

KANSAS ASSOCIATION FOR YOUTH

Above & Beyond

KAY LEADERSHIP CAMP

JULY 28 - AUGUST 1, 2025

at Rock Springs 4-H Center

The purpose of KLC (KAY Leadership Camp) is to expand leadership potential and self confidence, to enrich personalities, to create an awareness of citizenship responsibilities, and to develop a desire to become involved in those programs and projects which help to build a better world.



Sponsored by the Kansas State High School Activities Association
601 SW Commerce Place; Topeka, KS 66615 | 785-273-5329
Sarah Smith, Camp Director | ssmith@kshsaa.org



WHAT HAPPENS AT KLC

KAY Leadership Camp brings together KAY members from across the state to enhance their leadership skills through a fun camp experience. A wide variety of activities take place during the week - Team Meetings (brainstorming skills, designing and presenting a project, serving a camp meal), Creative Period Sessions (creating/contributing to a camp activity), Leadership Labs (understanding leadership techniques and responsibilities, sharing ideas), and Laugh, Love & Lift Sessions (presentations on special interest topics). In addition, each day offers several recreational activities (aerobic/yoga, archery/rifle range, biking, canoeing, crafts, dance, games, horseback riding, lawn games, rock wall climbing, swimming, sand volleyball, whiffle ball). Capable instructors are provided for all recreational activities. An optional all-camp swim is available each day as free time.

The finale of each day is an evening program presented by dynamic speakers and participating campers. Following Wednesday evening's team presentations, additional activities include a dance on the sundeck, night swim, and time with friends. The last night of camp includes a banquet and traditional campfire.

From daily flag raising and lowering, to table manners, staff morning reports, and action packed general sessions, KLC provides campers with motivation and enthusiasm for a year of leadership and service as well as friendships and memories for a lifetime.

DATES, FEES, REGISTRATION

CAMP DATES - MONDAY, JULY 28 - August 1, 2025

Each day of KAY Leadership Camp is different. It is very important for the campers to remain for the entire session, with the exception of an emergency.

Check-In - Monday, July 28, 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. at Heritage Hall

Please refer to the section on ROCK SPRINGS to estimate the amount of travel time needed to get to Rock Springs. The first meeting is at 1:35 p.m. and the first meal is at 5:45 p.m.

Check-Out - Friday, August 1, 11:00 a.m. at Heritage Hall

Sponsors and parents are welcome to attend the 9:45 a.m. Closing General Session (see Rock Springs map).

The FEE is \$375 and includes 4 nights of lodging, 11 delicious meals, insurance (see below), numerous recreational activities (see registration form), leadership materials, and a camp t-shirt.

INSURANCE is included in the camp fee, covers delegates from the time they leave for camp until they arrive home (provided they travel straight to camp and return directly home). Health and accident insurance is included in this policy.

We always work very hard to keep the cost of camp to a minimum. KAY Clubs are encouraged to invest in their club's future leadership.

REGISTRATION

Sponsors will complete the registration online using their sponsor/school password.

Campers will fill out the enclosed registration/recreation form and give to their KAY Sponsor who will complete the registration online.

- **Recreational activities will be assigned on a first come/first serve basis.**
- **Chorus enrollment is optional and is limited to the first 100 to sign up.**

Athletic directors will receive an invoice for the amount of money due, the first Wednesday after registration is due. Payment will be due upon receipt.

Camp fees are not refundable after May 1. After May 1, clubs may delegate an alternate. See *"Alternates"* on the next page.

WHO ATTENDS KLC

CLUB PRESIDENTS *receive* better understanding of the KAY program, *discover* personal talents and qualities they need to be an effective leader, and *gain* confidence and belief in themselves as a leader!

ANY KAY MEMBER (boy or girl, grades 6-12) Camp delegates do not have to be an officer or board member in their club; however, these individuals are encouraged to attend.

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS, If your club has a student with special needs who is interested in attending KLC (i.e., a student who requires a para at school each day or a student with a physical disability), please contact the KAY State Director in advance of their registration.

STAFF

The junior and senior staff is made up of approximately 30 outstanding individuals, carefully selected on the basis of their character, their ability to work with people, their commitment to reach the highest goals and ideals, and the enthusiasm, motivation, and confidence they instill in young people. They have also been former outstanding leaders in their local KAY organizations and communities.

CLUB/DELEGATE INFORMATION

ALTERNATES - All clubs are to select alternate campers at the same time they select camp delegates. This will prepare you for any last minute panic in the event one of your delegates is unable to attend. If a delegate cannot attend, please give this brochure to the alternate and contact the KSHSAA at 785-273-5329 with the name and address of the alternate. If a last-minute change is necessary, alternates may enroll upon arrival at camp and must present all cards on this brochure completed and signed. For housing purposes, same sex alternates are helpful but not required.

Pre-camp financial obligations prevent the refunding of camp fees; therefore, alternates are important!

EARLY DEPARTURE - Each day of KLC is important and different; therefore, it is very important for campers to remain for the entire session. If a camper finds it necessary to leave early, they must complete the **Early Departure Form** (located at [www.kshsaa.org/Non-Athletic/KAY/Leadership Camp>Camp Information](http://www.kshsaa.org/Non-Athletic/KAY/Leadership%20Camp/Camp%20Information)). The form must be signed by the parent or guardian AND sponsor or principal and presented at the time of check-in. Early departure and/or late arrival may not occur between 10:00 p.m. - 7:30 a.m.

HEALTH/ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION FORM - KLC student delegates are not required to have a physical examination in order to attend KLC. However, camp delegates must complete a Rock Spring Health/Activity Participation Form prior to arrival at camp. The form must be completed in its entirety. The form will be emailed to registered campers July 1 and is also located online at [www.kshsaa.org/Non-Athletic/KAY/Leadership Camp>Camp Information](http://www.kshsaa.org/Non-Athletic/KAY/Leadership%20Camp/Camp%20Information). **IMPORTANT:** the Health/Activity Participation Form must be signed by the camper's parent/guardian and PRESENTED at KLC check-in.

TRANSPORTATION - KAY Clubs are encouraged to work with their camp delegates regarding transportation to and from Rock Springs.

Some KAY clubs across the state "car pool" to camp. Some clubs pair up with a neighboring club, one sponsor taking campers to camp and the other one picking them up. Car/van/bus-pooling allows neighboring KAY members the opportunity to meet one another, exchange project ideas, and share in the spirit of KAY and KLC. This mode of transportation is highly recommended especially for those who are the only campers from their club.

Some schools provide school transportation and sponsor assistance.

Some clubs leave getting to camp up to the delegates and their families.

Campers who drive their own car to KLC will be required to turn in their keys upon arrival.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES - The KSHSAA wants all camp delegates to reap the rewards of their experience at KLC. Campers who bring a smart phone/watch to KLC will abide by the following policy.

Between 6:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

- Devices may be used for taking pictures and telling time
- Devices may be used during free time (unscheduled activities) for communication
- Devices may not be used during scheduled activities for communication

Phones may not be used from 10:30 p.m. - 6:30 a.m.

Campers will be responsible for their device and charger.

PHONE CALLS/EMERGENCY - Campers will have access to their electronic device for personal calls during the afternoon and evening free time. If parents need to reach their child during the day, they may call Rock Spring at 785-257-3221. Campers will be called from a meeting in case of an emergency, otherwise, a number will be taken and the message delivered.

Sarah Smith, Camp Director, may be reached at the KSHSAA Office at 785-273-5329 or during camp at 785-257-3221.

PERSONAL VISITS - Campers are asked to not have personal visitors while at KAY Leadership Camp. No visitors will be allowed without approval from the Camp Director in advance.

ROCK SPRINGS 4-H CENTER

Rock Springs Ranch is a special place to unplug and be surrounded by nature. Located in the Kansas Flint Hills, Rock Springs provides a perfect place for people to connect with one another and grow as individuals. It is the ideal spot to conduct KAY Leadership Camp.

HOUSING/MEETING FACILITIES - Qualified staff are in all areas. Campers are responsible for their own bedding, pillows, and towels (see packing list).

A wide selection of air-conditioned meeting spaces are available, providing an ideal atmosphere for group gatherings and interaction.

MEALS - Hearty, home-cooked meals are served family style in Williams Dining Hall. Special dietary restrictions are available for food allergies, medical issues, or religious restrictions only; they are not for lifestyle choices or personal preference. Please contact Rock Springs (785-257-3221) no later than two weeks in advance of your arrival and complete the Rock Springs Dietary Restrictions/Allergies form online.

SAFETY - The safety and well-being of each camper is a top priority. The KSHSAA and Rock Springs have put in place precautions for a variety of emergency situations (medical, severe weather, missing camper). All campers and staff will wear a wrist band while on the camp grounds. Rock Springs is an alcohol, tobacco and drug free facility. Vaping products are strictly prohibited. Staff members and registered nurses are available if a camper becomes ill or injured.

PACKING SUGGESTIONS

As you prepare for camp, we would like to make the following suggestions to make your experience more enjoyable.

Luggage

- Tag all pieces of luggage, sleeping bag, pillow with name, street address and town

Packing List

- Bedding (sheets, blankets, pillow, sleeping bag)
- Personal Care Items - towel, washcloth, shampoo, soap (deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, feminine protection)
- Swimsuit, cover up, and an extra towel
- Durable shoes - campers are asked to always wear shoes outside to protect feet from cuts and bruises (some paths are gravel/rock)
- Closed-toe shoes (if horseback riding)
- Casual wear (appropriate attire - t-shirts (best), shorts, jeans), most camp sessions will be held in air-conditioned buildings
- Sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket
- One dressy outfit for the banquet (dress, skirt, nice slacks, dress shirt)
- Flashlight
- Insect repellent, sunscreen
- Watch, phones
- Contacts, contact solution, second pair of glasses

Items to consider

- Pens, pencils, notebook paper, highlighter
- Book-bag (for camp folder, handouts)
- Plastic sack (for dirty/wet clothes)
- Umbrella or raincoat
- Water bottle, container

Prescription Medicine

For campers taking medications: All medications should come to camp in their original containers (DO NOT SEND loose pills in a plastic bag, pills in a weekly pill organizer, or medications not prescribed to the student). Have labeled medications available to show camp nurse at check in.

Money

Campers are discouraged from bringing a large amount of money to camp. Campers will have three opportunities (all optional) for needing/using money:

1. Donation to the Vinson Scholarship Fund
2. Purchase of KAY items (t-shirts, lapel pin, other merchandise)
3. Rock Springs concession stand (soft drinks, snacks, ice cream, candy)

Please Do Not Bring

- Computers, video games, valuable items
- Clothes with inappropriate designs or verbiage, tube tops, crop tops

