



*sleep*  
*under the*  
*sea*



GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Program Guidebook  
2018

# Table of Contents

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Sleepover Introduction	Page 3
Educational Objectives	Page 3
Sleepover Themes	Page 4
Safety and Security	Page 5
Packing for Your Sleepover Adventure	Page 6
Guest Arrival and Check-In	Page 7
Meals	Page 8
Sleepover Adventure Schedule	Page 9
Frequently Asked Questions	Page 10
Booking Details	Page 12
Adult Participant Forms	Page 13
Child Participant Forms	Page 18

# Greetings!

Thank you for booking your sleepover adventure with us! We're excited for you to join us and Sleep Under the Sea!

As you prepare for your adventure, please make sure you take time to review all program and participant information contained in this guidebook.

Inside this guidebook you will find sleepover information including:

- Sleepover General Information
- Educational Objectives
- Sleepover Themes
- Safety and Security
- Pre-Arrival Information
- Guest Arrival Information
- Sleepover Adventure Schedule
- Participant Health History Forms and Releases. Please make copies and distribute to all participants or legal guardians of participants. **ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING ADULTS, MUST TURN IN A COMPLETED PACKET AT TIME OF CHECK IN.**

If you have any questions about your sleepover or about any of the information in this guidebook, we invite you to contact us at 404-581-4249 or send an email to [sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org).

  
sleep under  
the sea

# Sleepover Introduction

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After everyone has gone home, and the Aquarium has closed its doors for the night, we invite you to join us for an exciting night of exploration! Georgia Aquarium offers sleepovers for families, groups of all ages, schools, and adults.

As our guests, you will have the opportunity to sleep in front of one of our magnificent exhibits in galleries such as:

**Ocean Voyager** built by The Home Depot  
**Tropical Diver** Gallery  
**Cold Water Quest**  
Southern Company **River Scout**  
AT&T **Dolphin Tales** Theater Viewing Window

Sorry! As it turns out, we cannot guarantee sleeping locations. Assignments are made after all guests have checked in, and based upon the group make-up, size and needs. Additionally, partial or entire galleries may be unavailable due to other activities and/or animal care taking place.

After reading through this guidebook, if you have any questions, please contact the Georgia Aquarium Sleepover team at [sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org) or by calling 404-581-4249.

## What does my sleepover include?

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Below is an example of your experience with a traditional sleepover. This sleepover adventure includes:

- Georgia Aquarium admission with a 6:30pm entry time
- Next-day entry into the 4D FUNBelievable Theater (movies vary by season)\*
- Next-day entry into SunTrust Pier 225: Under the Boardwalk, featuring our California sea lions\*
- Next-day entry into AT&T Dolphin Celebration in the AT&T Dolphin Tales Theater\*
- Guided Activities
- Gallery and Backstage Tours
- Evening Snacks and Hot Breakfast\*\*
- Sleeping mat

\*These presentations do not take place during your scheduled sleepover adventure, rather afterward. Presentation times may vary. All seating is first come, first serve and may be limited.

\*\*Sips Under the Sea adult sleepovers include two VIP tickets for adult beverages and two VIP tickets for small plates/tapas during the Sips Under the Sea portion of the sleepover. Breakfast is a hot breakfast.

## Educational Objectives

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Georgia Aquarium is committed to providing an exceptional experience filled with fun, memories and awe-inspiring moments. Through the course of your sleepover adventure, we wish for our guests to also be empowered to create a positive change in our world, and help preserve the waters of the world. To better assist with this experience, your sleepover adventure aligns itself with the following objectives:

- Identify ways to protect the environment from litter and trash.
- Identify several features of the world's oceans and how human life benefits from the oceans.
- Understand biodiversity and why it's important.
- Learn about the interplay and variety of life found in coral reef habitats.
- Learn what steps we can all take to protect aquatic life.

# Sleepover Themes

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## **Family Overnight**

Designed for families with children ages seven (7) and older, this program focuses on our aquatic animals and habitats including sharks and whales, and what we can do to help preserve these natural treasures. Get ready to explore the Aquarium through a variety of special activities, tours, and more! Exact programming will be adjusted based on the ages of the participants.

## **Girl and Cub Scout Overnight**

An evening of learning for the active Girl Scout or Cub Scout, ages seven (7) and older, exploring the wonders of water and its inhabitants! This program explores our major exhibits and discusses conservation issues to help scouts learn how to leave the Earth a better place than they found it. Scouts earning aquatic and conservation related patches will get a head start on these in preparation for completing the work at home. Reminder: There will be male staff members working during all scout sleepovers, but males will not be permitted to sleep in Girl Scout sleep areas.

## **Boy Scout Oceanography Merit Badge Overnight**

During this overnight, Boy Scouts can complete *most* requirements needed to earn their Oceanography Merit Badge. Activities will focus on specific requirements in the scout workbook and focus on providing a deeper understanding of the world's oceans through the use of specific guided activities and tours. At the conclusion of the overnight, scouts will need to complete their essay requirement and submit to their leaders for final completion of requirements.

## **Sips Under the Sea Evenings**

For guests over 21 years of age. Your evening will begin with the VIP experience at Sip Under the Sea, our adult evening programming at Georgia Aquarium. This evening features live entertainment, food and adult beverages. At the conclusion of Sips Under the Sea, your sleepover adventure begins where you'll explore the mysteries of the aquarium while learning about adult aquarium content.

## **Traditional Adult Overnights**

For guests over 21 years of age. This traditional sleepover is based upon similar framework as our Family Overnight program. Adult overnights focus on our aquatic living collection, including backstage tours in an adult content format.

## **Corporate/Teambuilding/Meeting Overnights**

For adult groups, this overnight is a combination of a more traditional adult overnight along with some incorporated teambuilding exercises and/or meeting time with your group. This overnight is ideal for groups such as church and Greek letter organizations, as well as those groups wanting some time to build relationships and team camaraderie.

## **Premium Experience Private Overnights**

For guests who want the entire aquarium to themselves! This premium experience grants you and your group access to a specialized dinner, a private guide and the ultimate VIP sleepover experience! You'll be the only ones sleeping at the aquarium during your overnight. A sleepover team member will contact you after booking to plan your adventure. Private overnights require a booking of at least ten (10) guests, but no more than 30 guests. Admission for Premium Experience Private Overnights is \$150 per participant. Available select nights only. Please call our groups sales team for availability at 404-581-4121.

# Safety and Security

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Your safety is our top priority. Georgia Aquarium staff members, security, and EMTs are trained to respond in the unlikely event of an emergency with proper protocol, keeping our guests and animals as safe as possible.

To ensure the safety of our guests and animals, the following protocols are in place for our sleepover adventure nights:

- All guests will pass through security screening at the main entrance, before entering the building.
  - All guest bags will be screened for prohibited items.
  - All guests will walk through metal detection devices or be wand screened by security staff.
- Guests attending sleepovers, who are under the age of 18, must have an accompanying adult over the age of 21.
- Georgia Aquarium has 24-hour on site security.
- There are EMT and Atlanta police officers present during all sleepovers.
- For logistical and security reasons, there is an 8:00 PM cutoff time for late arrivals.
- Guests desiring to depart during the evening will not be able to return. Sorry! We cannot offer a price reduction.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited inside the aquarium. This includes all forms of electronic and vapor cigarettes.
- Guests are not permitted to exit and re-enter the building once the program has begun.
- For safety, lighting in sleeping areas will be reduced but not be completely turned off.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted during any sleepover, with the exception of the Sips Under the Sea sleepovers, and may only be consumed if served by Georgia Aquarium restaurant staff. Outside Alcohol is not permitted inside Georgia Aquarium under any circumstances.
- During any sleepovers, intoxicated or disruptive guests may be asked to leave.
- During any sleepover, any guest inappropriately behaving or violating any safety protocol, may be asked to leave.

Please note, the following items are NOT permitted inside the aquarium:

- Weapons, including but not limited to guns and knives
- Outside alcoholic beverages
- Matches/Lighters
- Chewing gum
- Fishing poles

It is highly unlikely, but from time to time, inclement weather or other emergencies may delay or even cancel a sleepover. If this is the case, and your overnight adventure is impacted, someone from the Georgia Aquarium team will make contact with your party with further instructions.

An Atlanta Police Department officer and EMT will be on site all night. In the unlikely event of an emergency during an overnight adventure, all guests will be asked to pay close attention to instructions provided by uniformed Georgia Aquarium staff members.

If there is an emergency and you need to contact someone attending the sleepover, please call our 24-hour security dispatch office 404-581-4242.

# Packing for Your Sleepover Adventure

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The secret is to pack light. We provide a sleeping mat, but you might want to consider bringing:

- sleeping bags
- blankets
- pillows
- sweater or hoodie
- PJ's
- toothbrush and other small toiletries
- battery powered phone charger

This will all make your stay much more comfortable.

Inflatable beds are allowed, as long as they're twin sized and do not require electricity to inflate.

While charging stations are available, these stations are not in close proximity to sleeping areas. Leaving your personal electronic device unattended is at your own risk. Furthermore, electrical outlets are very limited and not available in all sleeping areas. If there are concerns with electronic devices and charging, please consider bringing a battery-operated charger. If you are in need of an electrical outlet because of special needs such as a CPAP machine, please let us know. We'll do our best to make sure you're near an outlet.

Sleeping can be a little hard for some, while away from home. We suggest you bring eye masks and ear plugs if you're sensitive to light or sounds. We do keep emergency and pathway lighting on in our galleries, therefore it will not get completely dark.

Also, when it comes to our living collection and our facility, we care for them 24 hours a day, meaning some work happens while we sleep. Occasionally and despite our best efforts, you may hear a door slam, or equipment working and moving. Don't be alarmed, it's simply our overnight crews hard at work.

# Guest Arrival and Check-In

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## Directions

Georgia Aquarium's physical address is:  
225 Baker Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313

If you're using a navigation system and intending to park in the Aquarium deck, you'll want to use:  
357 Luckie Street, NW, Atlanta Georgia 30313

Please park in the aquarium parking deck. At times, there are independent parking vendors that try to direct you into their parking lots. Instead, look for the aquarium parking deck adjacent to our facility. This deck is monitored by security overnight and will be the safest and most convenient option for your vehicle. The parking deck is located on the corner of Luckie St. & Ivan Allen. It's easily recognized by the pictures of aquatic life on its exterior, and is seven stories tall.

Parking is \$10 per vehicle and can be pre-paid at the time of booking at a discounted price.

For the safety of your vehicle and belongings, please make sure to leave all valuables out of sight!

Buses and other large vehicles should be prepared to park in the Georgia World Congress Center Marshalling Yard after dropping off Guests at the Baker Street entrance. Parking at the Marshalling Yard is available for a cost of \$30 per vehicle and must be purchased in advance. Please visit the following link, [GWCC Bus Parking Passes](#) to purchase your bus passes and use the code **GABUS**. Bus Drivers...Don't worry, the Marshalling Yard is only a couple of blocks away from us! We'll make sure we send you directions if needed.

**Note:** Traffic in Atlanta can be very unpredictable. Georgia Aquarium is near many concert, sports, and entertainment venues hosting events on a regular basis. We'll do our best to let you know of any traffic concerns so you can plan your travels and arrive on time.

## Luggage

When you arrive, you'll want to bring all of your sleepover items with you. We'll store your luggage, pillows, blankets, and plush animals inside the building so you don't have to retrieve them when the evening program concludes. In the morning, during breakfast, you'll be able to return items to your vehicles.

## Check-In

After parking in the deck, take the east elevators (closest to the city skyline) to the W level. Take the covered walkway to the plaza. When you arrive at the plaza, look for sleepover signs directing you to our main check-in location. You will also see sleepover staff members waiting to greet you. We'll get you squared away with wristbands, nametags and store your luggage. **All guests will proceed through security screening.** Please be advised that weapons (including but not limited to guns and knives), lighters, gum and other items considered dangerous to guests and our living collections are prohibited.

To our law enforcement officers: Please be advised, unless you are currently on duty and dressed in uniform required by your position, you may not bring weapons inside the facility. If you are an officer which requires to carry your gun on your person at all times, you **MUST** notify security before entering the building.

## Orientation

Our traditional programs begin promptly at 7pm in the 4D FUNBelievable Theater (Atrium, Second Level). For Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers, orientation begins at 10:00pm, at Pier 225 (Atrium, First Level). During orientation, you'll meet our talented staff and volunteers and learn all about your program. Make sure you arrive with plenty of time to be here for the meeting. It's information you won't want to miss!

Please see the appropriate schedule for your sleepover program, for more information.



# Meals

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## **Traditional Sleepovers – Family, Groups, Schools, Scouts, Traditional Adult, Team Building/Corporate**

Your sleepover includes an evening snack and breakfast. We suggest your group consider having dinner before you arrive to your sleepover adventure.

Evening Snack includes: Individual snack pack options will include a variety such as hummus, cheese and deli meat, along with crackers, chips, pretzels, assorted seasonal fruit and vegetables, and bottled water.

Breakfast includes: Breakfast Burritos (Sausage, Egg, and Cheese), Pancakes, Assorted Muffins, Fruit Cups, Juice, Coffee.

Please note: Specific offerings may vary slightly, depending on availability of options

## **Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers**

For guests participating in the Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepover, tickets include the Sips VIP package, with two adult drink tickets and two small plates/tapas tickets. Adult beverage and Tapas offerings vary by event. Additionally, light snacks will be provided after the Sips Under the Sea program has concluded (10:00pm).

Breakfast includes: Breakfast Burritos (Sausage, Egg, and Cheese), Pancakes, Assorted Muffins, Fruit Cups, Juice, Coffee.

**As it turns out, specialized meals are not available during our sleepover. If you or someone in your group has an allergy or aversion to the meals provided on your program, you may bring your own food. We recommend you bring a lunch-box sized cooler, or disposable containers. Please keep in mind, refrigeration is not available.**

**Please note: While many of our prepared and packaged foods do not contain nuts, our foods are still prepared in a kitchen where nuts are present.**

# Sleepover Adventure Schedule

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## **Traditional Sleepovers - Family, Groups, Schools, Scouts, Traditional Adult, Team Building/Corporate**

### **Evening**

06:30pm – Check-in!

07:00pm-07:30pm - Welcome Orientation

07:30pm-10:00pm - Programmed Activities

10:00pm-10:30pm - Goodnight Orientation/ Evening Snacks

*Lights out is at 11:00pm (midnight for adult/teambuilding/corporate sleepovers). Guests are expected to stay in assigned sleeping locations after 11:00pm. Staff will be sleeping at the exits of your assigned gallery, for safety. If you must leave your sleeping location, you must let a staff member know. Sleep well!*

### **Morning**

06:00am-07:30am - Wake-Up, Pack, and Breakfast

07:30am-10:00am - Programmed Activities

10:00am - Program Concludes\*

## **Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers**

### **Evening**

06:30pm - Check in!

06:30pm-10:00pm - Sips Under the Sea

10:00pm-10:15pm - Sleepover Welcome

10:15pm-11:30pm - Programmed Activities

11:30pm-11:40pm - Goodnight Orientation

*Lights out is at 11:00pm (midnight for adult/teambuilding/corporate sleepovers). Guests are expected to stay in assigned sleeping locations after 11:00pm. Staff will be sleeping at the exits of your assigned gallery, for safety. If you must leave your sleeping location, you must let a staff member know. Sleep well!*

### **Morning**

06:00am-07:30am - Wake-Up, Pack and Breakfast

07:30am-10:00am - Programmed Activities

10:00am - Program Concludes\*

\*At the conclusion of the program, guests are invited to enjoy the Aquarium on their own and attend a movie in the 4D FUNBelievable Theater, SunTrust Pier 225: Under the Boardwalk, and AT&T Dolphin Celebration in the AT&T Dolphin Tales Theater. Presentation times may vary and seating is on a first come first serve basis. Seating may be limited. It is recommended guests show up at least 10 minutes, before 4D movie experiences, 30 minutes before Under the Boardwalk, and 45 minutes before Celebration.

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **What time and where should we arrive?**

Sleep Under the Sea check-in begins at 6:00pm and concludes at 7:00pm. Participants are required to check in at the main entrance of Georgia Aquarium. Our facility is near several concert, sports, and entertainment venues, and traffic can be impacted on event nights. Please make sure to anticipate for traffic delays in the downtown area.

## **Where should I park?**

Please park in the aquarium parking deck. At times, there are independent parking vendors that try to direct you into their parking lots. Instead, look for the aquarium parking deck adjacent to our facility. This deck is monitored by security overnight and will be the safest and most convenient option for your vehicle. The parking deck is located on the corner of Luckie St. & Ivan Allen. It's easily recognized by the pictures of aquatic life on its exterior, and is seven stories tall. Parking is \$10 per vehicle and can be purchased at the time of your booking at a discount.

## **Where can our bus or other large vehicle park?**

Buses and other large vehicles should be prepared to park in the Georgia World Congress Center Marshalling Yard after dropping off Guests at the Baker Street entrance. Parking at the Marshalling Yard is available for a cost of \$30 per vehicle and must be purchased in advance. Please visit the following link, [GWCC Bus Parking Passes](#) to purchase your bus passes and use the code **GABUS**. Bus Drivers...Don't worry, the Marshalling Yard is only a couple of blocks away from us! We'll make sure we send you directions if needed!

## **What's the Aquarium's address?**

Georgia Aquarium's physical address is:  
225 Baker Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313

If you're using a navigation system and intending to park in the Aquarium deck, you'll want to use:  
357 Luckie Street, NW, Atlanta Georgia 30313

## **Can our group arrive early?**

Your group is welcome to arrive early with prior notification to the sleepover programs team. Please know, depending on your group size, we may not be able to accommodate luggage storage until check in time. You are, however, welcome to enjoy the aquarium and all presentations until your check in time. At 6:00pm we would ask that you return to your vehicle to retrieve your items.

## **When can we attend the sea lion and dolphin presentations?**

Both the sea lion and dolphin presentations are included with your sleepover admission ticket. Guests are welcome to enjoy those presentations once the program has concluded (next day). Please keep in mind all presentations are first come first serve and can reach capacity. Times will vary from day to day.

## **When can we attend the 4D theater experience?**

The 4D theater experience is included with your sleepover admission ticket. Guests are welcome to enjoy the 4D movies once the program has concluded (next day). Please keep in mind all movies are first come first serve and can reach capacity. Times will vary from day to day.

## **What's discussed during orientation?**

During orientation, we'll go over the program schedule, groups, introduce our staff, and cover safety protocols.

## **What's for evening snacks and breakfast?**

Evening Snack: Individual snack pack options will include a variety such as hummus, cheese and deli meat, along with crackers, chips, pretzels, assorted seasonal fruit and vegetables, and bottled water. Breakfast: Breakfast Burritos (Sausage, Egg, and Cheese), Pancakes, Assorted Muffins, Fruit Cups, Juice, Coffee.

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **What is the vegetarian option?**

For both evening snacks and breakfast, vegetarian options are available.

## **I have other dietary restrictions. What do I do?**

As it turns out, specialized meals are not available during our sleepover. If you or someone in your group has an allergy or aversion to the meals provided, you may bring your own food. We recommend you bring a lunch-box sized cooler, or disposable containers. Please keep in mind, refrigeration is not available. Also, while many of our prepared and packaged foods do not contain nuts, our foods are still prepared in a kitchen where nuts are present.

## **What should I bring?**

We provide a sleeping mat, but you might want to consider bringing: sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, sweater or hoodie, PJ's, toothbrush and other small toiletries, and a battery powered phone charger.

## **Can I request a sleeping area?**

Sorry! As it turns out, we cannot guarantee sleeping locations. Assignments are made after all guests have checked in, and based upon the group make-up, size and needs. Additionally, partial or entire galleries may be unavailable due to other activities and/or animal care taking place.

## **What kind of activities take place during sleepovers?**

All sleepovers consist of gallery and backstage tours. Additionally, we coordinate age and grade level appropriate educational games and activities for everyone, including our adult chaperones.

## **Are there behind the scenes tours?**

Yes! All sleepover programs consists of both gallery and behind the scenes, or backstage, tours.

## **What time does the sleepover program end?**

Our program concludes no later than 10:00am. Guests are invited to stay and enjoy the Aquarium, presentations, and attractions for the entire operating day.

## **Can I leave the program and come back?**

For safety and security reasons, guests leaving during the sleepover program, cannot be admitted back into the building.

## **Can I leave to smoke?**

Smoking is not permitted inside Georgia Aquarium. This includes electronic cigarettes and vapor devices. Please keep in mind, guests are not permitted to smoke within 25 feet of the building. Because of safety and security reasons, once the program begins, guests leaving during the sleepover program, cannot be admitted back into the building.

## Booking Details

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When making your sleepover reservation, full payment is required for groups with fewer than 10 guests, regardless of sleepover type.

For groups with 10 or more guests, a \$100 deposit is required at the time of reserving your sleepover.

**Please make the final payment four weeks prior to program date to avoid your reservation being canceled. We are unable to give refunds for no-shows or for leaving early.**

Once your reservation is made, please contact your Group Sales Manager to make any changes to your reservation.

All Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers must be booked as a package including VIP admission to Sips Under the Sea and your sleepover adventure. As it turns out, tickets for just the adult sleepover portion are not for sale separately from the Sips Under the Sea ticket.

Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepover packages can be booked by calling the call center or by booking online at [www.georgiaaquarium.org/sleepovers](http://www.georgiaaquarium.org/sleepovers).

If you're looking for looking for an adult sleepover not combined with Sips Under the Sea, we have those too! Please check our calendar for dates.

Program nights frequently sell out. Please make reservations at least two weeks prior to program date. Dates requested inside of two weeks may not be available for booking. Additionally, guests find it very helpful to have alternate dates just in case the first option is unavailable.

To make changes to your reservation, please call Georgia Aquarium at 404-581-4000.

# Adult Participant Forms

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Dear Sleepover Guests,

We thank you for participating in our Sleep Under the Sea program at Georgia Aquarium.

At Georgia Aquarium, your safety is our top priority. Please note that during your sleepover, a member of the Piedmont Hospital EMT staff and officer from the Atlanta Police Department will be present. These individuals will provide assistance should the need arise. In the unlikely event of an emergency, these individuals are trained to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Please note, Georgia Aquarium team members, including the on-duty EMT and police officer, are only trained and permitted to give immediate and very basic first aid. Any medical concerns larger than basic needs will be given the option to be transported to the nearest medical facility by ambulance or be taken, on their own, by a chaperone from their group. Additionally, Georgia Aquarium team members, including the on-duty EMT and police officer, are not allowed to store or administer any kind of drugs, whatsoever. Those participants needing to take prescription medication during their visit, should work with their chaperones to ensure delivery of such medication to the participant. As it turns out, refrigeration for medication is not available. It is suggested you bring a small cooler if needed.

As a condition of participation, and for your safety and wellbeing, we required each guest to have completed a Health History and Release form. This form should be brought to the sleepover and turned in during the check in process, immediately before your program begins. PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THE ATTACHED CORRESPONDING FORMS FOR EACH PARTICIPANT. Each minor, under the age of 18, should have their own form filled out by their parent/guardian.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT GUESTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM UNTIL A FULLY COMPLETED FORM HAS BEEN SUBMITTED.**

If you have any questions, please contact us at 404-581-4249 or at [sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org).

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!