



Important Changes to BSA Youth Protection Standards

Learn More About Adult Registration for Participation in Meetings and Trips

An update was announced in February 2023 for Scouting's Youth Protection policies regarding adult registration for participation in Scouting events. The safety of our youth is the first and foremost priority of the Boy Scouts of America.

Please take a moment to read about these changes that will take effect September 1, 2023. Units are strongly encouraged to begin following the updated guidelines now in preparation for the mandatory effective date, Sept. 1st.

YPT Suspension for Expired Adults

Beginning Sept. 1, 2023, Sioux Council will begin executing an updated Youth Protection Policy (YPT) that is in greater alignment with the BSA National Standards. Any adult who has expired YPT certification will have their membership immediately put into a "suspended" mode by Sioux Council. Suspension will remove a volunteer's access to my.Scouting, Internet Advancement, and Scoutbook. A notification letter will be sent to the volunteer and the unit's Key 3 leadership.

Once your BSA membership is suspended you may no longer be participating in events or meetings requiring current BSA registration or YPT. To have your membership re-instated, you must complete the on-line YPT course. Twice a week the office will check my.scouting.org for updated YPT certifications and have your membership re-instated within 24-48 hours. If you have additional questions regarding this policy, please contact your District Executive.

Registration Requirements

The chartered organization representative, or in their absence the executive officer of the chartered organization, must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders.

Registration includes:

- Completion of application including criminal background check
- Mandatory Youth Protection training
- Volunteer Screening Database check

Current Youth Protection training that is valid is required for leaders when renewing their registration or at unit charter renewal. Adults with expired Youth Protection will be suspended from serving as a volunteer.

Adult program participants, those ages 18, 19 and 20, must register as adults and follow Youth Protection policies. "Adult program participants" are found in Venturing, Sea Scouting, Exploring, and the Order of the Arrow.

Adult Registration Requirement to Take Effect September 1, 2023

Adult Supervision

(Effective September 1, 2023) Two registered adult leaders at least 21 years of age are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader at least 21 years of age in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader at least 21 years must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants. Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered in an adult fee required position as listed or as an adult program participant. Limited exception below for Cub Scout overnight Programs.

Cub Scout Programs – Overnight Exception:

Cub Scout's parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the "[How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide](#)" that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position.

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