

GENERAL INFORMATION & POLICIES

AM I A MEMBER OR A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT?

Members join the YMCA and pay regular membership fees. They receive access to all facilities and all group exercise programs, free of charge. Members receive priority registration and reduced rates for other programs and also benefit from some programs and services not available to program only participants.

Program only participants enroll in a specific program(s), but do not pay a regular membership fee to use other areas of the facilities. (I.E., program participants may be enrolled in a dance class or sports league or may have child(ren) enrolled in a sports program or after school care program.) Any questions about member and program participant fees may be directed to your branch's front desk.

AGE POLICIES

Child Watch (6 weeks-11 years)

Child Watch allows parents to participate in programs and work out for up to two hours per day while children are engaged in various age-appropriate activities in a supervised environment. Please check with your local Y for child watch hours. This program is FREE for members and can only be used while parents use the facility.

Kids Club (Age 5/Kindergarten- Age 11/5th Grade)

Kids Club has a variety of fun and engaging options for kids while the family is at the YMCA. It is an extension of Child Watch, offering supervised gym time, swimming and educational activities. The schedule of activities for each week will be posted ahead of time for each designated branch. This program is FREE for members and can only be used while parents use the facility.

General Facilities:

Children ages 7 and under must be with a parent or guardian at all times or in Child Watch. Ages 8 -10 may be in kids club or may be in the building without direct supervision; however, a parent must remain in the facility. Ages 11+ can be on their own in the facility.

Group Exercise Classes:

Members age 11-14 who have completed YouthFit* can participate in group exercise classes on their own; otherwise, they need to be accompanied by an adult. Members age 15 and older may attend group exercise classes on their own.

Wellness Center:

For members age 15 and older. Members age 11-14 may use designated areas of the Wellness Center after completing our YouthFit*. (See page 19 and below) Children under 15 years of age are not permitted in fitness/wellness centers until they complete YouthFit*.

*YouthFit is a FREE program that shows members, age 11-14, proper techniques, Wellness Center procedures and exercise guidelines in a fun and informative way. Inquire at the front desk for registration details.

Locker Rooms:

Privacy and safety in locker rooms is a priority at the Y. Clothing and other personal belongings not in use should be locked in the YMCA lockers. Ensure your locker is secured and leave your valuables at home. Wallet lockers are available to securely store small personal items. Remember to take your belongings with you at the end of the day. The Y is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal property. We recommend that you bring a lock for your locker, but locks must be removed by the end

of the day. A lock left on a day use locker overnight may be destroyed and contents of the locker will be placed in lost and found.

Children age 4 and over are not permitted in the opposite gender locker room. The Y offers universal changing rooms for children who are old enough to use the gender-appropriate locker rooms (but still need assistance), individuals with disabilities or anyone who does not feel comfortable in group changing areas. The use of video recorders, cameras, cell phone cameras or any other device to record or take pictures in the locker room or other private setting is not permitted at the YMCA. Please immediately report to the manager on duty any behavior that seems inappropriate or suspicious regarding this matter.

HEALTH CENTER

The Central Branch YMCA offers full-service Health Centers for adult members. The Men's and Women's Health Centers are adult-only locker rooms that offer upgraded amenities such as: whirlpool, sauna, steam room (men only) and free towel service. Extra amenities include massage services (women only), locker rental and laundry service.

Carry Your Card

Membership tags or your YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne App ID must be scanned at the front desk upon entering the Y. This barcode may also be added to Apple Wallet or Google Pay. A valid photo ID is required if you do not have your membership card. Membership cards are not transferable.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Adult Membership:

An individual who is 18 years of age or older.

One Adult Household Membership:

An individual who is 18 years of age or older and their dependents in the same household.

Student Membership:

A full-time student through age 25 with a valid student ID.

Household Membership:

2 Adults and their dependents in the same household.

Senior Membership:

An adult that is 65 years of age or older.

Senior Household Membership:

2 adults that are 65 years of age or older and their dependents in the same household.

Adult Add-On:

One additional adult residing in the same household may be added to a membership for an additional \$35/month. This fee covers the additional adult's dependents. (This option is not available on student memberships or insurance-based memberships.)

Corporate Membership:

The Y partners with area businesses to offer memberships for employees through payroll deduction. To find out if your business offers corporate memberships or to get your business started visit fwymca.org/corporate-membership.

Military Outreach Initiative Membership:

The Y proudly offers memberships to eligible military families and personnel to provide extra support during a time when loved ones are deployed. For more information about eligibility requirements please contact the front desk at your local branch or go to ASYMCA.org.

Nationwide YMCA Membership:

The Y is one movement and we want to encourage members to utilize the Y as often as they can in order to meet their health and wellness goals. Some restrictions apply.

Enrollment Fee:

Members pay an enrollment fee to set up their membership account and begin to enjoy all benefits the Y has to offer. This fee covers the administrative cost of membership. Those costs include, but are not limited to, your membership card(s), processing fee and account maintenance.

Members who cancel their membership and later rejoin are required to pay the enrollment fee to reactivate their account if it has been inactive for more than 30 days.

Insurance-Based Memberships

The Y works in partnership with select Medicare Advantage plans to offer free memberships to eligible policy holders. Participants are entitled to a membership to the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne which includes participation in group exercise classes, guidance from qualified instructors, social activities and use of the Y facilities, such as swimming pools, wellness centers and saunas. Check with your insurance company for eligibility requirements.

Financial Assistance for Members and Program Participants:

We believe that finances shouldn't be a barrier to participate at the Y. To apply for financial assistance, complete the application form which is downloadable at fwymca.org. Gather all documents in the following list that apply to your situation: most recent 30 days of income for all wage earners within the same household, government assistance verification, social security documents, other sources of income, proof of unemployment or court orders verifying child support. Bring the documents and application to the Membership Services desk at any Y in Allen, Whitley or Wells county. Proof of public assistance alone can expedite your application.

Swim Safety Initiative: Test, Mark, Protect Youth Swim Policy:

All youth ages 6-13 are required to take a lifeguard monitored swim test to determine whether or not they may swim without a life-jacket or parental supervision.

Test:

The swim test includes a deep water plunge, an endurance swim, treading water for 30 seconds, more swimming and finally ends with a 10 second float on the back. This test will prove the swimmer has the ability to swim in water over the head and the ability to support themselves above the water until help arrives if they are in trouble.

Mark:

Children are marked with a swim band to signify their swimming ability every time they swim.

Protect:

Testing and marking is the way we ensure your children are protected. A swim band shows they have been tested and marked. If they don't have a swim band, an adult must remain with the child and/or the child must wear a life-jacket for their protection.

Return Payment Policy:

In order to keep our branches financially sound and in fairness to those who pay their fees on time, we will assess a fee of up to \$30 for any payment returned for any reason.

PAYMENT OPTIONS**Annual Pay:**

Member pays for 12 months up front in one lump sum. Annual pay memberships are non-refundable.

Monthly Draft Payment:

Monthly membership dues are withdrawn from a bank or credit card account on the first of each month. There is a minimum of a 12-month commitment. Drafts will automatically continue after that until canceled in person, in writing or over the phone no later than the 25th of the month.

Winter Weather YMCA Facility Closings:

The levels for Allen, Whitley, and Wells Counties are: Advisory (lowest level) – routine travel/activities may be restricted in areas and individuals should use caution; Watch – conditions are threatening; Warning (highest level) – travel may be restricted to emergency management workers.

Closures:

Allen County: The decision to close the branches is made by either the COO or CEO. Call Allen County Sheriff's Dept. for the level 260.449.3000 or check **IN.gov** county travel status map.

Whitley County: The Whitley County Branch will be closed when a "Warning" level is declared. The decision whether to close during an Advisory or Watch Level will be made by the COO or CEO. Call Whitley County Sheriff's Dept. for the level 260.244.6410 or check **IN.gov** county travel status map.

Wells County: The Wells County Branch will be closed when a "Level 1" is declared. The decision whether to close during a Level 2 or 3 will be made by the COO or CEO. Call Wells County Sheriff's Dept. for the level 260.824.3426 or check **IN.gov** county travel status map.

Download our app to receive notifications about facility closures. Stay tuned to local news stations including INC and WANE TV for updates. Frequent updates are also posted on FM stations STAR 88.3, WJJI 95.1, WMEE 97.3, WLDE 101.7, K105, WBCL 90.3, WOWO 107.5, AM station WOWO 1190. Updates are also posted to our website at **fwymca.org**.

Program, Event & Class Cancellations:

On rare occasions, branches may elect to cancel classes, programs, special events or meetings with a minimum of three hours notice. The decision to cancel is made by the branch director and efforts are made to communicate with program participants.

Outdoor Pools/Splash Parks:

Lightning and Thunder: When thunder or lightning is first noticed, outdoor pool activities will be suspended and all outdoor pools and pool decks will be evacuated until 30 minutes after the last sign of thunder or lightning. The distance from a facility to an approaching thunderstorm can be five to eight miles away, but lightning can strike from a much farther distance.

Rain/Wind:

Heavy rain can make it difficult to see the bottom of a pool or beneath the surface. If heavy rain causes bottom obstruction, pools will be cleared and swimming halted until the rain lets up.

Wind can also cause safety hazards. If wind is observably strong or gusty and causes bottom obstruction due to rippling, swimmers will be cleared from pools until the bottom is visible.

Safety:

As part of our commitment to provide a safe environment for all YMCA members and guests, our staff participate in ongoing training to quickly respond to a crisis situation which threatens the safety of people participating at the YMCA. Preparedness trainings include but are not limited to: CPR/First Aid, severe weather, fire, tornado and active shooter situations in or outside of the building.

Please notify staff if you have questions or feel there is a threat of danger in or near our YMCAs. Reported incidents will be investigated by the Executive Director.

Sex Offender:

Participation in YMCA activities and facilities by sexual offenders is denied and participation privileges will be revoked for any current member or participant who is listed in the National Offender Registry.

Photography/Cell Phone Camera Use:

The use of video recorders, cameras, cell phone cameras or any other device to record or take pictures in the locker room or other private setting is not permitted at the YMCA. Please immediately report to the manager on duty any behavior that seems inappropriate or suspicious regarding this matter.

Member Service Promise:

Y staff recognizes that service to our members is the most important part of our job. Therefore, we make this promise: Our staff members will be friendly and attentive and demonstrate caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. We will keep our facilities and equipment clean, safe and well maintained. We will deliver quality programs that meet the needs of our members and guests. We will provide opportunities for members to be involved as donors and volunteers.

Guest Policies & Procedures**

- Guest pass usage is recorded and each guest is limited to a total of 3 visits per calendar year (Jan. through Dec.). Continued use after the three visits requires joining the YMCA.
 - Members aged 16 & 17 can bring a guest ages 11 and older
 - Members aged 18 and older can bring a guest of any age
 - The first guest visit is complimentary. After that, the following guest fees apply:
 - * Child/Student
Ages 0-18 years, full time students through age 25 with a valid student ID – \$5.00
 - * Adults – \$10.00
 - * Families (parent(s) with their dependent children) – \$15.00
 - Guest fees can be applied to the enrollment fee if guest becomes a member during the calendar year.
 - Member must be present with their guest.
 - Guest ages 16 and over must present a photo ID.
 - Inappropriate guest behavior will result in a loss of membership privileges for the sponsoring member.
 - A member can be accompanied by either 2 individual guests or one family during a visit. (The definition of a family guest pass is at least one guest parent, guardian or grandparent present with dependent children.) For additional guests, please check with the Branch Membership Director in advance of your visit.
- ** This policy is subject to change.

Birthday Parties/Room Rentals

Planning a birthday party, family reunion, prom or other event? Pools, gyms, community rooms and rock climbing walls are available to rent. Contact your local Y for availability and details.

Errors and Adjustments:

This guide was printed in February 2023. While we try to be accurate in presenting information, some unavoidable errors or changes to the information may occur. We apologize for any inconvenience that may result from these necessary adjustments. If you find a mistake, please report it to:

HereForYou@fwymca.org.

Program Credit/Refunds:

We want you to be satisfied with our programs. If a participant has a medical exemption or is dissatisfied with a program, we may issue a program credit voucher. No pro-rates are granted after a program has begun for the session. The on-line registration system does not accept vouchers or credits. Requests for program credits or refunds may require the approval of the branch Executive Director.