

Important Changes to the Boy Scouts of America's Youth Protection Training Policies and Changes in Registration Procedures

Effective June 1, 2010:

- Youth Protection Training is required for all registered volunteers.
- New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training before they submit their application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins.
- Youth Protection Training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection Training record is not current at the time of recharter, the volunteer will not be reregistered.

On the night of June 1, 2010 the above information was emailed from the national office to every registered volunteer with an email address (approximately 600,000 volunteers).

As the council registrar you should now have the following registration procedures in effect in your council:

- Do not post any adult leader registration without proof that they have completed Youth Protection Training. A complete Adult Leader Application for registration should include a completely filled out and signed Adult Leader Application Form, Criminal Background Check Disclosure/Authorization Form, and a Youth Protection Training certificate of completion.
- An applicant may take online Y01, Youth Protection Training through MyScouting, or complete the council or district presented classroom Youth Protection Training.
- A member ID is not required to create a MyScouting account in order to take online Youth Protection Training.

Once an adult leader is assigned a member ID, they should log back on to MyScouting and input their member ID so all training activity will be linked with their PAS record.

- Youth Protection Training and a completion date should be entered in PAS on the Person Profile Advancement and Training tab for all applicants that complete a live training. In addition, the council should verify that Youth Protection Training and completion dates are correctly recorded on the Person Profile of applicants that complete online training and update PAS with information from the applicant's certificate of completion if needed.
- All adult leaders must take Youth Protection training every two years and will not be allowed to reregister unless their training is current. To ensure these policies are fully implemented, please communicate to your

current volunteers to make sure that they take the following steps before their unit recharter:

- If you have not taken Youth Protection training within the past two years, please log on to MyScouting and take the training. Be sure to have your member ID number. The number can be found on your Boy Scouts of America membership card.
- If you do not know your member ID number, contact your unit leader or committee chairman. Your council can also assist you.
- A person does not have to be a registered volunteer or have an ID number to take Youth Protection training. To take the training, log in to MyScouting and create an account. From the MyScouting portal, click



on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection training. Upon completion, print a certificate and submit it with an application or submit to the unit leader for processing at the local council.

- If you have taken Youth Protection training online but did not input your member ID number, please log back on to [MyScouting](#) and input your member ID so the training will be linked with your records.
- If you have taken Youth Protection training within the past two years but did not take the course online, contact your council and have them verify that your Youth Protection training records are accurate.
- Finally, please share these important changes with other Scouters.

To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of America and how to help Scouting you're your family sage, see the *Parent's Guide* in any of the Cub Scouting or Boy Scouting handbooks, or go to <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>.

Youth Protection Training Policy Changes
Questions and Answers
June 2, 2010

The recent changes in Youth Protection requirements have generated a number of questions. The following are answers to some of the questions we have received. We will send regular updates to this information as it becomes available.

Q: Does the executive officer (Institutional Head) of a unit need to take Youth Protection training?

A: If the executive officer is not a registered leader, he or she is not required to complete Youth Protection training, although it is strongly recommended. If the executive officer is registered as an adult leader, then he or she must complete Youth Protection training.

Q: I am a Tiger Cub adult partner and ScoutParent. Do I need to take Youth Protection training?

A: The Tiger Cub adult partner and ScoutParent designations are not registered adult positions; therefore, mandatory Youth Protection training is not required. It is strongly recommended, however, that all adults involved in Scouting take Youth Protection training. All registered adults are *required* to take Youth Protection training.

Q: I am sure I know all there is to know about youth protection. Can I “test out” by only taking the Youth Protection online quiz?

A: No. You must complete the entire online training in order for your Youth Protection certificate to be valid. This ensures you receive the latest information on BSA Youth Protection.

Q: Are parents who attend weekly meetings, weekend campouts, or summer resident camp required to take Youth Protection training?

A: Only if they are registered leaders. However, it is highly recommended that any adult participating with your unit activities take Youth Protection training. Having them register as adult leaders is also highly recommended.

Q: What is the deadline to meet the new Youth Protection training standard?

A: All registered leaders should take or renew their Youth Protection training so that it is current as of today. A unit will not be able to recharter without its key registered adults being up-to-date on their Youth Protection training. No individual leader will be able to register without being up-to-date on his or her Youth Protection training.

Q: Can a council or district organize Youth Protection group training for its adults?

A: Yes. It is encouraged that adults take the training via the online module, but the instructor-led model is still acceptable as long as the most current version of the Youth Protection DVD (Item no. 610327 or 36121) is used and the end-of-course quiz is proctored by the trainer at the end of the training session. **Reminder:** It is critical that training completion certificates be issued after successful completion and that a formal training record roster is submitted to the council registrar so proper credit can be recorded in the profiles of each participant.

Q: Why a new training policy on such short notice?

A: Youth safety is the No. 1 concern of the BSA. It is important to implement this training at all levels of the organization. The BSA is always reevaluating and reassessing its policies to ensure the safest youth program and the best training is being offered. The BSA's Youth Protection training has been

in existence long enough for it to be understood and accepted as a mandated training for all registered BSA adult leaders.

Q: The new policy indicates that a Youth Protection certificate of completion must be submitted “at the time of application.” What does that mean?

A: A BSA application should only be collected from a prospective leader after they have fully completed the form, attached a copy of their Youth Protection certificate of completion, and submitted that to the Council Service Center.

Q: Will both the regular and Venturing leader versions of Youth Protection training meet the requirement?

A: Yes, as long as they are using the most current versions of the DVD's for group training. The online version is the preferred method, as it allows for those taking the training to get one-on-one training and take all the time they need for review. The online quiz does not require printing of any test pages. They are issued an immediate certificate of completion and it allows for the updating of their ScoutNet record.

Q: Do leaders need to wait until they have final clearance on the background check to meet with youth?

A: No. As long as their application is fully completed, approved, and submitted to the Council Service Center, their fee is paid, and Youth Protection training is certified, they will be able to interact with youth while the Criminal Background Check (CBC) is still pending.

Q: If a unit's leaders' Youth Protection training is not current, should we not register any new youth to their units until they do so, or will those who are not current be dealt with through the recharter process?

A: This policy does not affect youth registrations. However, if a unit's leadership has not complied with the new Youth Protection standard by the next rechartering period, the unit will NOT be able to complete its registration.

Q: Will the system be able to handle the overload of people taking training at the last minute?

A: The system platform that houses E-Learning is expected to be able to handle the high volume.

Q: Will the new adult applications have this information?

A: Yes. All new applications will reflect these changes.

Q: When does the change go into effect?

A: As of June 1, 2010, all registered adult volunteers must complete Youth Protection training prior to beginning their volunteer service.

Q: Do merit badge counselors need to take Youth Protection training?

A: Yes. A merit badge counselor is a registered volunteer position.

Q: If a person is not a registered leader, how can he or she log in and take the Youth Protection training?

A: A person does not have to be a registered volunteer to take Youth Protection training. To take the training, log into myscouting.org and create an account. From the myscouting.org portal, click on E-training and take Youth Protection. Upon completion, print a certificate and submit with a new application or submit to the unit leader for processing at the local council.

Q: Can units that have some adults that have not completed Youth Protection training be rechartered?

A: In order for a unit to be rechartered, it must have all the required positions filled with Youth Protection trained adults. Adults who have not completed Youth Protection training will not be reregistered.

Q: Is there a grace period to get all adults trained?

A: No. If a leader's Youth Protection training is not current, the volunteer must take or renew their training immediately. **Every effort should be taken so that all adults involved in Scouting have a current certificate of completion of the Youth Protection training.**

Q: Does all volunteers mean all volunteers—even board members and council presidents?

A: Yes. The goal is to have all registered volunteers Youth Protection-trained. This is an important statement for us an organization and shows our commitment to the well-being of our youth membe