

# Training

## Overview

Common sense tells us training is important, and research shows the importance of trained leaders. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. Trained leaders exhibit a knowledge and confidence that is picked up by people around them. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, safety, and a whole lot more. Everything we do in Scouting has a purpose and training is the key to recognizing, understanding, and achieving the purpose behind every activity.

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## Training Requirements

The Boy Scouts of America has developed a thorough training program for all adult leaders. It starts with Youth Protection and basic training for your position. Once you've taken the basic courses, you're considered trained for your position and you get to wear the "Trained" patch on your sleeve. But it doesn't stop there. After basic training, there's Wood Badge, which is the premier leadership course of the BSA, plus dozens of other supplemental courses to help develop your knowledge and skills. Altogether, it means there are plenty of opportunities for even the most experienced scout leader to continue learning.

## Youth Protection Training

Youth Protection Training is **REQUIRED** for all adult leaders.

There is only one youth protection course for all programs and is required to be re-taken every two years. For more information, please visit the Council Youth Protection page or the National BSA Youth Protection page.

Youth Protection training is available as an online session, which you can watch on your own at your convenience. It's also offered periodically as an in-person training course. To start the online Youth Protection training, please visit [My.Scouting.org](http://My.Scouting.org)

## **Quick-start Training Guides & Training Finder**

Training requirements differ based on your role as a volunteer and/or which program you are supporting. To learn which courses are required for your position, please look at our quick start guides below.

- Quick guide for Cub leaders (pdf)
- Quick guide for Scouts BSA leaders (pdf)
- Quick guide for Venturing leaders (pdf)
- Quick guide for youth training (pdf)

## **In Person Training We Offer**

The success of every Scouting program depends on having well-trained leaders. They not only bring a quality program to their units, but they also have more fun doing it. Everything we do in Scouting has a purpose. Training is the key to recognizing, understanding, and achieving the purpose behind every activity. If you're a registered leader, there is a training course for you!

Click on the picture to download

Course	What it is	Who it's for	Time	When and where
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BAOLO)	A hands-on introduction to the Cub program, taught on an overnight campout. If your pack goes camping, at least one BAOLO leader will need to be there.	Cub Scout adults	1.8 days	2-3 times/year: spring and fall (national camp)
Cub Leader Position Specific Training (PST)	Classroom overview of the Cub Scout program, advancement, leadership, and resources to help you run a strong program. (Also available online.)	Cub Scout adults	4 hours	at least 4 times a year: mostly fall (national camp)
CPREMO	Advanced First Aid course for Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA. (Also available online.)	Adults and Cub Scout youth	3.8 hours	1x: 3 times/year: often included in Campin
Cub Scout Training	Rules and responsibilities of a Cub Scout, including age, gear, safety, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA and intermingled youth	1.5 hours	4-8 times/year: mostly fall (national camp)
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (OLS)	Designed to help you learn the ropes of outdoor leadership, including skills, techniques, and safety. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA and intermingled youth	1.8 days	2-3 times/year: spring and fall (national camp)
Learn to Train Trainer Training	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Learning to Train and advanced coaching methods.	Adults and youth 14+	1 full day	Spring and summer: but all fall camps
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Used for youth who aspire to become Patrol Leaders, SPLs, or other key leadership positions.	Scouts BSA and intermingled youth	7 days	2 times each summer: Scouts and Neotrope
Patrol Skills File Kit	Overview of the Cub Scout program in basic patrol skills, used for fall camps.	Adults and Cub Scout youth	0.5 hours	1x: 3 times/year: often included in Campin
Scoutmaster 101 (SM101)	Fundamentals of being a successful Scoutmaster, patrol method, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	4-8 hours	1x: 3 times/year: Leadership camp
Scoutmaster 201 (SM201)	Advanced Scoutmaster training, including Scoutmaster's role, Scoutmaster's responsibilities, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	2-3 hours	at least 1 time/year: Leadership camp
Unit Meetings and Patrol Meetings	Hands-on training in unit and patrol meetings, including Scoutmaster's role, Scoutmaster's responsibilities, and more. (Also available online.)	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	1x: 3 times/year: Scoutmaster's course
Wood Badge	Hands-on training in leadership, including Scoutmaster's role, Scoutmaster's responsibilities, and more. (Also available online.)	All adults	3 weeks/week	1-2 times/year: at BSA-CAMPS

Our in-person courses are organized through by the local volunteers who have been "for your area." Live training is a great way to meet fellow leaders, share ideas, get answers to questions, and get a chance to practice key skills. We try to offer these courses at a variety of times and locations, but we can't offer certain courses on demand if requested. We offer other courses periodically, too. You can also take many training courses online at <https://www.scouting.org>. For more scouting positions, online training courses and the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and more, see the [Scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org) website. See the requirements for your position in our [Scoutmaster's Handbook](https://www.scouting.org).

# Upcoming Training

# Recent Training News



## BSA Systems Maintenance Update

November 3rd, 2022 |

System Maintenance – Saturday, November 5, 2022 – from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM The My.Scouting and Scoutbook systems will be down this Saturday beginning at 9:00 AM for a system upgrade. All features [...]



## **Updated Safe Swim Defense Training**

March 23rd, 2022|

In collaboration with the BSA National Aquatics Subcommittee, ScoutingU has released an updated version of “Safe Swim Defense” online training that is also mobile compatible. Since the inception of Scouting, learning to swim and [...]



## **Changes to Den Leader Training Award Devices**

March 23rd, 2022|

As part of the National Council's ongoing mission to streamline and simplify the Scouting program, Scouting U, in collaboration with National Supply Group, has identified three Cub Scout device pins that will be discontinued [...]

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