Preparing for Your Overnight

Be prepared to interact with other families participating in this program. As previous overnights have demonstrated, cooperation and flexibility are vital. Be aware that the Museum will be open to the public during parts of the overnight, and there will be visitors attending shows and other Museum functions. We look forward to your help in making this a wonderful experience for everyone.

What to Bring

Sleeping Gear

Bring an indoor sleeping bag for each participant. Prior attendees recommend an air mattress or foam pad for sleeping on hard, cold floors. Outlets are available for inflating mattresses. If you need an outlet overnight for a CPAP machine or other device, contact the membership department in advance. Place all belongings together in one bag or bedroll to facilitate storage and access. All gear should be clearly labeled with your name(s) to minimize the chance of losing items.

Clothing

You’ll do a lot of walking, so wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Shoes must be worn at all times. We recommend dressing in layers. Overnighters usually sleep in light clothing.

HAVE A GREAT NIGHT!

We hope these guidelines will help you make the most of your special night. Previous overnighters contributed many of the ideas and suggestions you’ll find here. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact the membership department at 617-589-0180 or membership@mos.org. See you soon!

Payments are final and non-refundable. Each family will be given a registration packet upon arrival. Additional guests who are not part of the initial reservation are not permitted. Museum policy requires that children be directly supervised by their accompanying adult(s) at all times.

Museum of Science, Boston
Additional Suggestions

**Bring a water bottle.** Feel free to bring a camera as photographs are permitted in most parts of the Museum. Overnighters may wish to bring extra money to purchase souvenirs and educational items, including overnight merchandise, in the Museum Store.

**What NOT to Bring**

Please do **NOT bring** tents, cots, hair dryers, curling irons, alarm clocks, electronic toys, games, music, or alcohol.

Getting to the Museum of Science

**Traffic patterns change frequently** in and around Boston due to construction. Please visit mos.org/directions or call 617-723-2500 for more information.

Arrival and Registration

**Plan to check in between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m.** Park in the upper levels (2 – 5) of the Museum garage and bring your gear to the ground level. Look for the **Overnight Program Entrance** sign in the corner of the garage. Garage attendants and security guards can help direct you. At the registration area, check in your group and receive a packet containing a map of our exhibits, a schedule of events, and other information for a safe, successful stay. Museum staff will be available to assist you throughout the evening.

If you arrive after 7:00 p.m., go to the Information Desk in the lobby and ask an information specialist to contact an Overnight Program staff member to check you in.

Sleeping Spaces

**You will be assigned a sleeping area** in the Exhibit Halls. We can accommodate requests for specific sleeping areas for families and children with special needs. If you would like to be assigned to the same sleeping area as another group, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you. Send an email to membership@mos.org or call 617-589-0180 to speak with a representative or leave a message with your request. When you write or call, please provide your name and membership number and the name under which your friend’s reservation was made.

Overnight staff will review safety procedures. Your cooperation is appreciated.

As for sleep... expect about as much as anyone would get at a large slumber party. Remember that after lights-out all overnighters must remain quiet and in their assigned areas.
Program Activities
This extraordinary, exploratory overnight adventure will keep you going from dusk ‘til dawn! The program includes an opening welcome, instructor-led hands-on science activities and demonstrations, and presentations in the Mugar Omni Theater. You will receive an exact schedule of events when you register that evening. Adults are encouraged to participate in all overnight activities!

Meals
Food is not allowed in the Exhibit Halls. An eating area for Member Overnight participants will be set aside for your convenience from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Overnighters can purchase dinner in the Museum’s Riverview Café or bring a picnic dinner/supper. We will provide an evening snack and light breakfast. Complimentary tea and coffee will be provided for adults at designated hours during your stay.

Access
Please notify us prior to the Member Overnight if members of your group have any special needs or dietary restrictions. We are better able to accommodate your needs with advance notice. Email membership@mos.org or call 617-589-0180 to speak with a representative or leave a message with your request. Refrigeration is available for medicine or special dietary needs.

Parking
Overnight vehicles park for a $5 flat fee in the Museum garage. Cars and small vans must be parked on the upper levels of the garage. If your vehicle is taller than 7.5 feet, please call in advance to make arrangements. As always, bring your ticket inside with you. Museum staff will validate your parking during the event and you’ll pay at the kiosks upon departure. We can only accept debit and credit card payments for parking.

Departure
Gear should be packed in vehicles by 8:00 a.m. so the Museum can be cleaned. Overnighters are welcome to stay longer. Staff depart at 11:00 a.m.

If you still have energy, feel free to stay longer and enjoy the Museum!
Emergencies

Building Emergencies
Like all public institutions, the Museum is required to follow fire and emergency standards; we have consistently met or exceeded these safety requirements. Heat and smoke detection systems are installed throughout the building. The appropriate city officials of Boston and Cambridge are aware of our program. Security guards are on duty throughout the night, and Overnight Program staff are trained in emergency exit procedures. Be aware that some lights are left on all night.

Medical Needs and First-Aid
Participants are responsible for their medical needs. A room with a quiet rest area and a refrigerator for medicine is available. Please bring any medications your group requires and contact the membership department in advance regarding any special medical needs. Should a participant require first aid, a public safety staff member will assist you.

Medical Emergencies
Contact an Overnight Program staff member immediately. Several hospitals are only minutes away. Please bring any medications and emergency contact numbers you or members of your group require. Make sure to contact us prior to your overnight regarding any special medical needs.

Family Emergencies
If an outside person needs to reach you for an urgent matter, they should call 617-589-0200. This number is for emergencies only and is staffed around the clock by security staff. Please make sure that all incoming callers know the registered adult member’s full name to ensure a quick response.

Important Rules and Guidelines
• Smoking is prohibited throughout the Museum.
• Food is not allowed in the Exhibit Halls.
• Children (including teens) must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
• Anyone found under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or drugs will be required to leave.
• Inappropriate behavior (including, but not limited to, ignoring guidelines or engaging in acts of aggression) will be grounds for dismissal.
• Have fun!