

INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM



How the Program Works

Each year the Boy Scouts of America invites Scout leaders around the world, through their Scout associations, to participate in the International Camp Staff Program. **Both male and female Scouters**, ages 18 through 30, may apply.

Scouting associations recruit, interview, and certify prospective international camp counselors. This procedure helps assure the Boy Scouts of America that every counselor has the qualifications outlined in the application, that their activities in the Scouting movement include leadership experience, and that they have good Scouting character. Their application and medical form are forwarded to the Boy Scouts of America. After carefully reviewing these forms, if approval is given, the counselors are notified. The application is then sent to a participating council. **When a counselor has been accepted by a council, the council is instructed to contact the counselor.**

Counselors usually arrive in the United States via a commercial airliner from their home country. They may travel to the camp's contact city, designated by the camp, by plane, train, or bus.

Each council is notified about the travel plan for its counselor as soon as it is received by the International Department.

Objectives of the Program

The International Camp Staff program is operated by the Boy Scouts of America for camp program enrichment. It provides an opportunity for local councils throughout America to invite qualified Scouters from other countries to be a part of their summer camp and Cub Scout day camp programs.

The International Camp Staff program is recognized as a cultural exchange program by the U.S. State Department. It gives to our membership and Scouters from other countries an international exchange of mutual benefit. Its aim is to allow Scouts in councils throughout America to come into personal contact with experienced Scout leaders from another part of the globe and learn, firsthand, not only about their Scouting program but also about their country, its culture, and its customs. The program is an in-depth international Scouting experience for Scouts in every council.

Your Council and the Program

Any council participating in the International Camp Staff program should realize that its purpose is not to recruit ordinary camp personnel. The values of the program are more far-reaching than merely filling a staff assignment. Overseas leaders, although competent in basic Scouting program skills, are not necessarily familiar with the same type of skills practiced in our camps.

The great service rendered by the international camp counselors is that they bring to camp the flavor of international Scouting and give significance to the world brotherhood ideal. **WE SHOULD NOT LOOK UPON THESE MEN AND WOMEN AS A SOLUTION TO OUR CAMP STAFF VACANCIES.** The role each must play in camp must be flexible and focused upon the basic international objectives.

Experience has shown that maximum satisfaction for both the camp administrators and the international camp counselor is obtained when the counselor's activities are related to Scout and leader contacts that directly assist unit program activities.

Camp assignments should include events focused upon the international Scouting theme.

The International Camp Staff program has enriched the lives of thousands of Scouts for more than 30 years with a unique Scouting experience. The counselors not only bring valuable input to our program but return to their countries with new ideas and skills learned from us.

Opportunities for the counselor to appear as a guest at local civic and service organizations within the council area would serve to highlight the meaning of the world Scouting concept.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

HELPFUL HINTS In Planning Your Council's International Camp Staff Program

Please remember that nationality cannot be guaranteed.

- Requests for specific ages and countries are noted and are honored **if possible**. Priority is given in order of receipt of applications.
- Service clubs, civic associations, and your Order of the Arrow lodge are a few of the organizations that could help sponsor an international camp staff member.
- Be sure to consider an International Camp Staff member for your Cub Scout day camp program.
- Councils must be prepared to provide precamp and/or post-camp hosting for the counselor.*
- Dates of arrival and departure to and from the United States are governed by availability of counselor and commercial flight schedules.
- Complete and exact information must be furnished on all forms. This will expedite arrangements and contacts for the counselors.
- Assignments are approved only after the council has signed the formal agreement and returned the agreement and assignment sheet to the International Department.

How to Apply

1. Review the International Camp Staff Program application and provide **all** information requested.
2. The completed application must be received **no later** than February 15. Priorities will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
3. Forward application to:
International Camp Staff Program
International Department, S340
Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079
4. Include the \$435 fee with the application.

For assistance, please call
972-580-2405.

How Costs Are Shared

The council will provide

- \$435 to the International Department.
- Salary to the international counselor, equal to what American counselors are paid. It is best to offer no less than \$150 per week as participating in this program can be expensive for many international counselors.
- Room and board at camp and any precamp and/or postcamp hospitality that is provided by your council.*

Counselors will be responsible for

- Round-trip transportation from their home to the camp.
- Any and all visa and SEVIS fees.

The International Department will provide

- Health and accident insurance covering international counselors.
- The documents necessary for the counselor's visa.
- Administrative support for applications and matters involving other Scout associations and the U.S. State Department.

Note: Limited Touring Now Allowed

Following the completion of their program (the period defined on form DS-2019), the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) allows participants a 30-day travel period, commonly referred to as the "grace period." During this 30-day grace period, participants are no longer in J-visa status and are under the jurisdiction of the USCIS. The USCIS grants this period to allow participants to settle their affairs and to prepare to return to their home countries. Program participants may no longer continue and/or complete exchange activities, nor may they work. Although participants may travel in the United States, it is recommended that they do not travel beyond the borders of the United States, as they may not be permitted re-entry.

Your Council Can Participate By:

1. Providing for it in your budget.
2. Having an organization or business sponsor a counselor.
3. Having your council's international committee sponsor a counselor.

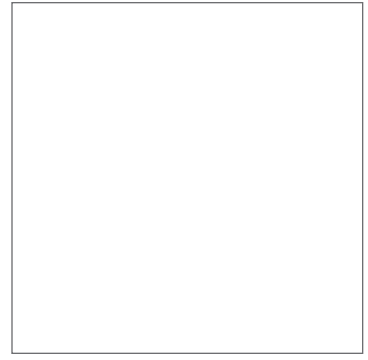
VISA RESTRICTIONS

International camp counselors travel to the United States on a J-1 exchange visitor's visa. International camp counselors who travel to the United States on any other type of visa are not approved to participate in the International Camp Staff Program.

*Please note that hosting counselors in private homes is not considered an official Scouting activity and, therefore, homeowners will not be covered under BSA insurance.



INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM COUNCIL APPLICATION



INSTRUCTIONS. Reproduce this application if more than one counselor is being requested. Priority consideration is given in order of receipt and requirements based on availability of applicants. The fee can be transmitted with this application or paid at the end of camp.

(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX)

Council Information

Council name _____ No. _____ Region _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____

Council Scout executive _____

Email address _____

International Camp Staff Contact

Person to contact regarding selection of international Scouter (counselor)

Name _____ Position _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. (office) _____ (cell) _____

Email address _____

Camp Information

Camp name _____ Telephone No. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Camp Contact: Name _____ Title _____

Telephone No. (day) _____ (night) _____

Address (if other than camp) _____

Travel directions: Contact city _____

To camp via _____

Our council agrees that we are responsible for the International Camp Staff counselor's living expenses from the time of arrival at our council and camp areas until the conclusion of the camp season, and agrees to pay the counselor a salary equal to his or her American counterpart. **The salary to be paid this counselor per week is \$_____ for _____ weeks.**

Our council agrees to the policies and conditions as outlined in the BSA International Camp Staff program. For each international camp counselor accepted, the council agrees to pay \$435. This fee is enclosed.

Signed _____ Scout executive _____ Date _____

Return application promptly to: INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM
INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT, S340
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

NOTE: Applying council must have a local council international representative registered with the BSA's International Department.

Camp Skills Desired

Leadership

- Campfires
- Counseling
- Public relations
- Training
- Troop leadership

Scoutcraft

- Backpacking
- Camping
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Nature/ecology
- Orienteering
- Outdoor cooking
- Pioneering
- Rappelling
- Rock climbing
- Survival skills

Program

- Archery
- Arts and crafts
- First aid
- Ham radio
- Knots
- Leatherwork
- Photography
- Riflery
- Song leading
- Sports
- Storytelling
- Woodcarving

Waterfront

- Canoeing
- Lifesaving
- Rowing
- Sailing
- Scuba
- Snorkeling
- Swimming
- Waterskiing
- Windsurfing

Other special skills _____

Proposed camp assignment _____

Proposed camp duties

Camp dates: Precamp staff training from _____ to _____

Camp dates from _____ to _____

Counselor release date _____

International Camp Staff Preferred Qualifications

- Male Female No Preference
- Age 18–20 Age 21–30 No Preference
- Arab United Kingdom No Geographical Preference
- Africa Europe
- Asia/Pacific Latin America
- Australia/New Zealand Mexico
- Preference for a specific country _____

Nationality cannot be guaranteed.

Other comments



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INTERNATIONAL

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1325 West Walnut Hill Lane • P.O. Box 152079 • Irving, Texas 75015-2079
Phone: 972-580-2405 • Fax: 972-580-2413
Website: www.scouting.org/international
Email: international@scouting.org