

Explore
Nature



Play Sports!



Outdoor Adventure!



Learn to Lead!



Arts &
Crafts

Adventure is Calling!

We're Ready,
Are You?

Fun Without Screens!



Make
New
Friends!



2025 PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE

WELCOME LETTER



Dear Scouting Family,

Welcome and congratulations on starting your Scouting adventure!

As a parent, you want your child to grow up to be a great person; a self-reliant, responsible, and caring individual. We have the very same goals for them!

Cub Scouts lets kids have fun while discovering new skills that will help them now and throughout their lives. In fact, Scouts have been participating in exciting adventures for over 100 years while developing their personal fitness, building self-esteem, and leadership skills, along with learning the importance of helping others.

While kids join Scouting to have fun with their friends and make new ones along the trail, Scouting also helps instill in them the ability to make good decisions and equips them with the tools they'll need to lead a happy, fulfilling life.

We've seen firsthand the enormous positive impact Scouting has on the lives of young people, and we're thrilled your family has made the great decision to become part of the Scouting community.

Please visit PathwayToAdventure.org/Programs/Cub-Scouts/ at your earliest convenience to access valuable resources, including YouTube videos, which will help you and your child get the most out of Scouting.

Feel free to reach out to our top-notch staff with any questions as you settle in or at any time in the future. You can reach us at (312) 421-8800.

Welcome!

Richard Romani
VP of Membership (Volunteer)

Jeff Isaac
Scout Executive and CEO

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Cub Scouts earn fun adventures that are specific to their grade. Completion of adventures is how the aims of character, citizenship, leadership and personal fitness are developed. Cub Scouts can earn other recognition in addition to the new skills they learn.



Lion
Kindergarten



Tiger
1st Grade



Wolf
2nd Grade



Bear
3rd Grade



Webelos
4th Grade



Arrow of Light (AOL)
5th Grade



Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Mission

The mission of Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

PACK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Your Scout is a Member of a Den...

- A den is made up of no more than 10 Cub Scouts who are the same age and/or grade.
- The den meets two to three times a month. For Tigers only, one of the den meetings each month is a "Go See It" or outing.
- The den has a den leader, but the den leader shares the planning of the den meetings with the parents.

Volunteer Leadership: The Den

LION DEN Den meetings and outings are facilitated by a Lion den leader. The Lion den leader is an experienced Cub Scout leader who will lead the first Lion den meeting of the year. The Lion program supports co-leadership for den meetings and outings with the Lion adult partners.

TIGER CUB DEN Similar to Lions, parents or guardians attend all meetings and activities. The den is made up of three to eight parent-child teams. Each den has a Tiger Cub den leader (one of the parents) who helps coordinate the meetings. The parent-child teams take turns hosting the activities and plan the meetings with the Tiger Cub den leader. The den has three meetings a month: two meetings are focused on either a required or elective adventure; and the monthly pack meeting.

WOLF AND BEAR CUB SCOUT DENS Parents are vital to Cub Scout dens. Parents help the den leader, and support the Cub Scout at home. Scouts are beginning to be more independent. The den consists of four to eight youth, a den leader and assistant den leader (parent of some of the children), and usually a den chief (a Scouts BSA Scout who helps the den leader). They meet at least twice monthly at a regularly scheduled time and place, and attend monthly pack meetings with their families.

WEBELOS & AOL SCOUT DEN In Webelos & AOL dens, more emphasis is placed on the children taking leadership roles as they prepare for Scouts BSA. Webelos work on requirements for the Webelos Badge during the first year. In the second year, the Scout works on requirements for the Arrow of Light (the highest award in Cub Scouting).

Your Scout is a Member of a Pack...

- A pack can consist of several dens and meets at least once a month.
- The Cubmaster leads the monthly pack meeting, but each den will have a part in the pack meeting.
- Some months, the pack meeting will have special themes such as Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet, or guest speakers. Other months may be devoted to recognizing the Scouts for the projects they have completed.

Volunteer Leadership: The pack

DEN LEADER Gives leadership in carrying out the pack program at the den level.

COMMITTEE CHAIR Conducts monthly Pack Leaders' Meeting to help plan program. Ensures that committee members give adequate support to the Cubmaster and den leaders. Helps recruit additional leaders as needed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS Attend monthly Pack Leaders' Meeting to help plan the program and take care of records, finances, advancement, activities and membership.

PACK TRAINER Conducts orientation for new families and pack leaders. Trains new leaders for their specific positions or encourages participation in district training. Conducts other training as designated. Keeps track of pack training records.

CUBMASTER Conducts monthly pack meeting. Aids den leaders by coordinating monthly program. Attends monthly leaders' meeting.

NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR Serves as welcoming ambassador for the unit. They will work with the unit committee to help implement their Unit Membership Plan.

\$85 Registration Fee + **\$12** Insurance Fee

\$15 Annual Subscription to Scout Life magazine (optional).

PACK DUES - This is an additional charge your local unit (pack) will collect for activities planned for the year. The cost varies by unit, but ranges from \$40 - \$80 annually. There are multiple opportunities throughout the year for your child to earn the money needed to attend camp and participate in planned activities.

If cost is a concern, speak with your pack leaders—there are opportunities for financial assistance and fundraising to help cover expenses.

PACK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CUB SCOUTS: COUNCIL CAMPOREE These action-packed events feature archery, BB Guns, field games, crafts, STEM, and much more. There are 2 different locations and dates for these events so that you can chose what's most convenient for your family.

PINEWOOD DERBY Scouts participate in the thrill of model car racing! The Pinewood Derby is a parent/child project in which they build a race car from a block of wood. Cub Scouts race their cars against one another in the pack.

SPORTS DAYS Cub Scouts will have the opportunity to see their favorite sport teams in action. (White Sox, Chicago Cubs, Chicago Wolves, Chicago Blackhawks, and many more!)

CUB SCOUT DAY & FAMILY CAMP Held in locations throughout the Chicago and Northwest Indiana area, day camp is a great opportunity for Cub Scout summer fun! Day Camps feature shooting sports (Archery and BB where permitted), games, Scout skills, crafts, and much more.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD The annual food drive is held in the spring to benefit local food banks as part of our "Good Turn" to help the hungry.

FIELD TRIPS AND SPECIAL OUTINGS These are great ways to learn more about the people and places in your community.

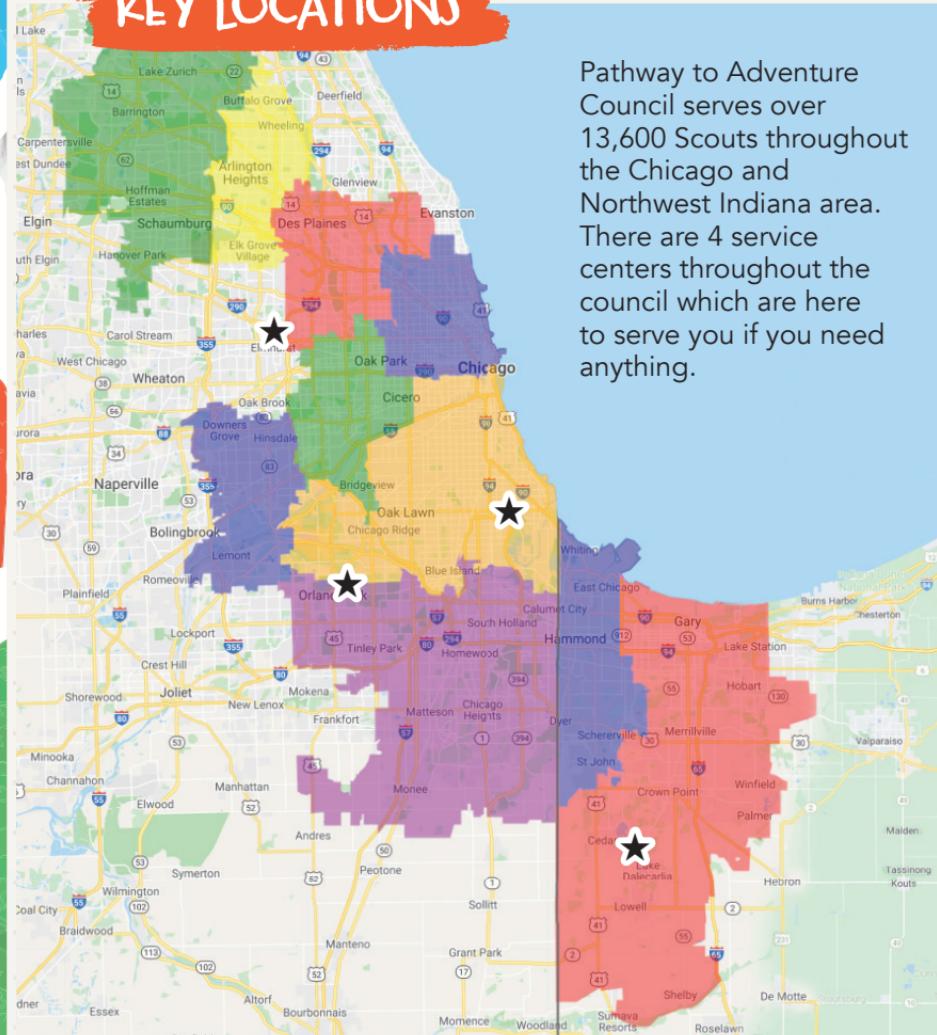
BLUE & GOLD BANQUET A birthday party for Scouting held at your Pack meeting in February. Most often a meal along with special programs or entertainment is included. This is also where Pack leaders and volunteers are recognized.

Purposes and Methods of Cub Scouting

The Cub Scouting program incorporates seven methods to achieve the aims of Scouting, which are Character, Citizenship, Personal Fitness, and Leadership. These methods include:

1. Living the Ideals
2. Belonging to a Den
3. Using Advancement
4. Involving Family & Home
5. Participating in Activities
6. Serving Home & Neighborhood
7. Wearing the Uniform

KEY LOCATIONS



Pathway to Adventure Council serves over 13,600 Scouts throughout the Chicago and Northwest Indiana area. There are 4 service centers throughout the council which are here to serve you if you need anything.

Chicago Center for Scouting

106 N. Aberdeen St., Suite 200 | Chicago, IL 60607

Arlington Heights Center for Scouting & Arlington Heights Scout Shop

617 E. Golf Rd., Suite 101 | Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Robert J. Welsh Center for Scouting & Munster Scout Shop

8751 Calumet Ave. | Munster, IN 46321

La Grange Center for Scouting & La Grange Scout Shop

27 Calendar Ave. | La Grange, IL 60525

SCOUT SHOP CHECKLIST

Bring this checklist to the Scout Shop and we'll help you get your uniform

Name _____ Den Number _____

Council _____ Pack Number _____

Lion Tiger Wolf Bear Webelos Arrow of Light

Shirt

- Lion** - official blue tshirt with Lion logo.
- Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos** - official long/short sleeve blue shirt.
- AOL** - official long/short sleeve tan shirt.

Bottoms

- Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos** - choose between the official blue uniform pants, shorts, or skort.
- AOL** - choose between the official green uniform pants, shorts, or skort.

Belt & Buckle

- Lion (optional), Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos** - official blue Cub Scout web belt with buckle, cut to the proper length.
- AOL** - official green Scouts BSA web belt with buckle, cut to the proper length.

Neckerchief & Slide

- Each rank has an official Neckerchief. *Lion (optional)*
- Each rank has an official Slide that secures the Neckerchief. *Lion (optional)*

Caps

- Each rank has an official Cap. *Lion (optional)*

Socks

- Lion, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos** - official blue socks with gold tops.
- Tiger** - official blue socks with orange tops.
- AOL** - official green socks.

Accessories

- Webelos** - official blue shoulder loops.
- AOL** - official green shoulder loops.
- Webelos & AOL** - pins are worn on an item called Webelos Colors.

Handbook

- Each rank has an official Handbook.

Insignia

- Council Shoulder Patch
- Unit Numerals*
- Den Numeral Strip* or Patrol Emblem**
- World Crest Emblem

*See your den leader

**Each Webelos den chooses between a den numeral strip or a patrol emblem.

Visit your local Scout Shop today!

Arlington Heights Scout Shop
617 E. Golf Rd. Suite 101
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Phone: (847) 640-4430

Munster Scout Shop
8751 Calumet Ave.
Munster, IN 46321
Phone: (219) 200-5462

La Grange Scout Shop
27 Calendar Ave.
La Grange, IL 60525
Phone: (708) 352-3144