

Roundtable Hot Topic

Supplemental Training

Becoming a Scout leader requires dedication, a desire to have a whole lot of fun, and of course some good training. Each registered leadership position has its own set of training modules that must be completed for you to be considered position-trained. These foundational modules cover broad concepts to prepare you for your leadership responsibilities. Then, supplemental training can provide us with more specific information, skills development, and leadership techniques. Enhancing your skills through supplemental training will not only boost your confidence as a leader, but will also maximize your impact on our Scouts.

Online Supplemental Trainings

Supplemental training online is available at My.Scouting.org, Scouting U, and via social media sites like Facebook and YouTube. My.Scouting.org modules offer training on specific activities, such as aquatics and climbing. These modules help reinforce safety principles and requirements and should be taken by anyone looking to participate in or support these activities (and may also be required).

Some examples are Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Hazardous Weather, Trek Safely, and Climb On Safely. Facebook and YouTube provide real-time and recorded training sessions for Cub Chat and Troop Talk Live and Leading Our Adventures.



In-Person Supplemental Trainings

In-person training courses, and trainings with virtual attendance, provide a unique opportunity to network with other leaders. We can share our experiences with the confidence that we are still upholding training standards and ideals set forth by Scouting America. Courses can be offered nationally, by territory, by council, or even by district. The knowledge and skills taught can range from outdoor skills (such as BALOO and IOLS for pack and troop leaders) to leadership skills (such as Wood Badge, Fundamentals of Training, and Trainer's EDGE) to program best practices and tips (such as University of Scouting, Cub College, and College of Commissioner Science).

Training for Youth

Supplemental training is also available to youth, both online and in person. Units conduct Introduction to Leadership Skills to teach youth how to take on leadership roles at the unit level. Courses like National Youth Leadership Training, NYLT Academy, National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience, and National Leadership Seminar (through Order of the Arrow) provide Scouts opportunities to learn and to teach, as well as meet Scouts from other units. Youth classes can also be included in events such as University of Scouting. Inviting youth to facilitate training modules for leaders can also help illustrate the power of youth leadership opportunities.



Resources:

Information on supplemental training courses and their curriculums can be found here:
<https://www.scouting.org/training/supplemental-training-opportunities/>

Commissioner Training:
<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/training/>

The Training Times
<https://www.scouting.org/training/training-updates/>