



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SILICON VALLEY MONTEREY BAY COUNCIL

2020 TRANSITION
INFORMATION AND FAQ

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES!

For Scouts and Scouters of the Church of
Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council

Thank you for your support of the Scouting program and your interest in continuing your Scouting Adventure. We are excited to be your partner through this transition as we transfer Scouts to new and existing units within your community. Our goal through this process is to make your transition as easy and simple as possible.

In this guide you will find answers to the commonly asked questions surrounding the 2020 transition. We have attempted to be as thorough as possible at answering the common questions about the transition plan, but our district and council volunteers and staff are here to help support you if you have questions that are not answered in this guide.

To help clarify any questions that you may still have, we will be hosting several information and Q&A sessions at roundtable meetings during the summer and fall months. Also, your District Executive and Unit Commissioner will also be a key resource to guide you through this process.

We encourage you to visit our council website at www.svmbc.org to learn more and view additional resources.

If your unit is committed to starting a unit, please complete our New Unit Survey. By signing-up you will receive valuable updates as we move through the transition. To sign-up please visit <http://bit.ly/LDS2020survey>

If you are interested in starting a new Scouts BSA Troop or Cub Scout Pack for the launch date on January 1, 2020 we request that all new Troops submit their paperwork for processing by December 1, 2019 to be registered in time for the official transition date.

These are the minimum requirements to start a new Scouting Pack or Troop:

- **1 Chartering Organization** - to sponsor / own the unit. A current charter organization can be used and is required for Linked Troops.
- **4 or 5 Registered Adult Volunteers** – A worksheet of required positions is included with this packet. Units may have multiple committee members, committee chairs, and must have multiple the chartering organization representative from a single chartering organization.
- **5 Youth Members** – Youth members must all be of the same gender and be at least 6 to 11 for Cub Scouts and 11 to 17 years in age for Scouts BSA. Youth from other programs (Venturing or Sea Scouts) may be multiple registered in Scout Troops as well to count towards the 5 youth.

To help guide you through the process, we have included several worksheets at the end of this packet.

Thank you for your interest in Continuing the Adventure! and we look forward to working with you to start your new scouting units!



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Continuing the Adventure – Your Options for Continuing Scouting

The following options are available to families who wish to continue in Scouting. A suggested timeline for delivery is included to guide units and families in making their decision.

New Unit Formation

To best serve families, new Cub Scout Packs, Scout Troops, Venture Crews and Sea Scout Ships are formed with new charter partners in communities currently served by the ward. ***This is the suggested best way to ensure the best Scouting experience for current families.***

Best Option for:

- Families looking for better schedule flexibility.
- Providing a unit with ideals more consistent with Church beliefs.
- Continuing Scouting in areas with no or few existing Scouting units.
- Allows units to keep their current unit number.

Requirements to form a new unit:

- 5 adult volunteers and 5 youth members
- 1 chartered organization

Join Existing Local Scouting Units

In highly saturated communities or for families looking to join an existing program, units chartered by various local organizations are available depending on available space within the unit for new members. Church and BSA approved flyers will be used to promote the various open units within the community and invite families to recruitment events scheduled in the fall.

Where to find existing local Scouting units:

- Beascout.org – Provides a searchable google map that shows all scouting units within your zip code. Some units allow online registration through this site.
- Stake and Ward Transition Flyers (coming September 2019) – Flyers will be distributed showing available units, their meeting dates and times, and contact information for the communities served by the stake or wards.



Transition Schedule

- Jun 27, 2019** Continuing the Adventure! - Transition Kickoff
New Unit packets and transition information shared with unit leaders
- Aug 27, 2019** Monthly Transition Roundtables / webinars begin.
New Units needs identified.
Begin identifying and recruiting new charter partners for areas in need.
Begin identifying and recruiting adult leadership.
- Sep 1, 2019** Begin promoting local available units and new unit opportunities.
Begin recruitment events and sign-up nights.
New units begin training and program development.
- Oct 1, 2019** Units begin meeting.
- Oct 15, 2019** New Unit paperwork and transfer paperwork complete.
- Jan 1, 2020** All currently registered unit registration and activities cease.

Frequently Asked Questions – General

On May 8th, 2018, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announced that it would no longer charter Scout units after December 31, 2019. This has led to many questions about what Scouting will look like now and what opportunities will be available in 2020 for Scouting families. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions:

Q: If I am interested in staying involved in Scouting beyond 2019, where can I go for answers to my questions?

For general information, go to www.svmc.org. For more specific questions, email membership@svmc.org or talk to your local district representative. You can also visit www.beascout.org to view local programs in your area. New Scouting programs can also be started in your neighborhood the meet the needs of your local families.

Q: Is the LDS Church okay with members joining community Scout troops after 2019?

At the BSA National annual meeting in May 2018, Elder Holland expressed a hope that many LDS youth will continue to be involved in Scouting outside of the Church sponsorship. Scouting will continue the tradition of developing strong leaders and will be complementary to the new Church program. Families who choose to do both will be richly rewarded by the combination.

Q: As the Church is leaving soon, what should I focus on with my pack or troop? Do we need to worry about advancement or Friends of Scouting?

According to the Church statement announcing the December 31, 2019 separation, “Until that date, to allow for an orderly transition, the intention of the Church is to remain a fully engaged partner in Scouting for boys and young men ages 8-13 and encourages all youth, families, and leaders to continue their active participation and financial support.” The Council will continue to provide support and resources for all LDS units to have a high-quality Scouting program that helps their youth grow.

Beginning this summer, units should begin encouraging their youth and family to start a new Scouting pack or troop or transition to a locally existing unit in time for the start of the 2019-2020 program year.



Frequently Asked Questions – Registration

Q: Can LDS units recharter in 2019? And If not, how do I start a new unit?

LDS units will not be able to recharter at the end of 2019. All units will need to move to a new charter partner or youth move to a community unit. All units wishing to continue will need to submit new unit paperwork. Detailed instructions for starting a unit are included in this guide.

Q: Can we retain our unit's current number into our new unit?

Yes, your unit can continue to use the same number in any new unit that is formed. When completing the New Unit paperwork, please let your District Executive know your number preference. If joining a community unit you will need to use that unit's number.

Q: Can our unit pick a new unit number?

Yes, your unit can choose to select a new unit number for any new unit that is started. When completing the New Unit paperwork, please let your District Executive know your number preference, though new numbers must be approved by the registrar before they are assigned.

Q: Our youth wish to join a local community program instead of starting our own unit. How do we join a local unit?

You can go online to BeAScout.org at any time to find a local unit in your community. Each stake will also be receiving a flyer with the information for local units within the stake territory that you can contact to visit their program.

Q: What does the change mean for insurance and liability coverage in my youth program?

The BSA will continue to provide primary liability insurance for all registered youth and adults. All LDS units are covered by this policy until the end of 2019. After this date, LDS youth programs will fall under the Church's liability program (see safety.lds.org).

Q: What are the fees for community scouting programs?

Different from LDS Scouting where tithes cover Scouting expenses, community units often charge dues for participating families. These fees cover uniform parts, advancements, and activities. The dues amount can vary greatly from pack to pack; from \$0.00 in some units to over \$200 in others. Before applying to a local unit, be sure to ask about their fees and what they cover.

Frequently Asked Questions – Advancement and Program

Q: What if my son doesn't finish his Eagle requirements by December 31, 2019?

We will ensure that everyone who wants to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout has the opportunity to do so. Those in LDS units who have not finished by the end of 2019 will be able to join nearby community units or start a new program to continue progressing.

Q: Can I still participate in BSA youth protection and leadership training (like NYLT and Wood Badge) after the Church stops sponsoring units?

BSA training programs are available for all who want to increase their leadership capacity and better serve youth. An active BSA registration is required to participate in these programs.

Q: Can our unit continue to use our tents and equipment for camping?

All equipment and assets of your current troop or pack is owned by your LDS Church Ward & Stake. To see the availability of retaining troop or pack assets into the new unit, please consult with your ward leadership.



Frequently Asked Questions – Adult Supervision and Youth Protection

Q: Do I still have to worry about Youth Protection Training and leader-specific training?

Yes. All adult leaders must have a current Youth Protection certification in order to be registered.

Q: What are the policies for adult supervision?

As always, we will maintain our continuous improvement model to ensure the safety of all youth. Effective, October 1, 2018, two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader over 21 in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader over 21 must be present for any activity involving female youth. Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age- and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.

Eligible volunteers would need to be:

- 1) 21 and over
- 2) Registered as volunteers with the BSA
- 3) Have gone through a background check, and
- 4) Be up to date on Youth Protection training

This is a change from our previous policy where one volunteer could be 21 years of age or older with a second volunteer who could be 18 years of age or older.

Examples of approved leadership:

Boy dens, troops, crews, or ships

Volunteers may be all male, all female, or a combination of male and female, but at least two volunteers must be 21 years of age or over.

Girl dens, troops, crews, or ships:

Volunteers may be all female or a combination of male and female, but at least two volunteers must be 21 years of age or over and at least one must be female.

Family packs:

Volunteers may be all female or a combination of male and female, but at least two volunteers must be 21 years of age or over and at least one must be female.

Overnight activities:

A change from the previous policy where only one of the adults was required to be registered, we are now requiring two 21 years old or over leaders for all activities, including overnights; if girls are present, at least one of the volunteers must be female (to be a volunteer, you must be registered).

Additional leadership:

As one example of additional leadership, camp standards require not only the minimum adult leadership, but also require certain ratios (e.g., aquatics (PS-201-1) and COPE (SQ-409-3)).

All adults accompanying a Scouting unit who are present at the activity for 72 total hours or more must be registered as leaders. The 72 hours need not be consecutive.

Frequently Asked Questions – Family Scouting for Boys & Girls

Q: Will all packs and troops have to be coed?

No. The new Family Scouting options do not change the single-gender nature of BSA programs. They do allow for all-girl dens and all-girl troops. Chartered partners can choose whether they want to sponsor single-gender packs, one pack with boy dens and girl dens, an all-boy troop, or an all-girl troop. Chartering organizations and families can choose a program that best fits their needs.



Frequently Asked Questions – Chartered Organizations

Q: Do chartered organizations have a choice whether or not to adopt the expanded program?

Yes. Chartered organizations always have the option to select from the numerous BSA program offerings. They can select all or one of the BSA programs that they feel best meet the needs of their members and the communities around them.

Q: How should we approach a new chartered organization about starting a program in our community?

The council staff and volunteers are standing by to assist you with prospecting and recruiting a chartering organization to serve your unit. Contact the council office or local professional discuss options within your community.

Frequently Asked Questions – Cub Scouting

Q: How will packs and dens be structured for our new unit?

Cub Scout dens will be single gender — all boys or all girls. Cub Scout packs, meanwhile, can include any combination of all-boy or all-girl dens. The choice is left to individual leaders in consultation with their chartered organization.

This hybrid model builds on the benefit of a single-gender program while also providing character and leadership opportunities for both boys and girls.

Church units that wish to continue the tradition of a boy only program in their unit after the transition will be allowed to do so. Units wishing to include girls into their Packs will also be allowed to if their chartering organization allows.

Q: Can dens for girls and dens for boys meet at the same time and place?

It is up to the chartered organization and the pack or the den to decide meeting times and places.

Q: If I have a question about how to incorporate girls into the pack, who should I talk to?

Your district executive or your unit commissioner will be able to assist you with any questions that you may have regarding the inclusion of boys or girls into your scouting program. You can also visit the family Scouting page on the council website (www.svmbsc.org) and national council website (www.scouting.org/familyscouting) to learn more.

Q: Our ward pack has not had a Tiger or Lion program in the past. Can we add it to our new unit?

All scouting units are allowed, with chartering organization approval, to offer all program levels to their families and youth and are encouraged to do so.

Frequently Asked Questions – Scouts BSA

Q: What is the process for starting a Scouts BSA troop for girls?

To answer how to get girls involved in Scouts BSA, a separate FAQ has been developed to guide unit interested in starting a troop for girls.

Q: Does our new troop have to be coed?

No Scouting unit is coed. Some troops may choose to be a linked troop with another girl or boy troop, but it is optional and is a decision left to the chartering organization's choice.



Requirements to Start a New Scouts BSA Troop or Cub Scout Pack

These instructions list the applications and agreements required to start a new Scouts BSA Troop or Cub Scout Pack. Please complete the following applications and submit with required payment to the council service center no later than December 1st, 2019 to ensure your unit will be registered by the January 1st transition date.

REQUIRED FORMS AND APPLICATIONS

Annual Charter Agreement

Chartering Organization _____
PLEASE WRITE THE NAME OF THE CHARTERED ORGANIZATION/CHARTER PARTNER

New Unit Application

Is this a NEW or EXISTING* Chartering Organization? _____

*Existing Chartering Organizations must register the same individual as the Chartering Organization Representative [CR] for all units they register.

Institutional Head [IH] (this is a NO FEE registration)

(NO SSN required for IH only registration – PLEASE WRITE NAME)

Adult Applications

Scouting Units require a **minimum** of 4 or 5 adults with paid fee**

**may pay fee for a District/Council registration or another unit and multiple register to this unit. Please mark Multiple on their application.

- One person registered as the Charter Organization Representative [CR] (May also register as a the [CC] or a [MC])
- One person registered as the Committee Chair [CC]
- Two additional people registered as Committee Members [MC]
- One person registered as Scoutmaster [SM] for Troops or Cubmaster [CM] for Packs
- PACKS ONLY: One person registered as Den Leader [DL]

Chartered Organization Representative [CR]****

****May also be registered as either Committee Chair or a Committee Member

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Committee Chair [CC]

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Committee Member [MC]

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Committee Member [MC]

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Scoutmaster [SM]

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Den Leader [DL]*

*Cub Scout Packs Only

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF PERSON REGISTERING IN THIS POSITION

Other Registration Notes

- Individuals holding NO FEE registrations (such as Institutional Head) *may* also hold a paid position.
- All paid positions require SSN and CBC authorization.
- Applications must be fully completed, including all questions answered and signatures / initials
- All applications must have an attached Youth Protection Training*** certificate.
***Training can be found at my.scouting.org
- [SM], [CM] or [DL] may not multiple register as [CC], [CR], or [MC] in the same unit.

Youth Applications

All units need a minimum of five paid youth. Youth members can be new or transfers.

- Youth must be all the same gender for Troops. Either gender for Packs.
- Youth must be at least age 6 and no older than 11 for Cub Scouts, 11 or 10.5 and completed their Arrow of Light and no older than 18 years of age for Scouts BSA.
- Youth may be registered in multiple units. Two youth must have their primary registration in the troop.

Registration and Insurance Fees

The following registration and insurance fees are required to start a unit. All fees have been prorated for a February program start.

All new youth and new adults must pay a registration fee and insurance fee. Transfer or multiple youth or adults pay no additional fees. Each unit must pay a single \$40-unit liability insurance fee. Boy's Life subscriptions are optional but recommended for youth participants.

| REGISTRATION TYPE | QUANTITY | FEE REQUESTED | TOTAL FEE |
|--|----------|---------------|-----------|
| NEW YOUTH | | 33.00 | |
| TRANSFER YOUTH | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| MULTIPLE YOUTH | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| YOUTH BOYS' LIFE SUBSCRIPTION | | 12.00 | |
| NEW ADULTS | | 33.00 | |
| ADULT TRANSFERS | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| MULTIPLE ADULTS | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| POSITION CHANGE AND/OR UPDATES ONLY NO FEE (AP, PS) **IH Requires New Unit Form** | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| ADULT BOYS' LIFE SUBSCRIPTION | | 12.00 | |
| UNIT LIABILITY INSURANCE FEE | 1 | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| SICKNESS/ACCIDENT INSURANCE | | 9.00 | |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | \$ |