:35 am 12:15 pm
BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2:

Lead the Vibes

Presenter: Ashley Wooten, *New Britain Parks & Recreation*
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Design, Delivery, & the Pivot: What Makes a Program Tick?

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Ending the Silence

Presenter: Kristi Sadowski, *NAMI CT*

Location: LRN111

NAMI Ending the Silence is an evidence-based mental health education and early intervention program that engages audience members in a discussion about mental health and suicide based on real-life experiences. Attendees will learn about warning signs, facts and statistics, how to approach students and how to work with families. An informative presentation will be accompanied by a young adult with a mental health condition who will share their journey of recovery. Attendees can ask questions and gain understanding of an often misunderstood topic. Through dialogue, we can help grow the movement to end stigma.

The Juggling Mindset:

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12:20 12:45 pm
HALFTIME REFUEL

Location: Lobby (eat inside or outside)

12:50 1:30 pm
BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3:

Understanding Current Trends:

Vaping, Alcohol, and Supporting Youth

Presenter: Susan Sarmiento, *The Governor's Prevention Partnership*

Location: Room 178

This interactive training explores current trends in youth substance use, with a focus on vaping and alcohol. Participants will gain up-to-date information on what substances are most used, why young people may be drawn to them, and how these trends are evolving. The session will also examine how vaping and alcohol use impact youth health, brain development, and decision-making, as well as the influence of social environments and peer norms. In addition, participants will learn practical strategies for what to do if a young person is using substances. This includes how to start open, supportive conversations, recognize warning signs, set clear expectations, and connect youth to appropriate resources.

Sideline Diplomacy:

Parent Communication/Conflict Resolution

Presenter: Caitrin Huysman, *Simsbury Culture, Parks and Recreation*

Location: Room 112B

Parents may seem to be on the sidelines during the camp day, but they are really the ones calling the shots when it comes to their child's camp experience. When it comes to reporting incidents, difficult conversations, and resolving conflicts, camp staff members need to practice and come together as a team to ensure conversations remain diplomatic, effective, and thoughtful. This interactive session will take participants through skills, real life scenarios, and tips on how to handle communication & tricky situations so campers, parents, and staff have the best possible summer.

Design, Delivery, & the Pivot: What Makes a Program Tick?

Presenter: Joe Milone, EdD, *SCSU*

Location: Room 112A

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1:45 2:30 pm
WORLD CUP CHALLENGE

Location: Pelz Gym 1

The Camp Challenge is a fun and exciting opportunity for camp staff to work together and show the other towns what they're made of! With exhilarating and challenging games, your camp staff will be put to the test as they compete in great team building exercises. The challenges will have a range of components from brainteasers to physical requirements to ensure participation from everyone in the group. Here's your chance to empower your camp staff, show off your camp spirit, and get pumped up about the 2026 Summer Camp Season! Prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place camps!

2026 CAMP COLLEGE REGISTRATION



Please return this form along with payment by May 15th. Registration fee is \$21 per person after this date.

Organization: _____ Staff Leader: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Our town will be arriving by: BUS VAN CAR Approximate # of buses/vehicles: _____

ATTENDEES: \$17 sessions fee is applicable to **MEMBER DEPT STAFF ONLY**. All registrations include lunch.

1. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
2. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
3. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
4. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
5. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
6. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
7. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
8. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
9. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)
10. _____ Member (\$17 - \$21 after 5/15/26) Non-Member (\$21)

11. **If more than 10 people will be attending Camp College, please copy this form to list all additional participants*

Member _____ x \$17 (\$21 after 5/15/26) = \$ _____ Non-Member _____ x \$21 = \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL: \$ _____

2026 WORLD CUP CAMP CHALLENGE SIGN UP:

The Camp Challenge will operate from 1:45 pm and run until APPROXIMATELY 2:30 pm. Camps who sign-up will compete in a series of 6 different challenges. Participating camps must have a **minimum of 5 participants**. At the end of the Camp Challenge, the top 3 teams will be awarded!

- We would like to register for the camp challenge! We do not wish to participate in the camp challenge.

Please complete below:

I will have _____ staff (min. 5, max. 30)

If more than 30, I will have _____ staff divided into 2 teams of _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

- Check (payable to: "CRPA," 135 Day St., 2nd Floor, 2H, Newington, CT 06111) Invoice Credit Card

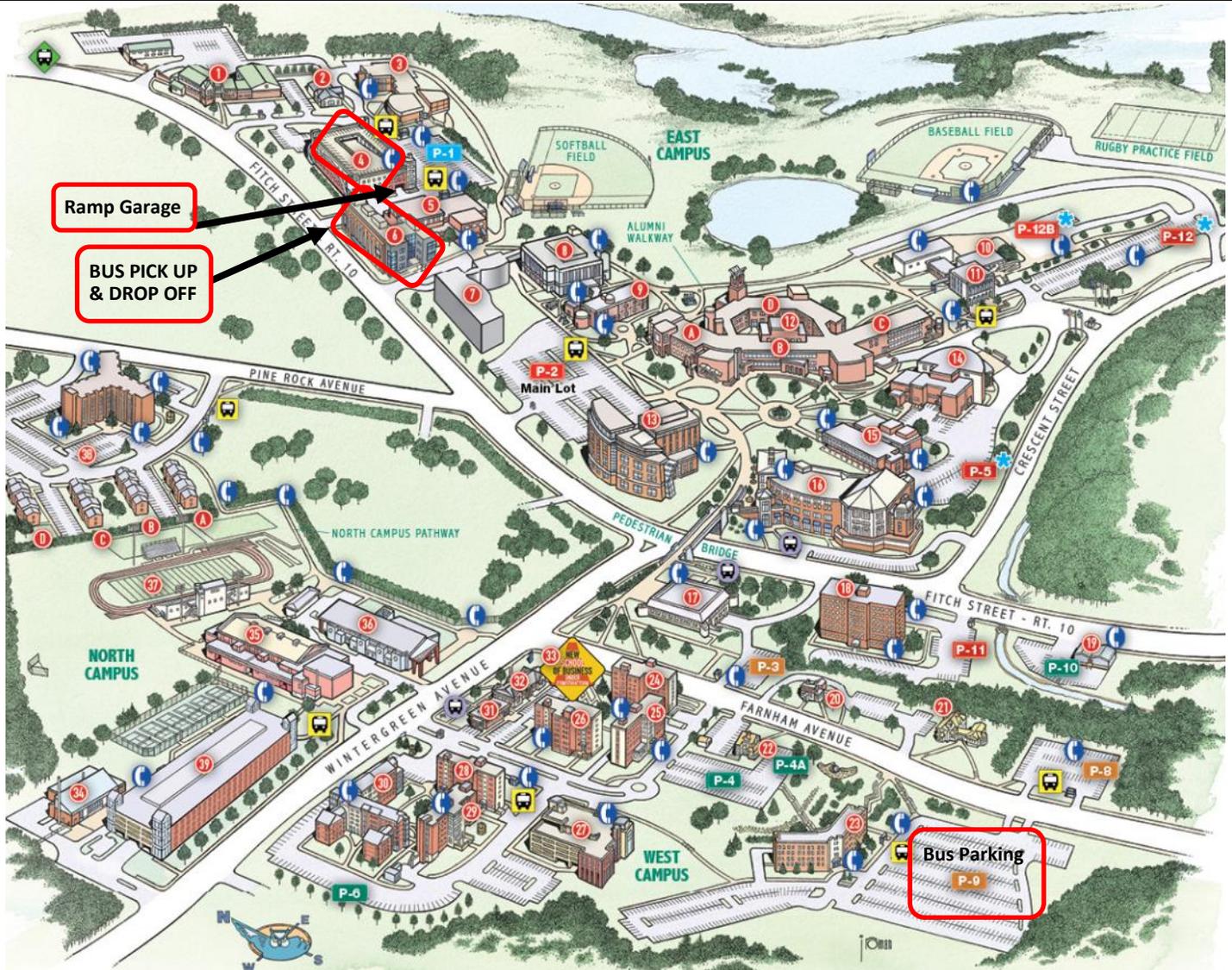
All payments must be received by May 15th. There will be no refunds for cancellations after this date. Registrants that do not show without cancelling prior to this date will be billed the full amount.

SCSU EVENT PARKING MAP



**Health & Human
Services Building**
493 Fitch Street
New Haven, CT 06514

All Camp College sessions will be held in the **Health & Human Services Building (#6)**. Upon arrival, please check in at registration located at the entrance to Pelz Gym.



Cars Only: Parking is available at the Finch Street Ramp Garage, #4 above.

For Buses Only:

After dropping off passengers at the Health and Human Services Building (#6 above), the bus should proceed to Lot 9 and park there until the conclusion of the event, at which time the bus can return for pick-up. Lot 9 is off of Farnham Avenue. Proceed South on Finch Street, take a right onto Wintergreen Ave., and then a left onto Farnham Avenue. Proceed down Farnham Avenue for about 300 yards to the entrance for Lot 9, which is located on the right.