



8th Grade Odyssey Scholarship Application



Application Due Date: _____
TWO WEEKS AFTER SCHOOL VISIT!

Course Dates: Summer 2026 Trip 1: July 12-19 Trip 2: August 2-9

The Clark Foundation’s Odyssey Scholarship is a once in a lifetime opportunity. If accepted, Odyssey can make lasting positive changes to the way you conduct your life. Applicants must be in 8th grade and be enrolled at one of our scholarship schools. Students who apply need only to be energetic, committed, and enthusiastic to the challenges offered by Odyssey. To benefit from this experience, students must be willing to commit 8 days of summer to learn more about themselves, their CREW members, the natural environment, and leadership skills. Grades earned in school are NOT a deciding factor in awarding scholarships. Character and adventurous spirit are all that is needed to change your life.

There are many people who can answer your questions about Odyssey. Seek out those who went on a course in the past, talk to your school coordinator, or give us a call at the Clark Sports Center (607) 547-2800 extension 124.

Your parent/guardian must sign the bottom of your application (space provided) which signifies they have read the attached parent letter and understand that you are applying for this scholarship. We will not consider your application without it!

Student Contact Information:

Name _____ School _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (with area code) _____

Non-School Email address _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (with area code) _____

Email address _____

Parent/Guardian: Please sign below, signifying you have read the attached letter:

Signature _____

Questions: From the questions listed below, please **respond to four**. These are challenging questions and there are no easy answers, or single right answer. Our best advice is to provide thoughtful, thorough and creative responses: ones that will give us a clear picture of who you are. It is the quality of your ideas and the depth of your commitment that is most important! **Please type and print out your responses including the questions you are responding to.**

1. Participants in Odyssey will experience and learn different leadership skills. What do you consider the single most important quality of a leader? Why?
2. If one of your Odyssey companions became homesick during the course, what are some things you could do to help?
3. From what you have learned about Odyssey, what part of the course might be most difficult for you?
4. Marty Rubin said, "Solitude is where one discovers one is not alone." Do you think he is correct?
5. It is commonly said, "A person's character is what he, or she, does when no one is looking". What does that mean to you?
6. If you were chosen as a leader of your Odyssey group for one day, how do you think others in your group would respond to your leadership style?
7. Even when you are not designated as leader of a group, what are some things that you could do to help ensure the group's success?
8. What is there about you that will have a positive influence on your Odyssey group? Why do you think it might be important?

Letter to Parent/Guardian

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your son or daughter has elected to apply for a scholarship to participate in The Clark Sports Center Odyssey Scholarship Program for eighth grade students. If accepted, your student is making a commitment to fulfill the responsibilities inherent in receiving this scholarship.

These responsibilities include: Attendance to any informational sessions provided, timely drop off/pick up from the Clark Sports Center, compliance with instructor team and the group as a whole, willingness to tackle adversity, and practicing proper expedition behavior. (Which includes, but is not limited to, practicing "Leave No Trace" ethics) *If these responsibilities cannot be met, students are discouraged from applying, as there are limited positions available.*

We are asking parents of interested students to be involved in the application process by talking with your son or daughter about Odyssey and supporting their commitment to undertake this wonderful opportunity provided by Clark Sports Center. **Please sign the front of their application (space provided) signifying you are aware of their intentions.**

If you have questions as to the nature of Odyssey, please call the Clark Sports Center Adventure Staff at (607) 547-2800, ext. 124, or by email to outwardbound@clarksportscenter.com.