



Lone Scouts

FACT SHEET

The Lone Scouts of America was organized in 1915 by William D. Boyce, who also helped organize the Boy Scouts of America in 1910.

Becoming a Lone Scout

- Lone Scouts include:
 - Children of American citizens who live abroad
 - Exchange students away from the United States for a year or more
 - Youth with disabilities that might prevent them from attending regular meetings of packs or troops
 - Youth in rural communities who live far from a Scouting unit
 - Youth who alternate living arrangements with parents who live in different communities
- Lone Scouts are registered through a BSA local council. Children of American citizens who live outside the United States register through the Far East Council, the Transatlantic Council, or other councils in the U.S.
 - Lone Scouting in the Cub Scout program is for youth who are at least kindergarten age or who are 6 through 10 years of age.
 - Lone Scouting in Scouts BSA is for youth who are 11 years old or have completed the fifth grade, or for youth who have earned the Arrow of Light rank and are at least 10 years old.
- Lone Scouts are encouraged to wear the Cub Scout and Scouts BSA uniforms, as appropriate for their age. The Lone Scout uniform includes the Lone Scout emblem, No. 621122, worn below the council shoulder patch on the left sleeve.
- A Lone Scout may interact with Scouts from local Scouting units by participating in:
 - Local district and council activities
 - Camporees
 - Scouting shows
 - Service projects
 - Cub Scout day camp
 - Cub Scout or Scouts BSA resident camp
 - Special meetings of a pack or troop



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Lone Scout Counselors

- Every youth registering as a Lone Scout must have an adult, 21 years or older, who meets membership requirements and agrees to serve as the youth's Lone Scout friend and counselor. The counselor must be approved by the parent or guardian if the counselor is not the parent or guardian. The counselor can be:
 - The youth's own parent
 - Guardian
 - Minister
 - Teacher
 - 4-H Club leader
 - Experienced Scouter who lives nearby
- The counselor encourages, instructs, examines, and reviews the Lone Scout on all steps toward Scouting advancement and helps the Lone Scout take part in local council activities.
- For more information on the role of the Lone Scout friend and counselor, consult the *Lone Scout Friend and Counselor Guidebook*, No. 511-420.