

Transition Guidelines and Timeline for Boy Scouts of America and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Date: December 27, 2018

On May 8, 2018, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Church) announced that it would discontinue its chartered partnership with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) on December 31, 2019. However, some families have expressed a desire to continue their Scouting experience after that date. The following guidelines will help Scouting volunteers and professionals with BSA and interested members of The Church assimilate into existing or new Scouting units.

Guidelines

- Organizing New Units. The responsibility for inviting youth and adult leaders to continue their Scouting experience is the responsibility of BSA. BSA may approach adults who may be interested in continuing as youth leaders. Church leaders should not refer adults or recruit adults or youth.
- Recruiting Events. Church buildings or grounds may not be used for recruiting events.
- Promotional Materials for New Scouting Units.
 - Promotional materials should not appear to be endorsed by the Church. The century-long partnership can be referenced but should not include “icons” that identify the Church (such as the temple or the Angel Moroni).
 - Quotes by Church leaders (former and current) may not be used in promotional materials without prior approval from the Young Men General Presidency.
 - Beginning in June 2019, only approved flyers may be posted on bulletin boards in Church buildings, subject to approval by local Church leaders.
 - Attached are three approved templates/flyers announcing meeting locations for new Scouting units. No modifications other than inserting dates and locations may be made to these flyers. Other flyers or announcements of new Scouting units are not to be posted on Church bulletin boards.

Timeline

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| Now through May 2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSA councils work to determine the estimated number of units needed within a certain geographical area to meet the needs of potential Church Scouts desiring to continue their Scouting experience. • BSA volunteers and professionals begin having conversations with and securing commitments from potential chartered organizations about starting new Scouting units in 2019 and securing new meeting locations. Because forming a new Scouting unit requires at least five youth, Church youth may be multiple-registered as part of the required five but should only be active in their current Church Scouting unit. • BSA volunteers and professionals begin registering new units, including ensuring adult leader training, preparation for unit fundraising, planning for open youth recruitment after May 31, 2019, budget development, and annual program planning. |
| June through December 2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSA volunteers and professionals begin registration of Church youth who desire to continue their Scouting experience after December 31, 2019. These youth will be multiple-registered in their current Church Scouting unit and in their new Scouting unit until January 1, 2020. • Youth are encouraged to stay actively engaged in their current Church Scouting unit until December 31, 2019. Those who desire, may begin active participation on their own in their new Scouting unit starting January 1, 2020. |