



# Boy Scouts of America Wood Badge Leadership Course

Wood Badge is BSA's ultimate leadership training for adults. Wood Badge provides a six-day immersion in the theory, practice and experience of skills best suited for leading others within Scouting and beyond. Built around five central themes, Wood Badge training is applicable for adult volunteers in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting or Venturing, as well as professionals.

Wood Badge graduates walk away with MBA-level theory and Executive Level practical application of some of America's most fundamental leadership and management principles.

## Wood Badge Course Themes

### 1. Living the Values: Values, Mission and Vision

- Understand the meaning of values, mission and vision
- Review the values, mission and vision of Scouting
- Consider values, mission and vision in the context of leadership
- Learn about the Wood Badge Ticket – your personal commitment to bettering yourself and Scouting based on your personal values and vision

### 2. Bringing the Vision to Life

#### a. Listening to Learn

- Become aware of how we listen
- Explore good listening as a communication skill
- Practice the skills of active and empathetic listening
- Examine the relationship between listening skills and receiving and giving feedback

#### b. Communication

- Relate the experience of 'Communication Traps' to basic principles of communication
- Appreciate how listening can be an important part of communication
- Develop strategies to overcome barriers to communication
- Practice listening skills for effective instruction

#### c. Leveraging Diversity through Inclusiveness

- Understand the basic definition of diversity
- Recognize the importance of inclusiveness to a team
- Learn simple behaviors that can make diversity work for a team

#### d. Coaching and Mentoring

- Discuss the different roles of coaching and mentoring
- Learn how the skills of coaching and mentoring can be used to lead teams and individuals

### 3. Models for Success

#### a. Stages of Team Development

- Develop the ability to recognize the stages of development associated with a team
- Understand the characteristics of the four stages of team development
- Study how the concepts of productivity and morale relate to the four stages of team development

#### b. The Leading EDGE™ and Teaching EDGE™

- Learn and use the four leadership behaviors included in the Leading *EDGE™*
- Understand which behavior is most appropriate for each stage of team development
- Learn and use the four skills instruction behaviors included in the Teaching *EDGE™*
- Understand which behavior is most appropriate for each stage of skills development



#### 4. Tools of the Trade

##### a. Project Planning

- Identify the five stages of team-based project planning
- Prepare an effective project overview
- Understand the importance of selecting an appropriate approach or method
- Avoid the 'activity trap'
- Develop a work breakdown structure
- Implement and track a project plan

##### b. Leading Change

- Understand the value of change and develop skills to lead it successfully
- Learn steps for leading change with groups and individuals
- Appreciate the value of leading change through lifelong learning

##### c. Managing conflict

- Better understand conflict from a leadership point of view
- Acquire new tools for successfully managing conflict situations

##### d. Problem Solving and Decision Making

- Analyze problems and apply a systematic problem-solving process
- Understand the relationship between problem solving and project management
- Put the skills and ideas learned during Wood Badge into action including during the problem solving round robin

##### e. Self-Assessment

- Understand the importance of self-assessment in maximizing leadership potential
- Learn how self-assessment can provide a valuable avenue for receiving feedback
- Build tools for self-assessment of roles in Scouting and other leadership situations

##### f. Generational Development

- Learn and examine generational differences
- Consider how these differences impact each group
- Learn ways to work together across generations for a better future

#### 5) Leading to Make a Difference

##### a. Servant Leadership

- Examine the responsibilities of the leader to the team and the team to its leader
- Learn to enable the success of those being led

##### b. Leaving a Legacy

- Gain an appreciation of leadership, empowerment and lifelong learning
- Inspire participants to use leadership throughout their lives to "leave a legacy"
- Review five traits of good leaders
- Learn clues that lead to the revelation of the Greatest Leadership Secret

A Capstone Summary Session provides a concise review of Key Take Home messages gleaned from each of the modules that are the building blocks of the five central Wood badge themes. While attending Wood Badge, participants

- Become familiar with contemporary team leadership concepts
- Experience the stages of team development firsthand and practice leadership techniques appropriate to those stages in a challenging, yet fun setting
- Typically experience a life-changing event that enriches not only their time in Scouting, but every aspect of their lives

Don't miss your opportunity to attend this unique, once in a lifetime experience!