# FJC Building Loan Program 2026-2027
# Info Sheet

## Why Apply for an Interest-Free Loan?

The Building Loan Program's interest-free loans provide camps with access to cash to cover short-term capital expenses, typically while fundraising pledges are being paid out over multiple years. Loans enable shorter turnaround time to start capital improvements at camp.

Camps should only apply if they have high confidence that the project will be moving forward within 6-12 months of their application. Additionally, camps must demonstrate an ability to pay back the loan over a five-year term (on a quarterly basis) through their financial statements and/or through a fundraising plan that demonstrates both current commitments and a strategy for raising additional funds.

The interest-free loan program may also be appropriate as an alternative to a private building loan (e.g., from a bank), helping camps to save money on interest expenses, legal fees, and other costs associated with private loans. This may be especially true as interest rates continue to climb. Please note: interest-free loans will not be available for camps with existing mortgages or liens, and camps cannot take out a mortgage before repaying the FJC Building Loan in full.

## Loan Eligibility and Project Requirements:

- Applying camps must be a qualified non-profit Jewish overnight camp that is part of FJC's network and served a minimum of 125 campers per session in the previous summer. *Non-residential facilities (e.g. day camps) are not qualified to apply for the program at this time.*
- Camps/camp properties cannot have an active mortgage.
- Loans will only cover **up to 50%** of the project cost (a "project" can be a portion of a larger capital project or several capital improvements bundled together).
- The maximum loan amount is:
    - Up to $750,000 for camps with 250 campers or less
    - Up to $1,000,000 for camps with 251 campers or more
- FJC desires to make loans for construction and renovation projects that **expand camper capacity.** While projects that upgrade accommodations or facilities (even if they don't increase the number of campers that can be accommodated during the summer) may still be eligible, preference will be given to projects that clearly enable a camp to serve more campers.*
- For Canadian Camps Only: Eligible camps are those with a U.S.-based entity that can serve as the borrower are encouraged to apply. For Canadian camps without U.S.-based entities, please contact FJC as the process can be reviewed and considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Sample Preferred/Eligible Projects:*

- *Preferred Projects: New or expanded camper cabins, new or expanded dining hall, new gymnasium or sports fields, new or restored septic system, or development of land for a new specialty program. (If you're considering new or expanded staff housing, please contact FJC to discuss.)*
- *Eligible Projects: Renovations to existing cabins or dining hall, new infirmary, or new laundry facility.*

## Application Requirements & Documents:

- Preliminary Application (Online Form)
- Full Application* and supporting documentation, which will include:
  - Basic information about the camp and its mission and program, a project description, project budget, and the loan amount request
  - Most recent Audited Financials (for umbrella organizations (i.e. JCCs, URJ, etc.), a camp-level statement of activities and a balance sheet must be provided in addition to Audited Financials)
  - IRS Letter of Determination
  - Most recent Form 990 (if applicable), or an explanation if you do not need to file
  - List of board members
  - Fundraising plan (if applicable)

**Based on review of the Preliminary Application, FJC will invite qualified candidates to submit a Full Application.*

## Building Loan Program Camp Expenses:

- Letter of Credit arranged through an A-rated financial institution acceptable to FJC
- Legal costs (if any; many camps are able to find pro bono assistance from board members or other supporters)
- Filing fees
- Fees for annual CSI & SSI ($800-$1,500/year) for 5 years (see here for more information)

## Reporting & Administration Requirements for Loan Recipients:

Participating camps will be responsible for providing the following during the life of the loan:

- Quarterly payment (Following a grace period of 3 months, camps will be required to make equal quarterly principal re-payments over the remainder of the loan period, which is a maximum of 5 years.)
- Updating FJC on construction and fundraising progress on a semi-annual basis
- Updating FJC on potential risks and opportunities for the project
- Completing the annual Camp Census in full and on time
- Participating in and administering annual CSI & SSI for 5 years (at cost of the camp)

## Building Loan Closing Documents:

Participating camps will be responsible for providing the following in order to close the loan:

- Loan Checklist Worksheet (FJC will provide)
- Loan Agreement (FJC will provide draft agreement)
- Promissory Note (FJC will provide draft note)
- Letter of Credit (Beneficiary is Charitable Associates)
- Officer's Certificate
- Secretary's Certificate
- Board Resolution
- Certificate of Insurance naming both FJC and Charitable Associates as additional insureds
- Opinion of Counsel (only upon request from FJC)

## Loan Timeline:

| **Date:** | |
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| Monday, August 31, 2026 | Preliminary Application Form is open online |
| Friday, September 18, 2026 | Deadline to complete online Preliminary Application Form |
| Mid-Late October 2026 | FJC will notify camps invited to complete Full Application Form |
| Friday, November 20, 2026 | Deadline to complete online Full Application Form |
| January 2027 | Camps will be notified if their application is moving forward |
| First week of February 2027 | Loan Notifications and check-in regarding required documentation |
| Last two weeks of March 2027<br>*OR*<br>Last two weeks of June 2027 | Final Closing Documents Submitted to FJC for early April 2027 closing<br><br>Final Closing Documents Submitted to FJC for early July 2027 closing |

## FJC Staff Contacts:

If you have questions about the Building Loan Program, please contact:

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