



## Boy Scouting

### Purpose

Boy Scouting encourages boys to develop physical, mental, and emotional fitness, and to adopt and live by meaningful personal standards as a cornerstone for success in life. These values include the basic principles in the Scout Oath and Law. Boy Scouting is for boys and young men not yet 18 years old, and who are at least 11, or have completed the fifth grade and are at least 10 years old, or who have earned the Arrow of Light Award in Cub Scouting and are at least 10 years old.

### Program

Boy Scouts learn to develop personal strengths by example and through hands-on experience. Activities include fitness and leadership training, wilderness adventures, and merit badge incentives for boys mastering hobby and career skills. Scouting encourages boys to expand and test their personal initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.

### Methods

Boy Scouts learn some of life's more serious lessons while having fun. Boys learn about important values, such as helping yourself by helping others, and honoring the basic rights of others. Boy Scouting's active learning experiences include hiking, camping, and other outdoor expeditions; competitive individual and team sports activities; and community or religious service projects. Many Boy Scouts first practice basic leadership, self-government, and citizenship skills during regular troop campouts and meetings.

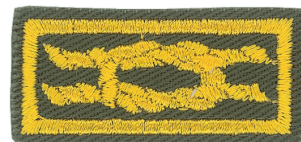
## Venturing

Venturing is an effective young-adult coed program designed to improve character, citizenship, and fitness. In addition, Venturers exercise leadership, social, outdoor, and community service endeavors. Venturing provides a variety of challenging activities to teach young people ages 14 (or 13 if they have completed eighth grade) through 20 the real-world meaning of values, ethical decision making, and life skills. Venturing teaches leadership and problem-solving skills to help youths mature into confident, successful adults. Venturing crews organize around a special vocation or interest of the youth members. Specialties include outdoors, sports, arts/hobbies, youth ministry, and Sea Scouting.

The **Community Organization Award** is presented to adult volunteers for extraordinary service to youth, and/or leadership in and support of the organization's youth outreach programs. It can be presented either by the national organization or one of its local chapters, lodges, posts, or other entities. The concept of the Community Organization Award is similar to the adult religious recognition program in that the award itself and the criteria for granting the award is under the ownership and auspices of the particular national chartered organization that presents the award. The intent of the recognition piece is to provide a square knot for Scouters who have received a BSA-accepted and -authorized award from a national community organization.



The nomination form, recognition piece, certificate, selection process, and presentation ceremony are managed by the national chartered organization to which the award belongs.



**For further information, contact:**

(Use local council stamp.)



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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079  
<http://www.scouting.org>

522-211  
2011 Printing

# STRENGTH THROUGH SERVICE



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



# Mission Statement of the Boy Scouts of America

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

## Community Organizations and Scouting: A Unique Alliance

The Boy Scouts of America is an educational resource, incorporated to provide a program for use by community organizations that offers effective character building, citizenship training, and personal fitness awareness for youth. The BSA charters community organizations to use the Scouting program built over the course of more than 100 years to attain the goals for youth in their community.

By making a commitment to operate a Scouting unit, community organizations help enrich the lives of the youth in their community and make a difference in the kind of adults they will become. Youth who participate in Scouting develop into leaders who have integrity, are responsible, and show reverence to God and respect for their country. Today's children are tomorrow's leaders, in and out of uniform.

## Why Scouting?

By working together, community organizations and the Boy Scouts of America:

- **Increase the organization's visibility in the community.** Having the Scouting program identified with your organization helps to solidify the organization as a credible and viable part of the community. This gives the organization a way to provide valuable experiences to young people in the neighborhood through service, including Scouting for Food, the Good Turn for America service initiative, Eagle Scout service projects, and cleanup efforts.
- **Promote a shared vision and provide opportunities for community organizations to use BSA facilities,** which gives organization officers and staff an opportunity to share in leadership and team-building programs. Affiliated organizations have access to council camps, conference centers, and training facilities. Benefits include housing, dining, and instruction in team building, set in majestic outdoor environments such as the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia, Florida National High Adventure Sea Base, and Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.
- **Provide a major source of manpower in accomplishing the organization's community service projects.** The BSA has a strong heritage—established over more than 100 years—of providing service to the community, and incorporates a service mission in its rank advancement program.
- **Greatly increase the potential for boosting an organization's membership through stepped-up exposure of the organization's ideals and mission to parents and participating youth.** Scouting is intergenerational—older generations and youth often become isolated from parents and grandparents. Scouting provides an opportunity for adults to become merit badge counselors, mentors, leaders, or committee members.
- **Provide multimedia resources to organizations through the BSA website, as well as through access to the BSA's educational materials.**



## Cub Scouting

### Purpose

The Boy Scouts of America created Cub Scouting in 1930 to help advance the character development and spiritual growth of young boys. This central mission of Cub Scouting might be even more important to boys growing up today than it was for the first Cub Scouts more than 80 years ago. Cub Scouting is for boys who are in the first grade through fifth grade (or are 7 through 10 years old).

### Program

Local Cub Scouting activities involve the parents, adult leaders, and friends of Cub Scouts in home-centered programs that teach life skills, habits, values, and attitudes consistent with the interests of their church and community. Millions of boys and their families participate in Cub Scouting.

### Methods

Cub Scouting encourages each boy to strive for his personal best, a lesson that will help him achieve success not only as he enters Boy Scouting but also throughout his adult life. Cub Scout activities encourage character development, physical coordination, family unity, and enthusiasm for learning. Cub Scouting helps boys develop a sense of teamwork, achievement, self-confidence, and respect for others. Learning to master new skills helps the Cub Scout realize his own abilities and discover that his can-do attitude is the first sign of success in any endeavor. In fact, that's the Cub Scout motto: "Do Your Best."

