

Special needs programs at individual Ramah camps serve different populations of children and different age groups. Some camps offer programs to serve campers with various levels of cognitive delay; others offer programs for campers on the autism spectrum, including Asperger's Syndrome. Several Ramah camps also offer post-high school vocational programs that are designed to maximize independent functioning within a supervised setting or a college campus. Regardless of their geographic location, families are directed to the regional Ramah camp that best suits their child's needs.

Ramah Camps with Special Needs Programs
Ramah Berkshires (Wingdale, NY)
Ramah California (Ojai, CA)
Ramah Canada (Utterson, ON)
Ramah Darom (Clayton, GA)
Ramah New England (Palmer, MA)
Ramah Poconos (Lakewood, PA)
Ramah Wisconsin (Conover, WI)
Chicagoland Ramah Day Camp (Wheeling, IL)



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Tikvah תקווה

**Programs for Children,
Teens, and Young Adults
with Special Needs**



Since the first Tikvah program was established in 1970, the Ramah Camping Movement has been committed to providing a Jewish camping experience for children with a wide variety of special needs, with the goal of enhancing Jewish identity and teaching Jewish values in a supportive, inclusive, fun environment. At Ramah, campers with special needs have many opportunities to connect and participate in activities with campers throughout the camp. These interactions provide an exceptional benefit to everyone at Ramah by fostering in our campers a heightened sensitivity toward people different than themselves.



Camp Ramah in the Berkshires (Wingdale, NY)

Breira B'Ramah is a four-week inclusion program for children with learning and social challenges. This program is designed for campers entering fourth through sixth grades. Breira campers live in bunks with typical campers and are integrated into the regular Ramah day, guided by dedicated, trained staff. Breira campers receive ongoing social skills guidance, support for achieving attainable goals, and the tools necessary to strengthen their Jewish identity.

*For additional information: 201.871.7262
info@ramahberkshires.org*

Ramah Darom (Clayton, GA)

Camp Yofi is a five-day Family Camping Program designed to create a network of Jewish families with children with autism. Camp Yofi provides a meaningful Jewish educational experience for the entire family, and gives families additional Jewish educational support for their children. The program includes experiences for adults, children with autism, siblings, and the entire family. All Jewish families are welcome, regardless of denomination or synagogue affiliation.

*For additional information: 404.531.0801
info@ramahdarom.org*



Chicagoland Ramah Day Camp (Wheeling, IL)

Ramah hosts a day camp experience for children ages 5-11, in partnership with Keshet, a Chicago-area program for Jewish children with special needs.

*For additional information: 312.606.0444
info@ramahday.com*

Camp Ramah in California (Ojai, CA)

The Tikvah Program serves Jewish adolescents ages 11-18 with learning, emotional, and developmental disabilities. The program consists of two four-week sessions, the first for children ages 11-15 and the second for adolescents ages 15-18. The Tikvah campers, known as Amitzim, are included with their typical peers throughout the day.

Ezra is a seven-week vocational training program for young adults ages 18-22. Participants receive job training experience in a number of service areas throughout camp. Program goals include preparing young adults for independent living and teaching them employment-related skills. Camp provides an ideal setting for Ezra participants to grow and thrive with peers under adult supervision.

Camp Ohr Lanu is a week-long camp for families who have children with special needs ages 5-14. Families come to camp to experience support from other families, to get a respite, and learn, all while taking advantage of everything Ramah has to offer, including swimming, hiking, sports, and climbing.

*For additional information: 310.476.8571
info@ramah.org*

Camp Ramah in New England (Palmer, MA)

The Tikvah Program has four components. Amitzim is an eight-week program serving teens ages 13-18 with mild to moderate intellectual and developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, neurological impairments, and physical challenges. Amitzim campers live in accessible bunks with specially trained counselors and participate in an extensive camping program. Tochnit HaAvodah ("Voc Ed") is a vocational training program for young adults ages 18-21. The Voc Ed participants live in a group home environment with two advisors. The Post Voc Ed Program offers summer employment to a select group of Tikvah graduates. The inclusion program is for a carefully selected group of younger campers with special needs, including physical challenges, who live in and participate in the daily activities of a typical bunk. Inclusion campers receive additional support and participate in the full range of activities in a typical camping division.

*For additional information: 413.374.7210
howardb@campramahne.org*

Ramah Canada (Utterson, ON)

The Tikvah Program is a six-week program for teens with developmental disabilities, ages 12-21. The program provides recreational, social, and educational experiences for campers. While campers of the Tikvah program enjoy the usual swimming, hiking, sports, and arts and crafts, they also attend daily services, study Hebrew, and learn Jewish customs. Each camper is integrated into the ongoing activities of the camp according to his or her abilities. The program includes a vocational education component for young adults ages 22-25.

*For additional information: 416.789.2193
info@campramah.com*



Camp Ramah in the Poconos (Lakewood, PA)

The Tikvah Family Camp is a five-day overnight program for families with children with developmental disorders and/or social learning disorders. This program incorporates Jewish learning, recreation, spiritual reflection, and fun in the beautiful natural environment of Camp Ramah in the Poconos.

*For additional information: 215.885.8556
tikvah@ramahpoconos.org*

Camp Ramah in Wisconsin (Conover, WI)

The Tikvah Program offers 4- and 8-week programs that provide a blend of individualized support and integration into the regular camp program for teens ages 13-18 with learning and social difficulties, including Asperger's Syndrome. Tikvah operates as a division within the regular camp structure. Tikvah camper cabins are attached to mainstream camper cabins.

Atzmayim, the Tikvah Vocational Program, is an 8-week program designed to strengthen social and vocational skills for high school graduates ages 18-22. It is intended to assist in transitioning to an independent living environment and blends vocational skill training and work experience with Jewish communal living. Work assignments are typically in local community businesses.

*For additional information: 312.606.9316
registrar@ramahwisconsin.com*

