

Wood Badge FAQ

Q. When should I attend Wood Badge?

A. You should attend Wood Badge as soon as possible after completing your basic training. The sooner you attend Wood Badge the sooner you can begin to apply the leadership skills and techniques in your unit, district or council.

Q. I'm a new to Scouting and my unit leader says that it's best for me to wait a couple of years before I go to Wood Badge. Why should I go now?

A. Wood Badge helps new leaders build a framework for their future growth in Scouting. Leaders who take advanced training early in their Scouting careers are better prepared to serve the youth in their units.

Q. I've been a Scoutmaster for years and have a very successful program, why should I go to Wood Badge?

A. There are two primary reasons. The first is that everyone has the capacity to learn new skills and improve upon existing ones. Wood Badge offers the latest training on contemporary leadership and team development models. The second reason is that experienced leaders help enrich the Wood Badge experience for newer leaders by sharing their expertise and passion for the program.

Q. Are the leadership skills taught specific to Scouting?

A. Although taught in a Scouting framework, the skills taught in Wood Badge can be applied universally. Participants have found their Wood Badge training to help them at work and in other non-Scouting volunteer activities.

Q. How much time is required?

A. The practical portion of Wood Badge requires six full days of instruction. This is accomplished through two three-day weekends. The weekend course also requires a patrol meetings between the weekend sessions.

Q. Is overnight camping required?

A. Yes, during the second weekend, course participants will sleep in tents. A total of two nights will be spent in tents during the second weekend. Participants and their patrol will be responsible for ensuring that they have all necessary gear, and for getting it both to the camp site and to the parking lot on the final day. Participants will not be permitted to drive to their campsites to load/unload gear.

Q. Am I responsible for my own food?

A. During the first weekend, participants and staff will eat meals that have been prepared by our cook crew in the dining hall. During the second weekend, patrols will be responsible for providing meals for most of the weekend, based off a menu they decide. Please notify us of any special dietary restrictions.

Q. What is the Wood Badge Ticket?

A. The Ticket is a series of projects or activities that each Wood Badge participant works on after they complete the practical (or outdoor) portion of the course. Typically, a Ticket consists of several goals that are directed towards the participants primary scouting role. "Working the Ticket" helps the leader apply the skills they just learned and it helps strengthen the program in the unit, district and council. Participants will develop their tickets during the practical portion of the course with the help of the Course Director and an assigned ticket counselor, but will have up to 18 months to complete it.

Q. Do I need a Uniform? What is the proper uniform for Wood Badge?

A. Yes! Participants will wear a combination of their field uniform or an activity uniform. The field (or Class-A) uniform is the uniform that the participant would normally wear as a volunteer. The activity uniform consists of a Scouting t-shirt or polo and uniform pants or shorts.

Q. Is there financial assistance available?

A. Partial assistance is available if all other sources of funding have been exhausted. Prior to contacting course director, interested leaders should consider requesting funds from their unit of charter organization partner.