

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

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 foundation into leadership skills for 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 (location varies)
Cub Leader Position Specific Training (PLST)	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 (location varies)
CPREMO	Advanced First Aid course in CPR and AED (defibrillator use, valid for two years).	Adults and Cub Scout youth	3.8 hours	2x: one in-person after school or during
Den Chief Training	Roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief, including sign, gear, safety, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (Also available online.)	Scouts (5th and 6th grade youth)	1.5 hours	4-8 times/year: mostly fall (location varies)
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Orientation (ILOLO)	Designed to help you learn the ropes, including how to set up a tent, use a map, and other outdoor skills. (Also available online.)	Scouts (5th and 6th grade youth)	1.8 days	2-3 times/year: spring and fall (location varies)
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 (at all 100+ camps)
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Ideal for youth who aspire to become Patrol Leaders, SPLs, or other key leadership positions.	Scouts (5th and 6th grade youth)	7 days	2 times each summer: Scouts and Neotoma
Patrol Leader Orientation (PLO)	Overview of the Cub Scout program in basic patrol skills, valid for two years.	Adults and Cub Scout youth	3.8 hours	2x: one in-person after school or during
Scoutmaster Orientation (SMO)	Fundamentals of running a successful patrol: how, patrol method, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts (5th and 6th grade youth)	4-8 hours	2x: one in-person (location varies)
Scoutmaster Orientation (SMO) - Online	Learn how to effectively train your patrol. Can support a successful youth activity. (Also available online.)	Scouts (5th and 6th grade youth)	2-3 hours	at least once/year (location varies)
Skills and Safety First Aid	Hands-on training in first aid, CPR, and AED (defibrillator use, valid for two years).	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	2 times/year: Scouts and Neotoma
Wood Badge	Two-day program designed to help you learn the ropes of leadership, including how to set up a tent, use a map, and other outdoor skills. (Also available online.)	All adults	2 weeks, on-site	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.bsa.org>. For more scouting positions, online training courses and the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and more, see the [BSA website](#). See the requirements for your position in our [Cub Scout Leader](#) at www.bsa.org.

Upcoming Training

Recent Training News



Program Kickoff For Cub Scout Leaders

September 20th, 2018|

Attention Cub Scout leaders: Please join us at our upcoming Cub Scout Leader Training Festivals: Norwood on September 29, Weston on October 13, and Hanover on October 27! These events are a great chance for [...]



May Training Newsletter

May 1st, 2018|

Highlights in this months May Training newsletter: Let's get more leaders training! New Weather Hazards Requirement Upcoming In-person Training Schedule Youth Protection Reminder May Training Newsletter



Youth Protection

April 17th, 2018|

Over the past two years, the BSA has worked with experts in the field of child abuse, child sexual abuse and maltreatment to develop new training and resources that will further strengthen our ability to [...]

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