

BASIC LEADER TRAINING

EVERY YOUTH MEMBER DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER!

What makes a leader a *trained* leader?

Cub Scout leaders are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials and the Cub Scout Leader Specific training for their position.

So where do I start and where do I go from there?

FAST START TRAINING

Fast Start training provides an immediate comfort level for you as a new leader and enables you to say, “I can do this!” Fast Start training is the first step for any new leader and is to be taken immediately after a new leader registers and before he or she meets with any youth member. Cub Scout Leader Fast Start training is offered as a package of position-specific video programs accompanied by a Cub Scout Leader Fast Start Viewer Guide (available online only). Each program gives information on planning and conducting your first meeting, and even demonstrates a meeting you can use. Five segments are included in the online version and in the VHS or DVD video versions:

- Tiger Cub Den Leader
- Cub Scout Den Leader
- Webelos Den Leader
- Cubmaster
- Pack Committee Member

Pack-administered self-study is the primary method of delivery for Fast Start training. Typically, a pack trainer supports the new leader during this training period. If your unit does not have a pack trainer, it is recommended that you contact your district training chairman or your district executive for more information.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Highly recommended for all leaders in direct contact with youth, this comprehensive training course guides you on the do’s and don’ts of working with youth. At all times, the youths’ safety is the number one priority. At the same time you, as a leader, need to know the rules for keeping yourself safe, too! This training is offered at the unit level—usually by your pack trainer, at the district and council levels, and online on most council websites.

BASIC LEADER TRAINING

This training comprises two parts: New Leader Essentials for all unit-level leaders, and Leader Specific training, which is based on the leader’s unit position.

NEW LEADER ESSENTIALS

New Leader Essentials is an introductory session that highlights the values, aims, history, funding, and methods of Scouting. It addresses how these aims and methods are reached in an age-appropriate style within Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, and Venturing. Videos, discussions, and hands-on reinforcement are presented during the 90-minute training session. Ideally, all unit-based volunteers—Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Venturing leaders—take this session at the same time, so they understand that they are all striving for the same results with the young people they serve. Each leader completes New Leader Essentials training only once.



CUB SCOUT LEADER SPECIFIC TRAINING

Once you have a solid overview of the BSA's values-based program, you can begin training for a specific Scouting position through position-specific training. This provides the specialized knowledge a new leader needs to assume a leadership role. Because each course is designed for a specific leadership position, the training time varies. Leader Specific training has been developed for the following Cub Scouting positions and their assistants:

- Tiger Cub den leaders
- Cub Scout den leaders
- Webelos den leaders
- Cubmasters
- Pack committee members

The volunteers in these positions can complete this training in a day or in two or three evenings. The leader is considered trained upon completion of New Leader Essentials and the Leader Specific training for that position.

SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING

Many types of supplemental training are available for leaders once they have completed their basic training. This training includes:

Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders—Highly recommended for helping Webelos leaders develop the outdoor skills and program knowledge needed for leading a Webelos den and completing specific outdoor activity badges.

District Roundtable Training—Conducted at the district level once a month. Includes specific hands-on training and skills development for Tiger Cub leaders, Cub Scout leaders, Webelos leaders, Cubmasters, pack committee members, and all assistant positions.

Pow wow or University of Scouting—Conducted at the council level once a year. This training course offers a wide variety of program opportunities for the Cub Scout leader. Songs, skits, puppets, storytelling, leather working and woodworking, and much more can be found at these exciting events!

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Opportunity (BALOO)—If your pack is going on any pack campouts, this is a must in order to conduct a safe, fun, well-planned and exciting outing for your Cub Scouting families!

Den Chief Training—Trains Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and/or Venturers to better assist you in your den meetings. Cub Scout, Webelos Scout, and other involved leaders are encouraged to attend the training also to be more informed on the skills the den chiefs have learned and on how they can best be used in den and pack meetings.

Trainer Development Conference—Conducted at council level; intended for those leaders who want more training and leadership skills and want to be a part of their area's training team.

Philmont Training Center—This is the national training center for the Boy Scouts of America. It is located near Cimarron, New Mexico. Week-long training courses led by the top trainers in the nation are held each summer. The programs offered vary from year to year, but all are designed to enhance the position you fill in your unit or district. Contact your council for more information.

