

Youth Protection Training FAQs

Here are answers to some of the questions BSA has received about the important changes to the Youth Protection policies. To read more, visit [http:// www.scouting.org/youthprotection](http://www.scouting.org/youthprotection).

When does the change go into effect? - As of June 1, 2010, all registered adult volunteers--no matter what their position entails--must have complete Youth Protection training prior to beginning their volunteer service.

Why a new training policy on such short notice? - Youth safety is the No. 1 concern of the Boy Scouts of America. 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 are 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 volunteers.

What is the deadline to meet the new Youth Protection training standard? -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.

Is there a grace period to get all adults trained? - No. If a leader's Youth Protection training is not current, the volunteer must take or renew this 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.

Will the system be able to handle the overload of people taking training at the last minute? - The system platform that houses e-learning is expected to be able to handle the high volume.

Does "all volunteers" mean all volunteers -- even board members and council presidents? - Yes. The goal is to have all registered volunteers Youth Protection-trained. This is an important statement for the Boy Scouts of America as a youth organization and reinforces the BSA's commitment to the well-being of all youth members and volunteers.

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? - 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. *Important: Please note that the quiz has been removed from the e-Learning Center because the content did not reflect the new changes in Youth Protection policy.*

The new policy indicates that a Youth Protection certificate of completion must be submitted "at the time of application." What does that mean? - A BSA application should be collected from a prospective leader only with the fully completed form, with a copy of the individual's Youth Protection certificate of completion. Both documents should be submitted together to the council service center.

Do leaders need to wait until they have final clearance on the background check to meet with youth? - No. As long as their application is fully completed, submitted to the council service center, and approved, their fee is paid, and their Youth Protection training has been received by and acknowledged by the council, they will be able to interact with youth members while the criminal background check (CBC) is still pending.

Do merit badge counselors need to take Youth Protection training? -Yes. A merit badge counselor is a registered volunteer position.

Can units that have some adult leaders who have not completed Youth Protection training recharter? - In order for a unit to recharter, it must have all the required positions filled with Youth Protection-trained adults. Adults who do not have current (within the past two years) Youth Protection training will not be re-registered.

Will the new adult applications have this information? -Yes. All new applications will reflect these changes.

If a person is not a registered leader, how can he or she log in and take the Youth Protection training? - A person does not have to be a registered volunteer to take Youth Protection training. To take the training, log in to <http://www.myscouting.org> and click on create an account. After you have confirmed your new MyScouting account user name and password, log in to myscouting.org and click on e-training to begin the Youth Protection training. Upon completion, print a certificate to submit with a completed adult leader application to the unit leader or your local council representative for processing. Remember to keep a copy for your records. Once the application is approved, the new leader will receive his or her membership card with their member ID. It is important that new members log back in to <http://www.myscouting.org> and update their profile with this member ID to receive credit for completing this and any other training.