

Why Join Scouts?

Scouting teaches boys the principles of learning respect, achievement, responsibility, healthy habits, faith and self-worth through a program that is fun, engaging and challenging. Cub Scouting is dedicated to bringing out the best in people, with the emphasis not on winning as an end result, but on the far more demanding task of "Doing One's Best."

The Boy Scouts concentrate on developing leadership skills while having fun and achieving advancements.

The scouting program gives a great emphasis on family based activities and interaction at all levels, so the whole family may be involved in the program.

Why Would Your Son Want to Join Scouts?

Scouts DO things!

We:

Go on Campouts	Do Science Experiments
Perform Silly Skits	Do Service Projects
March in Parades	Go to Summer Camp
Sing Songs	Learn to Cook
Learn Healthy Habits	Earn Awards
Go On Hikes	

And Have Lots Of Fun!

In Cub Scouts your son will experience

- ◆ Character Development
- ◆ Sense of Community
- ◆ Family Understanding
- ◆ Friendly Service
- ◆ Fun & Adventure
- ◆ Good Citizenship
- ◆ Personal Achievement
- ◆ Preparation for Boy Scouts
- ◆ Respectful Relationships
- ◆ Social Skills
- ◆ Spiritual Growth
- ◆ Sportsmanship & Fitness

In Boy Scouts your son will experience

- ◆ Character Development
- ◆ Citizenship Training
- ◆ Life Skills
- ◆ Mental & Physical Fitness

Prepared by Three Fires Council
Special Needs Committee
For more information:

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SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

THREE FIRES COUNCIL-BSA
St. Charles, Illinois

**Special Needs
In Scouting**



Prepared. For Life.®

**The Best Kept Secret
In Scouting!**

Who Are Scouts with Special Needs?



Any scout who has any of the following conditions:

- ◆ Learning Disability
- ◆ Developmental Disability
- ◆ Physical Disability
- ◆ Emotional Disability

What is the Difference Between Scouts with Special Needs and other Scouts?

As a scout with special needs, all the age limits can be removed, and the program can be adapted to your son's abilities. Your son can do everything the other scouts do, to the extent of his abilities, but at his own pace. Your son may start at any appropriate level (rank) equal to his age/grade or lower.

Leadership & Training

In Scouting all of the leaders are volunteers, who are dedicated to the values of scouting. All leaders are required to participate in training courses regarding the scouting program, safety, leadership and their specific positions. All leaders practice Two Deep Leadership at all times (No adult may ever be left alone with a scout or scouts). Our first concern is always safety.

Specialized training, programs and guidelines for Scouts with special needs are available from the BSA. We are always looking to add more leaders, so please inquire if you are interested in training or helping out.

Your Role as a Scout Parent

As a parent or guardian of a boy with special needs, no one knows your son better. We need your help to develop and run a program that will give your son the most out of the scouting experience. We ask that parents attend and participate with their son's activities both at scouts and at home.

As part of a Pack or Troop, each scout and family is asked to help raise money to support the unit's activities through our fundraising events.



Want to help more?
Ask about leadership and/or assisting with a unit event.

When Do Scouts Meet?

Each unit sets its own schedule. **Cub Scout Packs** generally meet once a month, September through May and may have summer activities during June through August. They may also meet for special events throughout the year.

Cub Scout Dens meet 2 to 3 times per month during September through May to work on advancements and achievements.

Boy Scout Troops meet every week also working on advancements and achievements. Troops will usually have at least one weekend activity each month and meet throughout the year. Troops may participate in District, Council and National events as they are available.

Each unit has its own meeting location usually at its charter organization or sponsor.

How Much Does It Cost?

Scout units charge a yearly registration fee. Check with each individual unit to find out what is included in the annual fee and what is not included. Units may have fund raising events annually. Boy Scout units may have additional fees depending on the amount of activities that are planned. There are camps and other avenues available for families in need. Money should never be a reason a boy cannot participate in Scouting.