

Homeschool Group Program

Information and Policies

Making a Reservation: Call ahead for available dates for guided or self-guided visits. Self-guided visit options are limited to one group per day. Guided programs require advanced scheduling and are based on availability. An online scheduling form must be filled out and submitted. A confirmation email will be sent within a week of request.

Chaperones: For Coastal Classroom and Seining Adventure homeschool programs, our staff and volunteers will lead all educational programming. However, we do rely on adult chaperones to smooth the process by maintaining control of the students and ensuring proper behavior. It is expected that the chaperones will assist as needed and interact with the students so they can have the best experience possible.

- For homeschool Self-guided Group Visits, adult chaperones will be entirely responsible for the supervision of the children in their group. The number of adult chaperones must be less than the number of participating children in the group.

Siblings: Florida Oceanographic guided field trip programs are geared toward K-12th grade students. To help ensure quality programming for your students, please limit the number of non school-aged children in your group. ****Due to safety concerns of a water-based activity, and to ensure adult involvement, we ask that only grade-level students attend the Seining Adventure program.****

Health Concerns: In consideration of staff and other children in the group, please do not send children on the field trip if they are feeling ill.

Arrivals and Payments: Please plan to arrive at least 10 minutes earlier than your scheduled program. Upon arrival, the group leader will proceed to the admissions area to check-in the group. An education staff member will meet the group out front to pass out admission bands and go over the schedule of activities.

*Payment is expected upon check-in. To secure the group rate, the entire group must pay in a single transaction and enter together. Late arrivals will be charged regular admission or forfeit participation.

Family Membership Policies: Adults who are members of Florida Oceanographic may use their valid membership cards to gain access with their group for self-guided visits, but not the Seining Adventure or Coastal Classroom. Florida Oceanographic memberships do not cover student fees for any guided group program.

Cancellations: Please call and confirm directly with a member of the education staff, any changes or cancellations at least 48 hours in advance. Contact 772-225-0505 ext. **116, 118, or 113**.

Late Arrivals: If your group is going to be late for a scheduled guided field trip program, please contact us as soon as possible at **(772) 225-0505 ext. 101 or 111** and let us know your approximate arrival time. While we will do our best to accommodate your late arrival, we do reserve the right to adjust your program time or cancel a portion of your scheduled program depending on time constraints.

Rainy Day/Severe Weather: Florida Oceanographic is an outdoor facility. If there is rainy or severe weather before your arrival and you'd wish to cancel, please contact us to reschedule your program for another date. Once your group has begun a guided tour, we will do our best to accommodate with alternative programming as necessary, however no rain checks will be granted.

Bus Parking: Bus parking is located at the south end of the parking lot. Buses may drop their group off at the entrance of Florida Oceanographic once a member of staff has greeted them, then proceed to park in the designated area.

Picnic Areas: Please let staff know if you are planning to have lunch on property. Groups may bring their lunch to enjoy after programming is over. Picnic tables are available on a first come first served basis in our group pavilion. There are additional picnic areas available across the street at Stuart Public Beach.

Gift Shop: Florida Oceanographic does have a gift shop that your group may visit. Staff asks that groups only send 4-5 students at a time with a supervising adult.