

THE LONE SCOUT PROGRAM



Is Scouting no longer available in your area?

Lone Scouting is a way for all youth to be part of Scouting and for families to stay involved. Youth who do not live near a unit or are unable to attend unit meetings can register as Lone Scouts.



Who can join?

Youth grades 1-5 can join as Lone Cub Scouts. Youth ages 11-17 can join as Lone Scouts BSA members.



The Lone Scout Counselor

Every Lone Scout must have an adult 21 years or older who acts as their Counselor. Usually this is a parent, but could be a minister, teacher, neighbor or Scouter.



Lone Scout Activities

All Lone Scout activities can be done at home. Scouts can work at their own pace and follow their interests and passions. Lone Scouts can also participate in district and council events.



How to become a Lone Scout

All Lone Scouts must register with the council. Youth and adults will fill out an application and pay the same annual registration fee as other members. Contact your District Executive for more information.

For more information, visit the Lone Scout Counselor Guidebook



The Lone Scout Program FAQ

What is Lone Scouting?

The Lone Scout Program is a way for ALL youth to be part of the Scouting experience, even if they cannot be part of a traditional unit. The Lone Scout can do all the same activities that traditional units do, and they get to work from home at their own pace. They have the personal attention of a Lone Scout Counselor, and they can pursue whichever interests they are most passionate about.

My unit is no longer active. Can I join Lone Scouts?

Yes! Your family can continue doing the same activities your unit was doing. Scouts can work at their own pace through activities and advancements that interest them.

Who can join?

Lone Scouting is a good option for youth that cannot join a traditional unit. This may happen when there are no units nearby, or the youth cannot attend meetings because of a schedule conflict. Youth grades 1-5 are eligible to be Lone Cub Scouts and youth ages 11-17 can be Lone Scouts BSA Members.

What is a Lone Scout Counselor?

A Lone Scout Counselor is an adult – 21 or older – that works with the Lone Scout on activities and advancement. This person is usually the parent or guardian. It can also be a minister, teacher, friend, or Scouter. If the Counselor is not the Lone Scout's parent, the parent must give permission and approve the Counselor.

What activities can Lone Scouts do?

Lone Scouts get to plan their own yearly calendar with the activities that interest them the most. They should have weekly meetings with their Counselor to work on advancement and activities. As often as possible, these meetings should be outings to visit new places, try something new, and explore the outdoors. Lone Scouts are always welcome to attend district and council events.

What resources are available?

Lone Scout Counselors can explore the guidebook at https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/pdf/511-420.pdf. They can also take the same trainings available to Cub Scout and Scouts BSA leaders at my.scouting.org. Lone Scouts should work on age appropriate advancement requirements outlined in the Cub Scout and Scouts BSA Handbooks.

How do I get started?

All Lone Scouts and Counselors must register with the council. The Lone Scout Counselor must pass a background check and take Youth Protection Training. The Lone Scout and Counselor will pay the same annual registration fees as traditional youth and adult members. Once they are registered, the Lone Scout can begin working on advancements and activities of their choosing.