



Please read the reverse side of this application **BEFORE** completing it. Your signature on this form includes a certification that you have read the information on the reverse side of this application.

# BOY SCOUT APPLICATION

TROOP NO.  EXPIRE DATE  TERM  MONTHS

Check one

New Boy Scout

Former Webelos Scout

Former Boy Scout

Arrow of Light

If applicant has an unexpired membership certificate, registration may be accomplished in this unit by paying \$1 for processing the transfer. Check the box and attach certificate. It will be returned by the council.

TRANSFER FROM: COUNCIL NO.  UNIT TYPE  UNIT NO.

Please print one letter in each space—press hard, you are making a copy.

First name  Middle initial  Last name  Suffix

Social security number  -  -

Country  Mailing address  City  State  Zip code  -

Home phone  Date of birth  Grade  Ethnic background  AA—African American  AI—American Indian  AS—Asian  CA—Caucasian  HI—Hispanic/Latino  OT—Other  School  Boys' Life

## Parent/Guardian information

Relationship

Guardian

First name  Middle name  Last name  Suffix

Social security number  -  -

Country  Address  City  State  Zip code  -

Home phone  Date of birth  Occupation  Employer

Business phone  Previous Scouting experience

Youth e-mail address  Parent e-mail address

I have read the attached information sheet and approve the application.

Signature of Scoutmaster

Signature of parent or guardian

Date

Registration fee \$  .

Boys' Life fee \$  .

28-209V

Retain on file for three years

**LOCAL COUNCIL COPY**

# Boy Scouts of America Information for Parents

(On the youth's application for membership, a parent or guardian must certify that he or she has read this information sheet.)

## Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America!

Your child is joining more than four million members of the Boy Scouts of America. Please take the time to review this material and reflect upon its importance.

## The BSA and the Chartered Organization

The Boy Scouts of America makes Scouting available to our nation's youth by chartering community organizations to operate Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, and Venturing crews. The chartered organization must provide an adequate and safe meeting place and capable adult leadership, and must adhere to the principles and policies of the BSA. The BSA local council provides unit leader training, program ideas, camping facilities, literature, professional guidance for volunteer leaders, and liability insurance protection.

## Scouting's Volunteers and You

Scouting's adult volunteers provide leadership at the unit, district, council, and national levels. Many are parents of Scouts; many entered Scouting as youth members. Each chartered organization establishes a unit committee, which operates its Scouting unit, selects leadership, and provides support for a quality program. Most unit committees depend on parents for membership and assistance.

The unit committee selects the Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Varsity Scout Coach, or Venturing Advisor, subject to approval of the head of the chartered organization or the chartered organization representative. The unit leader must be a good role model because our children's values and lives will be influenced by that leader. You need to know your child's unit leader and be involved in the unit committee's activities so you can evaluate and help direct that influence.

Scouting uses a fun program to promote character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness for every member. You can help by encouraging perfect attendance, assisting with your child's advancement, attending meetings for parents, and assisting with transportation.

## Program Policies

Chartered organizations agree to use the Scouting program in accordance with their own policies as well as those of the BSA. The program is flexible, but major departures from BSA methods and policies are not permitted. As a parent, you should be aware that:

- Leadership is restricted to qualified adults who subscribe to the Declaration of Religious Principle, the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law.
- Citizenship activities are encouraged, but partisan political activities are prohibited.
- Military training and drill are prohibited. Marksmanship and elementary drill for ceremonies are permitted.
- The Boy Scouts of America recognizes the importance of religious faith and duty; it leaves sectarian religious instruction to the member's religious leaders and family. Members who do not belong to a unit's religious chartered organization shall not be required to participate in its religious activities.
- Two registered adult leaders or one registered adult leader

and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. There are a few instances, such as patrol activities, when no adult leadership is required. Coed activities require male and female adult leaders.

- Corporal punishment and hazing are not permitted. Parents and unit leaders must work together to solve discipline problems.
- One-on-one activities between youth members and adults are not permitted; personal conferences must be conducted in plain view of others.
- If you suspect that anyone in the unit is a victim of child abuse, immediately contact the Scout executive, who is responsible for reporting this to the appropriate authorities.
- All Scouting activities are open to parental visitation. There are no "secret" organizations within the Boy Scouts of America.

## Excerpt from the Declaration of Religious Principle

The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life. Only persons willing to subscribe to this Declaration of Religious Principle and to the Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America shall be entitled to certificates of membership.

## Policy of Nondiscrimination

Youth membership in the Boy Scouts of America is open to all boys and young adults who meet the joining requirements. Membership in Scouting, advancement, and achievement of leadership in Scouting units are open to all youths without regard to race or ethnic background and are based entirely upon individual merit.

## Ethnic Codes

BSA receives inquiries from various agencies regarding racial composition. The following codes should be used to indicate ethnic background.

- AA — African American
- CA — Caucasian
- AI — American Indian
- HI — Hispanic/Latino
- AS — Asian
- OT — Other

## Thank You

The Boy Scouts of America appreciates your taking time to become familiar with Scouting. We feel that an informed parent is a strong ally in delivering the Scouting program. Help us keep the unit program in accord with Scouting principles. Alert the unit committee, chartered organization representative, and head of the chartered organization to any major deviations. And be prepared to support a quality unit program.