

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.

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](https://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 (BLOO)	A hands-on intro to outdoor skills for the Cub program, taught on an overnight campout. If your pack goes camping, at least one BLOO-trained adult must be there.	Cub Scout adults	1.5 days	2-3 times/year, spring and fall, various camps
Cub Leader Position-Specific Training (PLST)	Use a team exercise of the Cub Scout program, designed to help you learn the Cub Scout program. (See available online.)	Cub Scout adults	4 hours	at least 4 times a year, mostly fall (available online)
CPR/First Aid	American Red Cross certification in CPR and First Aid (Red Cross's site, valid for two years).	Adults and eligible youth	3.5 hours	On-line/face-to-face, often required at Camp
Den Chief Training	Skills and responsibilities of a Den Chief. Includes the game, songs, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (See available online.)	Scouts (BSA and non-BSA youth)	2-3 hours	4-8 times/year, mostly fall (available online)
Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Training (IOLT)	Overnight training to develop the leadership skills, teamwork, and problem-solving skills of Cub Scouts. (See available online.)	Scouts (BSA and non-BSA youth)	1.5 days	2-3 times/year, spring and fall, various camps
Learn to Train Training	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Scout's Training: Leadership, Teamwork, Problem Solving, and more. (See available online.)	Adults and youth 14+	1 full day	Spring and maybe fall at BSA camps
Outdoor Youth Leadership Training (OYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Used for youth who are in Scout's Training, OYLT, or other leadership positions.	Scouts (BSA and non-BSA youth)	1 week	2 times each summer, typically in June and July
Patrol Game Plan	Scout's Training course for Scouts who are in Scout's Training, OYLT, or other leadership positions.	Adults and eligible youth	1.5 hours	On-line/face-to-face, often required at Camp
Scoutmaster's Training	Fundamentals of running a successful Scoutmaster's Training course. (See available online.)	Scouts (BSA and non-BSA youth)	4-6 hours	On-line/face-to-face, mostly fall (available online)
Scoutmaster's Training (OYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Used for youth who are in Scout's Training, OYLT, or other leadership positions.	Scouts (BSA and non-BSA youth)	1 week	2 times each summer, typically in June and July
Unit Committee Chair	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Scout's Training: Leadership, Teamwork, Problem Solving, and more. (See available online.)	Adults and youth 14+	1 full day	Spring and maybe fall at BSA camps
Wood Badge	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Scout's Training: Leadership, Teamwork, Problem Solving, and more. (See available online.)	Adults and youth 14+	1 week	On-line/face-to-face, mostly fall (available online)

Our in-person courses are organized throughout the year for Scouts who have been in 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 every course on demand. If requested, we offer other courses periodically. See the requirements for your position in our Scoutmaster's Training. For more Scouting positions, visit our training center at the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and visit the [Scoutmaster's Training](#) page. See the requirements for your position in our Scoutmaster's Training at [www.scoutsusa.org/training](#).

Upcoming Training

Recent Training News



March Training Newsletter

March 3rd, 2021|

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December Training Newsletter

December 2nd, 2020|

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Youth Protection Training Guide

October 27th, 2020|

Tips For Taking Youth Protection Training Online! Learning Plan Total time: 72 minutes Description The safety and well-being of our youth is of paramount importance to our organization, and integral to everything we do. [...]

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