

INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM



SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS:

VISIT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND SERVE AS A BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA CAMP STAFF MEMBER

You are eligible to apply for this program if you are between the ages of 18 and 30 and can speak English. To apply, read the enclosed information and submit a completed application and Personal Health and Medical Record form to your national Scout association for approval. Your Scouting organization will send these items to the Boy Scouts of America.

As an international staff member at a Boy Scout camp in the United States of America, you will have the opportunity to do the following:

- Visit the United States.
- Make friends with Scouts in another country.
- Learn about another Scout association.
- Live in another culture.
- Share information about Scouting and life in your country with youth in the United States.
- Improve your English language skills.
- Earn money while working in a Scout camp.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

International Camp Staff Program

To be a camp staff member, you must:

- Be approved by your Scout association.
- Be a member of a national Scout association and between the ages of 18 and 30.
- **Be able to speak English well enough to instruct Scouts in skills.**
- Be able to teach Scouting skills to Scouts in a summer camp program.
- Be available for at **least six weeks beginning in June.**
- Agree to live by the culture and laws of the United States.

Scout Camping in the United States

Throughout the year, Boy Scouts camp with their troops in campsites near their homes. They learn the basic Scout skills and how to live in the outdoors.

In the summer, Scouts go to a permanent BSA camp. There are more than 400 Boy Scout camps in the United States. These camps have organized programs for youth in which Scouting skills and ideas are presented.

Some of the camps are small, with fewer than 40 hectares (100 acres) of land, and some are large, with more than 10,000 hectares (24,700 acres). Each camp period usually lasts one week. Each camp will have six to 11 one-week camp periods. The average camp will have 150 to 200 youth from 10 to 15 different troops in camp each week.

Many activities are taught in camp. Some of them are swimming, first aid, canoeing, nature, orienteering, archery, pioneering, camping, hiking, crafts, wood carving, conservation, and other outdoor skills.

The camp staff puts on this program. The camp staff is made up of adult Scouters and older Boy Scouts. The number of staff members ranges from 15 to 20 people in a small camp to as many as 75 in a large camp. Cub Scouts participate in day camp programs filled with exciting activities for younger boys.

You as a Staff Member

For one week before the camp opens, you and the rest of the staff will receive training. You and the other staff members will eat in a dining hall and sleep in a tent or in a small cabin. There is little free time, as the staff works on programs all through the day and evening.

The camp director or camp director's representative will be available to help you with any problem that you may have. This friendly Scouter wants your experiences in the United States to be happy ones.

Most camps are located in the country, far away from large cities. However, you will receive an occasional free day when you can visit nearby towns or the home of a staff member.

You will have a few costs in camp. You should bring extra money to cover the cost of admission to places of interest, tours, entertainment, postage, snacks, laundry, and souvenir items.

The Scout uniform is worn at all times by staff members. You should wear your Scout association uniform at all times while serving as a member of a camp staff. You are encouraged to bring at least two complete uniforms.

Medical/Accident Insurance

Accident and medical insurance will be paid by the International Department of the Boy Scouts of America.

Medical Form

You must submit a complete Personal Health and Medical Record form with your application. The Boy Scouts of America requires you to have had an immunization for tetanus within the last 10 years.

Salary

While serving in the assigned council camp, you will be paid a salary equal to what is paid to American counselors at that camp. A typical salary would be \$150–\$175 per week. However, these amounts vary from camp to camp. You will be advised of the exact amount you will be paid when you are accepted by a BSA local council camp. Also, please be aware that as an employee in the United States, your salary is subject to federal income tax, which, therefore, will be withheld from your salary. Other than your salary, you will receive room and board during your employment at camp.

Visa and Travel

The International Department of the Boy Scouts of America will provide specific documents (DS-2019 visa and I-901 SEVIS forms) to secure your J-1 visa. The International Department will **no longer** be able to provide a visa grant or travel scholarship to assist with your fees. Please prepare financially to pay for your own visa, SEVIS, and airfare costs.

Touring

After completing the program (the period defined on the form DS-2019), the Immigration and Naturalization Service allows you a 30-day travel period commonly referred to as the "grace period." During this 30-day grace period, you are no longer on J-1 visa status and under the jurisdiction of the INS. You may no longer continue exchange activities, nor may you work. Although you may travel in the United States, it is important that you leave the U.S. on or before the last day you are authorized to be in the U.S. Staying beyond the period authorized by the Department of Homeland Security is a violation of U.S. immigration laws and may cause you to be ineligible for a visa in the future for return travel to the United States.

How To Apply

If you meet the requirements and would like to be a BSA camp staff member in the United States, you should apply now.

1. Fill out the attached application and medical form and send it to your national Scout association for approval before January 1.
2. Your national Scout association will approve your application and send it to: International Department, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079, U.S.A. **All applications must be received by the BSA no later than February 15. Applications received after this date will not be considered for placement.**
3. The BSA will notify you of your acceptance.
4. If you have any questions, contact your Scout association.