

MANDATORY ADULT LEADER TRAINING

In order to assure the safety of the youth in Scouting's programs and to assist adult leaders in providing the best possible experience for youth members, BSA has adopted stronger training requirements for adult leaders. One requirement is in effect today; others are scheduled to phase in over the next two to three years. Adults not meeting the requirements cannot be rechartered. Please read on to be sure that your unit understands the requirements. We encourage your unit to set a goal to get all leaders trained as soon as possible. Every Scout deserves a TRAINED leader today – even if BSA doesn't yet require training for the adult to be a member.

WHERE TO GET HELP

You can use TRAINING VALIDATION in MyScouting on www.scouting.org to review the training records for any leader for whom you have the membership number or other uniquely identifying information.

Your district's training team is working hard to get out the message about the new requirements and to get help leaders to meet those requirements. If your unit needs assistance understanding training requirements or how to check the training status of your unit's leaders, please contact your district's training chair.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT) – *required now*

Effective June 1, 2010, all new leaders must complete Youth Protection Training no more than two years prior to submitting an application to join, and all existing leaders must have completed YPT no more than two years prior to the unit's recharter. This requirement was implemented to provide a safer environment for all Scouts.

New Leaders. All new adult applications submitted with your unit's recharter must contain a copy of the Youth Protection Training certificate along with the application's Local Council Copy and Criminal Background Check Authorization. If you are submitting multiple applications for the same person (such as a chartered organization representative who also will be committee chair), you may submit one copy of the YPT certificate along with the complete applications for each position that person will hold.

Renewing Leaders. All renewing leaders must have completed Youth Protection Training within two years before the unit's new charter is processed. Leaders that do not meet this requirement will not be rechartered. The unit's recharter may be delayed if a required leader (such as the committee chair, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, den leader) is not rechartered because YPT training requirements are not met. To avoid possible delays in processing the unit recharter, we strongly encourage all units to make sure that all leaders complete YPT no more than 23 months before the unit recharter date. (For example, leaders in a unit with a recharter date of 12/31/2010 would complete YPT on or after 2/1/2009.) This will allow time to correct other recharter errors before YPT training expires for some leaders, possibly causing more delays.

MANDATORY TOP UNIT LEADER TRAINING – *to be implemented in 2012*

MANDATORY DIRECT CONTACT LEADER TRAINING – *to be implemented in 2013*

Working with selected councils across the country, BSA has been conducting a pilot project to test mandatory basic training for all leaders responsible for directly working with youth. The pilot divides these leaders into two groups – top unit leaders (Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Coaches, Advisors, and Skippers) and all other direct contact leaders (assistants for top unit leaders, all types of den leaders and their assistants). Issues identified

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during the pilot project have resulted in continuing the pilot project for another year, with implementation for all councils delayed as shown above. Your unit can “BE PREPARED” by getting all of its leaders trained right away. Training requirements for all positions can be found through www.samhoustonbsa.org/training.

Start today, don't delay. Getting all leaders trained is easier than ever before!

MyScouting's E-Learning Center allows you to complete many courses required for YPT or basic training at your own pace and on your own schedule. If you are new to MyScouting, be sure to enter your membership I.D. number in your profile so that your completed courses are automatically reported to BSA's recordkeeping system.

What can you do at the E-Learning Center?

- Fast Start Training – required by all leaders in their registered position
- Youth Protection Training for all leaders.
- “This Is Scouting” – required one time for all new leaders.
- Position-Specific Training for all Cub Scout leaders – that's right. All Cub Scout leaders – including committee members and pack trainers – can complete all basic training requirements online at their own convenience.
- Troop Committee Challenge – position-specific training required for committee chair and committee members of Boy Scout troops and Varsity Scout teams.
- Supplemental training courses like Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and Climb On Safely.

If online courses aren't your cup of tea, the schedule of scheduled, instructor-led courses also can be found through www.samhoustonbsa.org/training.

Some basic training courses are not yet available online. See the training schedule for instructor-led sessions for courses like Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Varsity Coach Leader Specific Training, Venturing Leader Specific Training, and Sea Scout Adult Leader Training.