

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Effective September 1, 2017, Youth Protection Training (YPT) will be required for all adult leaders at the time of registration. Paper applications from new leaders must be accompanied by a Youth Protection Training completion certificate, which must be filed with the application.

Because completion of YPT is now required for all leaders at the time of registration, unit leaders must obtain copies of the completion certificates from the leaders who register online before approving their application.

With the upcoming renewal cycle, the Internet Rechartering system will be updated so that units cannot submit the registration renewal of any adult who does not have current YPT as of the effective date of the renewal. Completion of YPT as part of the online registration system will be required in a future update. Additionally, Council Registrars will no longer be able to override the registration system to register any leader whose Youth Protection Training is not current.

Effective June 1, 2018, Adult Registration Requirement Beginning with 2018 Boy Scout Camp Season

The BSA's new adult registration requirements — which mandate that all adults accompanying a Boy Scout troop to a residence camp or other Scouting activity lasting 72 hours or more **must** be registered as a leader, including completion of a criminal background check and Youth Protection Training — will go into effect June 1, 2018, at the start of the BSA's summer camp season.

Several of you have inquired as to the “why” behind these updated adult registration requirements. The change to the adult registration requirement for Boy Scout activities described below is a first step. With the increased emphasis on youth protection and safe Scouting, this new requirement applies to the area of “highest risk” insofar as Boy Scout activities involve the most youth whose parents are not present.

Requiring registration, background checks, and YPT for adults on Boy Scout extended activities adds another dimension of protection. Additional requirements, such as mandatory YPT for any adult participating in a unit activity, shortening the activity period requirement from three nights, and extending the registration requirement to additional programs, are under consideration for future action. Recognizing the affect these requirements have on parents and programs, this first step is being taken in advance of YPT2 to underscore how important youth protection measures are to safe Scouting.

We fully recognize the affect these requirements will have on parents and programs and offer the following clarification:

- This change applies to Boy Scout program only at this time
- The new requirement applies to any adult accompanying a *Boy Scout group* on a *single* Scouting activity where they are present for *three or more nights* (not necessarily consecutive)
- These adults must be registered as leaders, **including the completion of a criminal background check and Youth Protection Training before the activity** (CBCs cannot be expedited)

Why is this happening:

- This is meant to enhance the “safe space” for overnight Boy Scout activities.
- While incidents are rare, this will serve as an added layer of protection for our highest risk activities.

The future:

- Results and feedback will be monitored.
- Also under consideration are:
 - Mandatory YPT for any participating adult
 - Extended registration requirements to other programs
 - Shortening the activity period from three nights

Please contact the Scout Service Center with any questions at 207-797-5252, or the commissioner team at commissioners@ptcbsa.org