# YOUTH APPLICATION

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









# **Scout Oath**

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.





# **Welcome to Scouting America!**

Scouting America makes Scouting available to our nation's youth by chartering community organizations to operate Cub Scout packs, Scouts BSA 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 Scouting America. The local and national councils provide training, program, outdoor facilities, literature, professional guidance, and liability insurance protection.

# **Parent/Legal Guardian Role in Scouting**

Scouting uses a fun program to promote character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical 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.

**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 Scouting America 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.

**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 <a href="https://www.scouting.org/forms">www.scouting.org/forms</a> and give it to the unit leader.

**Youth Protection Begins With You<sup>TM</sup>.** 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, Scouting America continues to create and consistently improve its barriers to abuse.

Scouting America is committed to providing a safe environment for young people. To maintain a safe environment, Scouting America 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. To learn more about Scouting America's Youth Protection resources, go to <a href="https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/">www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/</a>.

# **Mandatory Reporting**

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; or 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 known or suspected abuse or behavior that might put a youth at risk must also be reported to the local Scout executive or the Scouts First Helpline (1-844-SCOUTS1 or 1-844-726-8871) if your Scout executive or local council cannot be reached.

All parents must review the *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide* booklet in the Cub Scout or Scouts BSA handbooks or at www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/.

### **Youth Protection Policies**

- Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings.
   There must be a registered female adult leader over 21 in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader over 21 must be present for any activity involving female youth.
- One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.

These and other key Youth Protection policies are addressed in the training and at <a href="https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/">www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/</a>.

To learn about Scouting America's other health and safety policies, please review the online version of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, the Scouter Code of Conduct, and the SAFE Checklist, which are available at <a href="https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety">www.scouting.org/health-and-safety</a>.



## **Scout Life Magazine**

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

For details, go to subscribe.scoutlife.org

#### Who Can Join?

It is the philosophy of Scouting to welcome all eligible youth, regardless of gender, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or gender identification, who are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet any other requirements of membership.

# Joining Requirements Cub Scout Pack

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

\*Lion—Kindergarten (year before first grade) Bear—Third grade

\***Tiger**—First grade **Webelos Scout**—Fourth grade

Wolf—Second grade Arrow of Light Scout—Fifth 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.

## **Scouts BSA Troop**

Youth can be Scouts if they are at least 10 years old, currently in the fifth grade and register on or after March 1; 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 are age 14 and not yet 21. **Applicants age 18 and older must complete a Scouting America adult application.** 

## **Excerpt From the Declaration of Religious Principle**

Scouting America 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 Scouting America shall be entitled to certificates of membership.

## THE NATIONAL REGISTRATION FEE IS NONREFUNDABLE.

For general questions, contact your Scouting America local council or visit www.scouting.org for current policies.

## SCOUTING AMERICA YOUTH MEMBER APPLICATION—Must be completed by the youth's parent or legal guardian

YOUTHINFO	DRMATION											
First name (Full legal name)		Middle name		ast name			Suffix P			Preferred nickname		
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Alternate phone	Ext.	Previous Scoutin	ng experience									
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I have read the a	attached information for parents and approve	e the										
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