

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!

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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 Merit Badge instruction in CPR and AED (defibrillator use, valid for two years).	Adults and eligible youth	3.8 hours	2x: in-person after school or on Cub Scouts
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 (5th and 6th grade youth)	1-3 hours	4-8 times/year: mostly fall (national camp)
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (OLS)	Designed to help you learn the ropes, work with camping, and leadership. Learn new skills, refresh old ones, and build confidence to lead.	Scouts (5th and 6th grade 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 (at all BSA 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 (5th and 6th grade youth)	7 days	2 times each summer: Scouting and Leadership
Plan Once, Train All	Executive Merit Badge instruction in basic first aid, valid for two years.	Adults and eligible youth	3.8 hours	2x: in-person after school or on Cub Scouts
Scoutmaster 101 (SM101)	Fundamentals of running a successful unit: how, what, when, and more. (Also available online.)	Scoutmaster adults	4-8 hours	2x: in-person (national camp)
Scoutmaster 201 (SM201)	Learn how to effectively train Scoutmasters to support a successful youth program. (Also available online.)	Scoutmaster adults	2-3 hours	at least once/year (national camp)
Volunteer and Scoutmaster First Aid	Hands-on training in first aid, CPR, and first aid leadership. Includes Merit Badge instruction, valid for two years.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	2 times/year: Scouting and Leadership
Wood Badge	Two-day program designed to help Scoutmasters and other leaders learn leadership concepts and methods, and gain experience in delivering the program of Scouting.	All adults	2 weeks, on-site	1-2 times/year: at BSA centers

Our in-person courses are organized throughout the year for 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/training>. For more scouting positions, online training courses and the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position, see the [BSA Training](https://www.bsa.org/training) page. See the requirements for your position in our [Cub Scout Leader](https://www.bsa.org/training) at www.bsa.org/training.

Upcoming Training

Recent Training News



May Training Newsletter

May 1st, 2019|

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April Training Newsletter

April 2nd, 2019|

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LIVE – Youth Protection Training (YPT)

March 21st, 2019|

We'll be offering the live version of youth protection training (YPT) for adult leaders. All our currently registered leaders should have already taken YPT in 2018, and that certification is still good for two years. [...]

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