

# YOUTH APPLICATION

This application is also available in Spanish. Esta solicitud también está disponible en español.



**Cub Scouting**



**Boy Scouting**



**Venturing**



**Sea Scouting**

## Scout Oath or Promise

On my honor I will do my best  
to do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
to help other people at all times;  
to keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

## Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal,  
helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,  
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave,  
clean, and reverent.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## Welcome to the BSA!

The BSA makes Scouting available to our nation's youth by chartering community organizations to operate Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships.

The chartered organization provides an adequate and safe meeting place as well as capable adult leadership, and requires adherence to the principles and policies of the BSA. The BSA local and national council provide training, program, outdoor facilities, literature, professional guidance, and liability insurance protection.

## Your Role in Scouting

Scouting uses a fun program to promote character development, citizenship, leadership, and personal fitness. You can help by encouraging attendance, assisting with your child's advancement, attending meetings for parents, and assisting the unit when called upon to help. The unit cannot provide a quality program without your help.

**Youth Protection Begins With You™.** Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For that reason, the BSA continues to create and consistently improve its barriers to abuse.

The BSA is committed to providing a safe environment for young people. To maintain a safe environment, the BSA provides parents and adult leaders with numerous online and printed resources and adult leaders must complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) and renew their training as required. Parents who participate in Scouting activities are highly recommended to complete YPT.

All persons involved in Scouting must immediately report to local authorities any good-faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused, physically or emotionally neglected, exposed to any form of violence or threat, exposed to any form of sexual exploitation including the possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography; online solicitation; enticement; or showing of obscene material. No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.

Additionally, any Scouting-related abuse or serious Youth Protection policy violation must also be reported to the local Scout executive or the Scouts 1st helpline (844-Scouts1 or 844-726-8871).

**All parents must review the How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide booklet in the Cub Scout or Boy Scout handbook or at [www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection](http://www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection).**

## Youth Protection Policies

- Two registered adults or one registered adult and a parent, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. If trips and outings are coeducational, adults of both genders must be present. Venturing requires both adults to be age 21 or older.
- One-on-one contact between youth members and adults is never permitted. Even personal Scout conferences must be conducted in plain view of others.
- Corporal punishment, hazing, and bullying are not permitted in Scouting. Only constructive discipline is acceptable. Parents and unit leaders must work together to solve discipline problems.
- Separate accommodations for adults and Scouts on trips and outings are required.
- Privacy of youth is respected.
- Units are responsible to enforce Youth Protection policies.

## Excerpt from the Declaration of Religious Principle

The BSA 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 is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and the 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

The BSA is open to all who meet the requirements. Scouting units are open to all youth without regard to race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or sexual identity and are based on individual merit.



## BOYS' LIFE MAGAZINE

For a subscription to a great magazine that will help your child grow in the Scouting program, just fill in the *Boys' Life* circle on the application and pay the subscription price.

**Parent Agreement** I have read the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and I want my child to join Scouting. I will assist them in abiding by the policies of the BSA and the chartered organization. I will:

- *Serve as an adult partner while my child is a Lion or Tiger.*
- *Help my Scout grow through completion of advancements.*
- *Help the unit with activities and assist as needed.*

## Joining Requirements

### Cub Scout Pack

Pack membership is open to youth in kindergarten through fifth grade.

\***Lion**—Year before first grade

**Bear**—Third grade

\***Tiger**—First grade

**Webelos Scout**—Fourth and fifth grade

**Wolf**—Second grade

***\*Lions and Tigers must have an adult partner. If the parent is not serving as the adult partner, the parental signature on the application indicates their approval of the adult partner. In addition, if the adult partner does not live at the same address as the Lion or Tiger, an adult application is required.***

### Boy Scout Troop

Children can be Scouts if they have completed the fifth grade and are at least 10 years old, OR have earned the Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old, OR are age 11 but have not reached age 18.

### Venturing Crew/Sea Scout Ship

Venturing and Sea Scouting are for young men and women at least 13 years old who have completed the eighth grade, or youth age 14 and not yet 21. **Applicants age 18 and older must complete a BSA adult application.**

Venturers and Sea Scouts registered in a crew or ship prior to their 21st birthday may continue as members after their 21st birthday until the crew or ship renews its charter or until they reach their 22nd birthday, which ever comes first.

## The annual national registration fee is nonrefundable.

**Health Information.** You should inform your unit leader of any condition that might limit your child's participation. Please fill out the Annual Health and Medical Record, No. 680-001, found on [www.scouting.org/forms](http://www.scouting.org/forms) and give it to the unit leader.

