



SCOUTS
BSA

What is Scouts BSA ?

An experience where boys and girls ages 11-17 can have their share of adventure in the great outdoors. Develop a love of service by volunteering in your community, boost your leadership skills through fun and exciting challenges, and create memories of a lifetime. Shooting bows and arrows, playing sports, kayaking, hiking, fishing, rock climbing or learning about nature or wilderness survival, just to name a few!

Our mission is to provide your child with a program of fun and adventure while instilling in them values that will last a lifetime to better serve and strengthen their family, community and country.

As a parent, you want to be assured that the groups that your child joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, personal fitness, and leadership. The values we seek to instill are found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

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.

How is Scouts BSA Structured?

Scouting activities operate in conjunction with the school calendar.

A Scout Troop is a single-gendered program of boys or girls ages 11-17. A Troop typically meets weekly for 60-90 minutes, where they learn and master new skills and participate in friendly competitions. Youth members in leadership positions have the responsibility to come up with ideas for activities and events and plan the monthly trips and campouts, however all meetings and activities have parental support and supervision.

Within each Troop are smaller groups called **Patrols**, made up of 6-10 youth, who lead and teach each other in a smaller group setting. Multiple Patrols are found within a Troop.

The Scouts are recognized with achievement badges for learning new skills (rank advancement) or taking a deeper dive into more than 135 different subjects and activities that may interest them (called merit badges). Both of achievements can be worn on their Scout **uniform** (more information on the scout uniform can be found within this guide).

While the Scouts BSA program is designed to be youth-led, your involvement behind-the scenes to help schedule and attend activities and meetings is important.

#ADVENTUREON!

Activities and Adventures



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There are many fun adventures in Scouts BSA! **Each local Troop designs and schedules their own activities.** You can visit www.nfcscouting.org to view the calendar of all activities and adventures available for your Troop to participate in. Some highlights of the Scouting year include:

- **Merit Badge Academy** – interactive opportunity to learn more about 3-5 different subject areas from archery to game design and much more!
- **Frontier (Shooting) Day** – learn (or practice) how to safely shoot rifles, shotguns and archery.
- **Summer Camp** – takes place at Scout-owned property in the U.S. and is the highlight of your Scout's year! Attend a stayover week-long camping experience with your Troop while participating in many fun adventures and activities like swimming, kayaking, rock climbing and fishing!
- **Monthly camping trips and Service Projects** – locations decided in each Troop by the youth leadership. You can go canoeing, hiking, biking to name a few fun activities, or perform a service project to benefit the community.



Camp Shands - An accredited week-long overnight camp for Scout Troops who want to achieve advancement by earning merit badges, learn Scouting skills and have fun. At Camp Shands, Troops have access to resources and activities such as canoes, kayaks, sailboats, rowboats, climbing wall, COPE course, ATV's, archery and rifle ranges, and many of the other outdoor resources required for advancement in Scouting. Over 45 merit badges are offered.

- Visit www.campshands.org to learn more & register for your summer adventure!

How Much Does Scouts BSA Cost?

There are three financial investments in your family's Scouting year.

1. **Annual registration:** The annual membership fee is \$150 and is paid at the time of sign-up. This fee covers your Scouting experience for the following 12 months.
2. **Handbook and uniform:** The handbook (\$25) is your roadmap to adventure in Scouting each school year. The uniform (approx. \$150) is where your Scout can proudly display their achievements and can be worn year-to-year.
3. **Troop Activity Fee:** varies by Troop based on calendar of events and fundraising participation.

To offset the cost of Scouting, two fundraisers are offered to families each year. Popcorn and peanuts are sold in the fall and discount cards are sold in the spring. All funds generated are kept and leveraged locally by your Troop and the local Council.

**PLAN NEXT
SUMMER NOW!**



AQUATICS CAMP

Aquatics Camp - An accredited week-long day camp for all boys and girls ages 6-14. Includes activities such as: rock climbing, BB and archery, ecology, sports, kayaking, watersports & more!

- Visit www.aquaticscamp.org to learn more & register for your summer adventure!



NORTH FLORIDA COUNCIL

www.NFCScouting.org | Ph: 904-388-0591