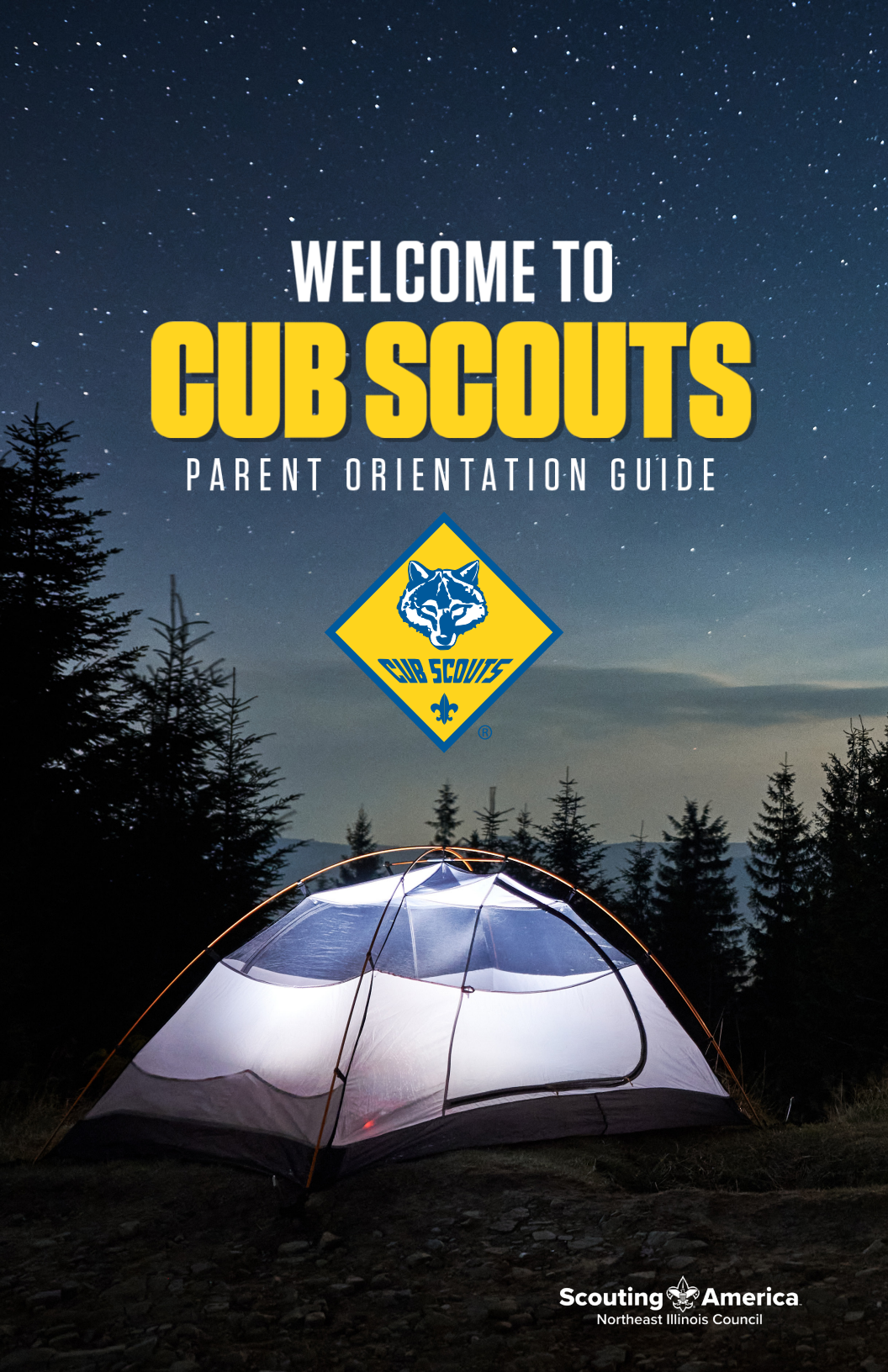
WELCOME TO
CUB SCOUTS
PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE



Scouting America
Northeast Illinois Council

Scouting America
Northeast Illinois Council

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Scouting America
Northeast Illinois Council
847-433-1813
neic.org

Scouting's Impact

Welcome to Scouting!

As a parent, you want your child to grow up to be a self-reliant, dependable and caring individual. But does Scouting really improve a kid's character? According to research conducted at Tufts University, the answer is YES!

The research studied 4,000 kids, some who are in Scouting and some who are not. The findings show that Scouting…

1. Includes sustained, positive adult-youth relations with caring and supportive adults
2. Promotes development of life skills through program activities
3. Provides leadership opportunities

Serving Today's Families through Scouting

Cub Scouting is fun for the whole family. In Scouting, boys and girls start with their best right now selves and grow into their very best future selves. It's fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life.



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Scouting = Results











Scouting is a Path to Success

Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to earn a bachelor's degree

(75.6% of Scouting alumni compared to 36.0% national average)



Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to earn an advanced degree

(29.0% of Scouting alumni compared to 13.4% national average)

Scouts are more likely to have higher credit scores

(55.7% of Scouting alumni compared to 39.7% national average)



Scouts are more likely to earn almost **DOUBLE** as an adult

($62.5k median income compared to $33.7k national median)

Scouts are more likely to advance and improve their socio-economic status



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*SOURCE | STUDY DATA

Mahendra Gupta, Virgil Professor of Accounting and Management and Former Dean Olin School of Business Washington University; Jack Zhang, 4th year Ph.D. student in Organizational Behavior at Washington University 2020



SCOUT´S MOTTO

“BE PREPARED”

THE VALUE OF SCOUTING

Discovery is at the heart of Scouting. Whether it’s a campout, derby car race, or hike on the trail, we believe every adventure helps us uncover a little more about ourselves. We build the foundations for humility and compassion—strengthening character through actions—to prepare youth for a lifetime of leadership.

Safety

In Scouting, we will not compromise the safety of our youth, volunteers, and employees. Safety is a value that must be taught and reinforced at every opportunity. We are all responsible and must hold each other accountable to provide a safe environment for all participants.

Our 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 Law.

Scout Law

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

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.”



Become Your Best Self

Through fun yet challenging physical and mental activities, Scouting encourages personal growth by teaching youth how to set goals and achieve them with determination.



Diversity

Scouting America promotes a culture where youth, volunteers, and employees feel a sense of belonging—where every person feels respected and valued. We welcome families of all backgrounds to help prepare young people to serve as successful members and leaders of our nation’s diverse communities.



Fun for the Whole Family

Scouting is something the whole family can experience together. We designed our program so that anyone—brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers—can have fun and make an impact!

2025-2026

Cub Scout Badges of Rank

Requirements

LION Kindergarten	TIGER 1st Grade	WOLF 2ND Grade
BOBCAT Character/Leadership	**BOBCAT** Character/Leadership	**BOBCAT** Character/Leadership
MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	**TIGERS IN THE WILD** Outdoors	**PAWS ON THE PATH** Outdoors
FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	**TIGER BITES** Personal Fitness	**RUNNING WITH THE PACK** Personal Fitness
KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	**TEAM TIGER** Citizenship	**COUNCIL FIRE** Citizenship
LION ROAR Personal Safety	**TIGER ROAR** Personal Safety	**SAFETY IN NUMBERS** Personal Safety
LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	**TIGER CIRCLES** Family/Reverence	**FOOTSTEPS** Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures

The Advancement Trail

CLICK HERE


BEAR
3RD Grade
WEBELOS
4TH Grade
ARROW OF LIGHT
5TH Grade
BOBCAT
Character/Leadership
BEAR HABITAT
Outdoors
BEAR STRONG
Personal Fitness
PAWS FOR ACTION
Citizenship
STANDING TALL
Personal Safety
FELLOWSHIP
Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures
BOBCAT
Character/Leadership
WEBELOS WALKABOUT
Outdoors
STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER
Personal Fitness
MY COMMUNITY
Citizenship
MY SAFETY
Safety/First Aid
MY FAMILY
Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures
BOBCAT
Character/Leadership
OUTDOOR ADVENTURER
Outdoors
PERSONAL FITNESS
Personal Fitness
CITIZENSHIP
Citizenship
FIRST AID
Safety/First Aid
DUTY TO GOD
Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures
11/9/23

The Cub Scout Pack

YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A PACK WHICH

- Is made up of one or more dens organized by grade
- Meets once a month at the Pack meeting - all Cub Scout families are expected to participate:
  - The Pack meeting is led by the Cubmaster
  - The Pack meeting is the highlight of the month's den meetings and activities
  - Pack meetings follow a suggested theme that have games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that Scouts earned that month



YOUR PACK IS RUN BY THE PACK COMMITTEE

- Made up of den leaders, pack leaders, the pack trainer, and parents
- The committee meets once a month
- Led by the Committee Chair
- The committee selects leadership, finds meeting places, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, orders badges, maintains pack equipment, helps train leaders, recognizes leaders, and plans activities

Special Programs



SUMMER CAMP

Family Adventure Camp: An overnight camping experience for Cub Scouts, parents, and siblings at Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation. Activities include climbing, archery, swimming, crafts, and campfires.

Learn more at makajawan.org

ACTIVITIES

PINEWOOD DERBY

Parent/Scout project to build a racecar made from a block of wood. Scouts will race their cars at the Pinewood Derby.

BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET

Our birthday party for Cub Scouting usually held at the February pack meeting.

FAMILY CAMPOUTS

Campouts held for the whole family with fun activities.

BOO CAMP

Join us for our annual Halloween Event that mixes Halloween fun with Scouting adventure..

POPCORN FUNDRAISER

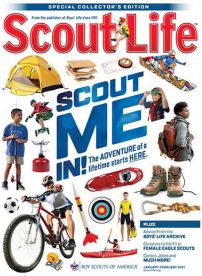
Fundraiser teaches Scouts the valuable life lesson of earning their own way and helps to pay for Scouting expenses.

Learn more at: neic.org/popcorn

New Scout Basic Needs

SCOUT LIFE RECOMMENDED

Scout Life Magazine is especially designed for Scouts!



With features such as camping around the world and hiking, hobbies such as model cars and boat building, bicycling, fishing and nature, and articles on current Scouting, sporting and new events, Scout Life has just about everything to offer your child.

Make sure on your application you mark the Scout Life square and put your correct mailing address. In approximately 2 to 3 months, your Scout will receive their first issue. This is one step you can take to make sure your child will receive a full year of great Scouting and a monthly reminder of the fun of Scouting.

HOW TO GET STARTED... BASIC NEEDS

The first thing your Scout will need to get started is not a uniform, but a book. The books in Cub Scouting are related to their age. Kindergartners will need a Lion Book, a 1st grader will need a Tiger Book, a 2nd grader will need a Wolf Book, a 3rd grader needs a Bear Book, and 4th and 5th graders will need a Webelos/AOL Book. These books contain the basics they will need for the coming year, especially the requirements for that rank.

PAULY SCOUT SHOP

850 Forest Edge Drive, Vernon Hills, IL 60061

10:00am - 6:00pm (T-F) | 9:00am - 1:00pm (SAT) | Closed Sunday and Monday





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How Can I Help?



Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Naturally, parents are the primary source of leaders in the Scouting program. You volunteer not only to serve Scouting, but also to help your child and their friends, to have the chance to be a positive influence on the youth in your community and of course, to have fun!.

WHAT DO I GET IN RETURN?

Being a leader is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Leaders find their experiences help them to become better parents. The following are some of the many dividends that will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talents, and enthusiasm to Scouting.

- Community with other families, sharing your pride in the Scout's accomplishments
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families
- A chance to help Scouts learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men and women who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others
- The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys and girls as they grow strong in mind and body
- A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both youth and adults

Pack Leadership



DEN LEADER(s)
Leads the den at weekly den and monthly pack meetings. Attends the monthly pack meeting.

CUBMASTER
Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees the monthly pack meeting.

THE PACK COMMITTEE
Pack committee members perform administrative functions.

COMMITTEE CHAIR
Presides at all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders. Also attends pack meetings.

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Keeps all records for the pack, including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends pack meeting and pack meetings.

ADVANCEMENT CHAIR
Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends pack meetings and committee meetings.

PACK TRAINER
Ensures that all leaders of the pack are trained. Attends pack meetings and pack committee meetings.

Leader Training

Training is an important part of learning to become an effective leader. The main purpose of training is to provide you with the tools you need to put on a quality program for your Scouts.

SAFEGUARDING YOUTH TRAINING

Scouting America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. This training covers Scouting's Youth Protection policies, kinds of abuse, how to respond to disclosure of abuse, and proper reporting procedures. It does so by taking you through situations that require choices and produce consequences. This training is available online. In order for an adult to remain a registered leader in Scouting America, Safeguardng Youth Training is required every year.

JOB SPECIFIC TRAINING

Job Specific Training is designed to present in-depth information for a new leader in a specific leadership position such as Den Leader, Cubmaster, etc. This course is presented several times a year in your district, at the council level and online.

To complete training courses and Safeguarding Youth Training online go to my.scouting.org and create an account.

Resources



Thank you for joining the Scouting America Northeast Illinois Council family. Please take advantage of the number of resources available to ensure your success as a leader.

- The staff at the Northeast Illinois Council Service Center can help you or they will get you in touch with someone who can.

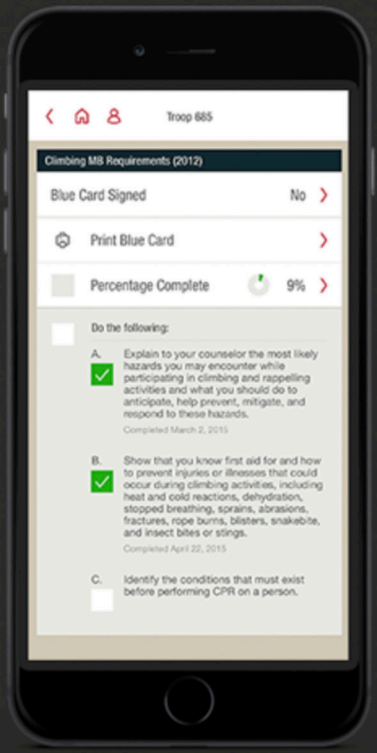
  847-433-1813 | neic.org

- Attend Roundtable - a monthly leaders' meeting for all adult volunteers in your district.
- New Den Leader quick start resources are available at neic.org.
- Your district has a team of volunteers called the District Committee which develops quality district-wide programs in which Scouts can participate.
- Your district has another volunteer team called the Commissioner staff. They are your "service team." They check on the health of your pack and are a communications link between your pack and the Scouting organization. A Commissioner is assigned to assist your unit.

Scouting America
Northeast Illinois Council

Tracking the Scouting Experience from Tiger to Eagle Scout

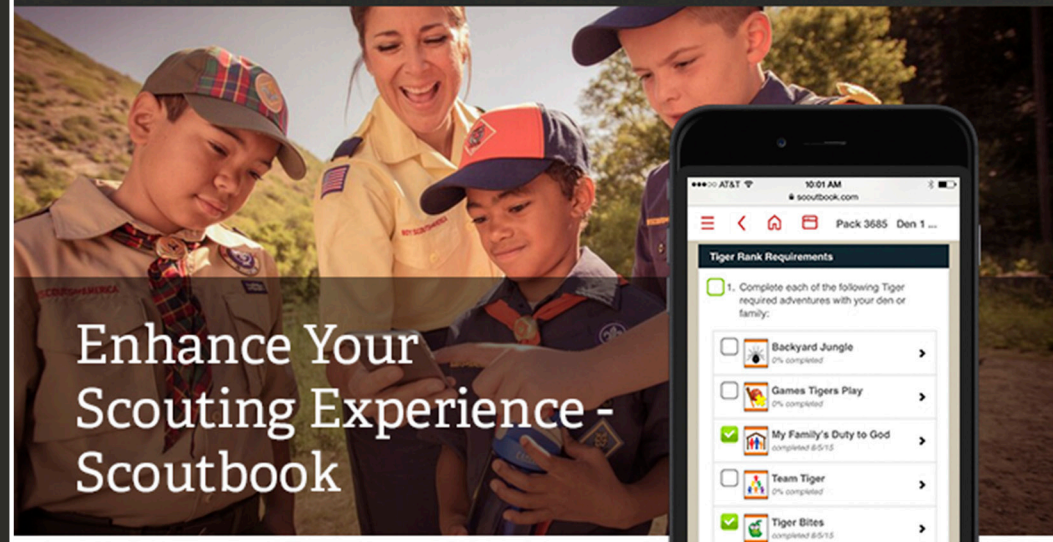
From the first knot tied to final hours of service performed, the Scouting experience is a journey like no other. Scoutbook ensures not a moment is missed - tracking advancement, milestone achievements and all the fun along the way.



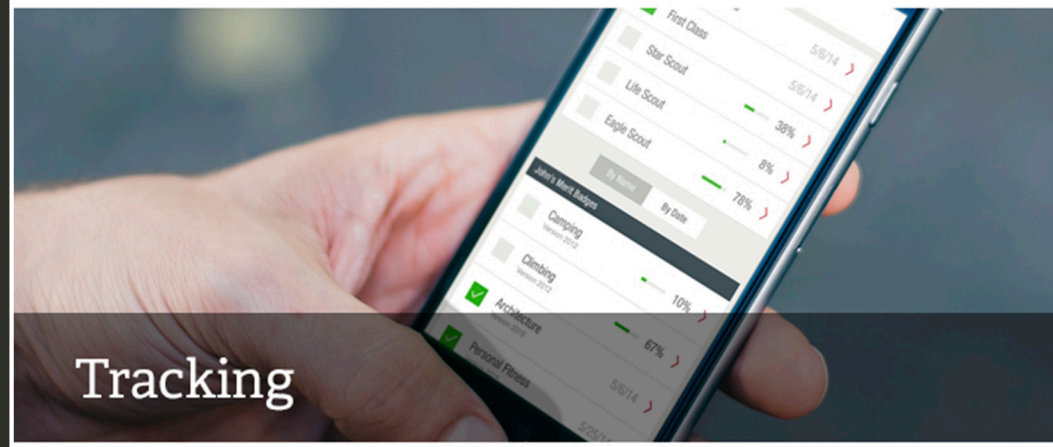
SCOUTBOOK.COM

SCOUTBOOK

The Whole Scouting Experience Rolled Into One Great Web App



With ScoutBook, You can begin tracking your Scouts progress from the first knot learned in Tiger, all the way to finalizing his Eagle Scout project.



Forget the hassle of trying to upkeep old binders full of logged paperwork. Scoutbook does this for you. Simply input the Scouting task completed and all documentation is automatically saved. Scoutbook can even capture images and videos at the time of completion to be added along with the certificate of completion. The memory of achievement will always be with your family thanks to Scoutbook!


Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan
Scout Reservation
Adventure
Never Ends
WWW.MAKAJAWAN.COM