



Wood Badge

Information for Employers

Wood Badge is the premier leadership training program for adults offered by the Boy Scouts of America. You are reading this letter because one of your employees has requested time and/or financial support to attend Wood Badge. We hope this letter will help you better understand the benefits to you and your employee to attend and complete their Wood Badge.

Participants spend six full days and nights learning modern leadership techniques based on the works of contemporary leadership and management scholars while conducted in a Scouting format. Among others, the course incorporates materials from: Warren Bennis, rated as one of the top international leadership professionals; Ken Blanchard, who authored amongst others, the *One Minute Manager*; Steven R. Covey, rated one of *Time Magazine's* 25 most influential Americans; and Spencer Johnson, known for his book on change, *Who Moved My Cheese?*

Wood Badge is a leadership training program that challenges your colleague in an intense training scenario over two long weekends in a retreat like setting incorporating both experiential learning and interactive classroom experiences. Wood Badge is taught using multi-media presentations, hands-on exercises, case studies, role playing, and an unique after-course commitment to practice the leadership skills taught in the course. The participant develops five significant Scouting goals during the course, and then is mentored to successfully complete those goals within eighteen months. Only after their "ticket" is complete do they earn their Wood Badge.

Many companies and organizations spend thousands of dollars on corporate training for an experience of this sort. Our course fee is under \$300 for six days of training including room and board. Our low fee is due to your employee's enthusiasm to "rough it" as a Scouter and our staff's dedication to training fellow Scouters to deliver the best program to the youth they serve. You see, even staff pay a fee to be part of the course because they believe in the results achieved by this program.

This training program is delivered at a staff ratio of roughly 1 to every 3 participants. The Pathway to Adventure Council considers our staff to be an excellent example of the program and the best possible trainers, who have extensive staffing experience in other BSA training programs offered locally. Although some staff are new to Wood Badge, two thirds have staffed



Wood Badge previously. Our trainers will be intimately familiar with this comprehensive BSA national curriculum. We have several staff development days where we are each challenged to reach a new personal best after observing and critiquing the capabilities of the other staff members.

The course content is formulated around five major themes, as follows:

Models for Success

- Stages of Team Development
- The Leading EDGE/The Teaching EDGE

Tools of the Trade

- Project Planning
- Leading Change
- Decision Making and Problem Solving
- Managing Conflict
- Self-Assessment

Living the Values

- Values, Mission, and Vision

Bringing the Vision to Life

- Listening to Learn
- Communication
- Leveraging Diversity through Inclusiveness
- Generations in Scouting
- Coaching and Mentoring

Leading to Make a Difference

- Servant Leadership
- Leaving a legacy

Leaders at many companies (such as IBM, Motorola, and Intel) have recognized the value of this training to their employees. As such, many agree to reimburse the course fees and/or give time

We have heard comments such as; “This is the third most important experience of my life after my wedding and birth of my children.”, or “I wish I knew this before I started my business.” In any case, a successful participant will not only become a better Scouter but a better employee by learning and practicing the skills taught in Wood Badge.

We feel this investment in your employee will be well spent with us.

Bob Johnson

Pathway to Adventure Council, BSA

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<http://pathwaytoadventure.com/training/schedule/woodbadge>

