

Nova Counselors and Supernova Mentors

With the introduction of the new Nova and Supernova awards comes a fresh opportunity for volunteer positions. A Nova counselor can be any registered adult age 21 or older. They must be registered under the new non-unit position and no fee is required. The Nova counselor code is 58. Supernova mentors must be 21 or older and be subject matter experts in a STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) field and be registered under the new Supernova Mentor position code 52.

How to become a Nova Counselor and/or a Supernova Mentor?

- 1) Complete training for the position (Nova and/or Supernova adult training can be found in your my.scouting.org account in the BSA Learn Center, Expanded Learning section, STEM in Scouting section.)
- 2) Complete an application for the position: this is the same document as leader application but with the appropriate leadership position (58 for Nova and 52 for Supernova). This form is available in the last 10 pages of this document
- 3) Provide proof of completed and current YPT training
- 4) Application forms:
 - a. **Nova only**: print and complete the Nova form attached on page 2 of this document
 - b. **Supernova only**: print and complete the Supernova form attached on pages 3-4 of this document



All that info should be scanned and sent to Ruth.LaCoss@scouting.org who will then process it. She will reach out to the chair of the Twin Rivers Council STEM committee (**Vincent Meunier** – TwinRiversStem@gmail.com) or one of his delegates for approval.

Additional notes:

- 1) You do not need to register for both positions
- 2) More information can be found here: <https://www.scouting.org/stem-nova-awards/stem-faq/>
- 3) Note that there is NO FEE for this application.
- 4) Please reach out to TwinRiversStem@gmail.com if you have any query.





BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
Twin Rivers Council



STEM NOVA Counselor Information Form
(Please type or print legibly.)

Name* _____

Primary phone* _____ Other phone _____ Home Cell Work

Address* _____ City/state/zip* _____

Email address* _____

I do not have email. Age _____ District _____

Unit # _____ Troop Pack Team Crew Ship No. _____ BSA ID _____

*Required field. Primary phone and email address indicate how Scouts should contact you.

To qualify as a Nova counselor, you must

- Be at least 21 years old and of good character.
- Be registered with the Boy Scouts of America (position code 58).
- Complete Youth Protection training appropriate for the level you will mentor.
- Be able to work with Scout-age youth.

As a Nova counselor, I agree to

- Follow the requirements of the awards, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
- Have a Scout accompanied by his or her buddy during all instructional sessions.
- Keep my Youth Protection training current. (Yearly)

List appropriate level of counseling by using the proper Code; Cub Scout=CS, Webelos Scout=WS, Boy Scout=BS, Venturer=VS
Choose the Nova Award specialty: Science - Technology - Engineering - Math

Code CS, WS, BS, VS	Nova Awards (List each award you wish to counsel.)	Add (A) Drop (D)	For each award, list qualification(s) that demonstrate your knowledge. Such as, life experiences, work, hobby....
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

A = Adding a subject that you will counsel to the roster.

D = Removing your name from this subject.

Complete the following:

- This is a new application (First time to register as a Nova counselor).
Attach this form to the BSA Adult Application, indicating position code 58 (no charge).
- This is an update to an existing list of Nova subjects.
- I no longer wish to serve as a Nova counselor.
- Yes I am willing to work with all youth in my unit.

Youth Protection training date _____ (Attach copy of the current certificate.)

I agree to work with:

- Pack(s): _____
- Troops(s): _____
- Crew(s): _____
- All Scouts

Council Approval:

Name (print) _____

Position _____

Date _____



Boy Scouts of America
Supernova Awards Mentor Information
(Please type or print legibly.)

Name* _____ Primary phone* _____ Home Cell Work

Address* _____ Other phone _____ Home Cell Work

City/state/zip* _____ Other phone _____ Home Cell Work

Email address* _____ I do not have email. Age _____

Council _____ District _____ Pack Troop Team Crew Ship No. _____ BSA ID _____

I am not affiliated with a district. I am not affiliated with a unit.

***Required field. Primary phone and email address are how Scouts will contact you.**

To qualify as a Supernova awards mentor, you must

- Be at least 21 years old and of good character.
- Be registered with the Boy Scouts of America (position code 52).
- Complete Youth Protection training for the level(s) you will mentor.
- Be recognized as having the skills and education in the award topics covered and hold any required qualifications and training.
- Be able to work with Scout-age youth.

As a Supernova awards mentor, I agree to

- Follow the requirements of the awards, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
- Have a Scout accompanied by his or her buddy during all instructional sessions.
- Keep my Youth Protection training current.
- Renew my registration annually if I plan to continue as a Supernova awards mentor.

Supernova Awards (List each subject you wish to mentor.)	Add (A) Drop (D)	For each award, list qualification(s) that demonstrate your expertise. <i>Qualifications could include college degrees, formal training certificates, positions held, and specific life experiences.</i>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

A = Adding a new award subject that you will counsel to the roster. D = Removing your name from the roster for this award subject.

Complete the following:

- This is a new application (first time to register as a Supernova awards mentor).
Attach this form to the BSA Adult Application, indicating position code 52 (no charge).
- This is an update to an existing list of Supernova awards subjects.
- I no longer wish to serve as a Supernova awards mentor.

Youth Protection training date _____

(Attach copy of the current certificate.)

I agree to work with youth from:

- All Scouts
- Pack(s) _____
- Troop(s) _____
- Team(s) _____
- Crew(s) _____
- Ship(s) _____

Council Approval:

Name (print) _____

Position _____

Date _____

Mentors are encouraged to be available to work with any Scout in any unit.

I plan to serve as a Supernova awards mentor for this event or outside organization: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Instructions for Supernova Mentors

What's It All About?

A Supernova mentor is a key player in the Supernova awards program, serving in a role similar to that of a merit badge counselor. Whatever your area of expertise or interest—whether it is a special hobby (amateur radio, geocaching), a profession (veterinary medicine, aviation, engineering), or perhaps a life skill (cooking, personal management, communication)—as a Supernova mentor, you play a vital role in stirring a young person's curiosity about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). By serving as a mentor, you offer your time, knowledge, and other resources so Scouts broaden their horizons and set and achieve goals. Your mission is to combine fun with learning.

You are both teacher and mentor to the Scout as he or she learns by doing. By presenting opportunities for growth via engaging activities like developing simulations to predict performance, discovering how to design aircraft for maximum flight, or learning what it's like to be an astronaut, you may pique a young person's interest in STEM and inspire a Scout to develop a lifelong hobby, prepare for a particular career, or become a responsible, informed citizen.

Learning to Be a Supernova Mentor

All Scouts deserve trained leaders. It is important that all mentors have a full understanding of their roles, responsibilities, and the recommended practices for quality mentoring. The training module "Supernova Mentor Training" is a great starting point for mentor training. It covers the following topics:

A Scouting overview: mission, aims, and methods
Mentor qualifications: how to become a mentor
The Supernova process and requirements

Effective mentoring
Mentor roles and responsibilities
Supernova program role and benefits

Processing This Application

Supernova mentors *must* register as adult Scouters and be approved by the council advancement committee for each Supernova award listed on this form. Mentors do not have to pay a registration fee, but must fill out a BSA Adult Application for position code 52, and complete BSA Youth Protection training appropriate for the level they will mentor. Mentors may wish to associate with a particular unit but are encouraged to serve any Scout from any unit.

Special Qualifications and Guidelines for Supernova Mentors

The Supernova awards are intended to encourage Scouts to explore STEM topics in depth. Therefore, the Supernova mentor must be qualified by vocation or hobby to support and direct explorations in the STEM topics. This application form allows you as a prospective mentor to substantiate your credentials. Additionally, all explorations and activities must follow recommendations for age-appropriate activities and the BSA's *Guide to Safe Scouting* guidelines in the use of tools, chemicals, and machinery. These policies apply to all BSA activities, including Supernova instruction. For other activities not described in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, mentors should have sufficient depth of knowledge and experience to understand how to safely present the material.

Instructions to Mentors

- The unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Varsity Coach, crew Advisor, or Skipper) recommends and provides the name and contact information of at least one mentor to each Scout desiring to work on a Supernova award. Before beginning to work with a youth, mentors should check the youth's award application form to ensure it is signed by the unit leader.
- Every Scout must have a buddy with him or her at each meeting with a mentor. This buddy could be another Scout, a parent or guardian, a brother or sister, or a relative or friend. There is no one-on-one contact allowed between Scouts and mentors—the buddy requirement is mandatory. Ideally, all interaction with Scouts should be in view of others. Follow Youth Protection guidelines at all times.
- Supernova mentors may not add to or delete any award requirements. Group instruction is allowed where access to special facilities and expert personnel are limited. However, any group experience must provide attention to every individual candidate's projects and progress, and ensure each has actively and personally fulfilled *all* the requirements. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must individually do so. It is unacceptable to present awards on the basis of Scouts sitting in classrooms and watching demonstrations or remaining silent during discussions.
- When a Scout begins working on an award, the current Nova Awards guidebooks list the official requirements in effect at that time. If requirements change after a Scout has started working on an award, he or she may continue using the requirements in effect when the award was started, unless the BSA's National Council places a specific timeline on the implementation of new requirements.

ADULT APPLICATION

This application is also available in Spanish. Esta solicitud también está disponible en español.

Your participation in the BSA can help youth become better citizens.

Adult leaders serve as important role models for youth in the BSA and this application aids the chartered organization in selecting qualified adult volunteer leaders.

Youth Protection Training

All adult applicants are required to take this training in order to complete the adult application process. Go to my.Scouting.org to create an account and take the training online or contact your local council for classroom training. Include a copy of your completion certificate with this application.

Mission

The mission of the BSA 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 Scout Law.

Criminal Background Check*

In order to complete the adult application process, you will need to review the different disclosures that have been separately provided to you. The separate authorization form must be signed and returned when you submit your application.

Excerpt From the Declaration of Religious Principle

The BSA maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life. Only persons willing to subscribe to these precepts from the Declaration of Religious Principle and the Bylaws of the BSA shall be entitled to register.

**The three different background check forms must be torn off and each separately given to the applicant.*

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Leader Requirements

The BSA is open to all who meet the requirements, and leaders are selected based on individual merit. Adult leaders must possess the moral, educational, and emotional qualities that the BSA deems necessary for positive leadership to youth. They must also:

- Abide by the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Scouter Code of Conduct. The Scouter Code of Conduct can be found at www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/bsa-scouter-code-of-conduct/.
- Subscribe to the precepts of the Declaration of Religious Principle.
- Reside within the USA or a U.S. territory, or be a U.S. citizen residing outside the USA.
- Be 21 years of age or older for primary leadership positions.
- Be 18 years of age or older for assistant leadership positions.
- Complete Youth Protection training (YPT) before application is processed and renew training as required by going to my.Scouting.org and creating an account.
- Review the disclosure information related to the BSA's background check process and complete and sign a Background Check Authorization form.
- Take leader position-specific training at my.Scouting.org. Classroom training may also be available through your local council.

APPROVAL REQUIRED—UNIT ADULTS

Chartered organization head or chartered organization representative. The chartered organization representative is approved by the head of the chartered organization. All other adult leader applications must be accepted and approved by the head of the chartered organization or the chartered organization representative.

APPROVAL REQUIRED—COUNCIL and DISTRICT ADULTS

Scout executive or designee must accept and approve all council and district adults.

Scout executive or designee must approve any adults who answer "yes" to any Additional Information question.

The adult leader application process will not be complete until Youth Protection training has been completed and a criminal background check has been obtained.

Health information. You should inform your unit leadership of any condition that might limit your participation. Before participating in activities with your unit, please fill out the Annual Health and Medical Record, No. 680-001, found on www.scouting.org/forms and provide it to your unit leadership.

Scouting magazine. This magazine is sent to all registered, paid adult leaders.

Scout Life. Registered adults get a special rate. For a subscription to a magazine that helps children grow in the Scouting program, just fill in the *Scout Life* circle on the application and pay the subscription price.

The J. Warren Young Literacy Fund. You can give a Scout the opportunity to enjoy a free subscription to *Scout Life* for one to five years. Go to go.boyslife.org/donate to donate. The local council will identify Scouts who do not have the funds to subscribe. Do a Good Turn today. Today's readers are tomorrow's leaders.

The annual national registration fee is nonrefundable.

BSA Privacy Policy

The BSA protects the confidentiality of the names and personal information of those who are affiliated with the organization. No commercial or unauthorized use is made of the names, addresses, and other confidential information. The BSA and its affinity groups may use registration information to notify registrants of benefit opportunities.

For general questions, contact your local BSA council.

What Is the BSA Program?

The BSA program is outlined in the official publications of the BSA. Activities that are not in these BSA publications are not a part of the Scouting program. Leaders must not allow youth members or program participants to engage in any unauthorized or prohibited activities.

Training for New Leaders

The BSA is committed to your success as a volunteer while serving young people. To help you be successful there are training materials designed for you. Training resources are available through your local council and at my.Scouting.org.

What Makes a Trained Leader?

You are considered a trained leader when you have completed leader position-specific training for your position and have current Youth Protection training.

Youth Protection Begins With You™

Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. For that reason, the BSA continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

The BSA is committed to providing a safe environment for young people. All adult leaders must complete Youth Protection training as part of the registration process and renew their training as required. It is highly recommended that parents who participate in Scouting activities complete YPT. To learn more about the BSA's Youth Protection resources, go to www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/.

Mandatory Reporting

All persons involved in Scouting must immediately report to local authorities any good-faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused; physically or emotionally neglected; exposed to any form of violence or threat; or exposed to any form of sexual exploitation including the possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography, online solicitation, enticement, or showing of obscene material. No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.

Additionally, any known or suspected abuse or behavior that might put a youth at risk must also be reported to the local Scout executive or the Scouts First Helpline (1-844-SCOUTS1 or 1-844-726-8871) if your Scout executive or local council cannot be reached.

Youth Protection Policies

- Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader over 21 in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader over 21 must be present for any activity involving female youth.
- One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.

These and other key Youth Protection policies are addressed in the training and at www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/.

To learn about the BSA's other health and safety policies, please review the online version of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, the Scouter Code of Conduct, and the Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety, which are available at www.scouting.org/health-and-safety.

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.

Scout Law

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

Please print one letter in each space.

BSA ADULT APPLICATION

First name (Full legal name)

Middle name

Last name

Suffix

Preferred nickname:

Country

Home address

U S A City State Zip code

Primary phone

 - -

Alternate phone

 - - X Ext. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) / /

Ethnic background:

Black/African American Native American Alaska Native

Caucasian/White Hispanic/Latino Asian

Other Pacific Islander Other

Driver's license No.

State

Gender

M F

Social Security No. (required)

 - -

Occupation

Employer

Country

Business address

U S A City State Zip code

Position code

Scouting position title

Are you an Eagle Scout?

Yes No

Date earned (mm/dd/yyyy)

 / /

Email address

(Select one) Work

Home

Scout Life
subscription

I hereby certify that:

1. I have read and affirm that I accept the Declaration of Religious Principle. I agree to comply with the rules and regulations of the BSA and the local council, including the Scouter Code of Conduct.

INITIALS
REQUIRED

Signature of applicant

Date

2. I affirm that the information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

INITIALS
REQUIRED

YPT completion certificate attached Background Check Authorization form attached

To be completed by unit

Careful review of the information provided on this application is a significant step in Scouting's efforts to protect its youth members and deliver a quality program.

APPROVALS FOR UNIT ADULTS: I have reviewed this application and the responses to any questions answered "Yes," and have made any follow-up inquiries necessary to be satisfied that the applicant possesses the moral, educational, and emotional qualities to be an adult leader in the BSA.

APPROVAL FOR COUNCIL AND DISTRICT ADULTS: I have reviewed this application and have made any follow-up inquiries necessary to be satisfied that the applicant possesses the moral, educational, and emotional qualities to be an adult leader in the BSA.

Signature of chartered organization head or representative

Date

Signature of Scout executive or designee

Date

Unit type: Pack Troop New leader Position change
 Crew Ship Former leader Participant

If applicant has an unexpired membership certificate, registration may be accomplished at no charge by transferring the registration or multiple registering.
 Transfer application
 Multiple application

Enter membership number
from unexpired certificate:

Unit No. OR District name

Council No.:

Unit type: Pack Troop
 Crew Ship

Unit No. or
District name:

Registration fee \$

Scout Life fee \$

PAID: Cash Check No.

Credit card

All questions MUST be answered. Write NONE if applicable.

1. Scouting background. Position Council Year

2. Experience working with youth in other organizations. Please provide contact information.

3. Previous residences (for last 10 years). City State

4. Current memberships (religious, community, business, labor, or professional organizations).

5. References. Please list those who are familiar with your character. References may be checked.
Name
Telephone (_____)
Name
Telephone (_____)
Name
Telephone (_____)

6. Additional information. Yes No
(Mark each answer.)

a. Have you ever been removed from or asked to leave a leadership position in an organization due to allegations regarding your personal conduct or behavior? Explain:

b. Do you use illegal drugs or abuse alcohol? Explain:

c. Have you ever been arrested for a criminal offense (other than minor traffic violations)? Explain:

d. Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked? Explain:

e. Have you ever been investigated for, accused of, or charged with abuse or neglect of a minor child? Explain:

f. Are you aware of any reason not listed above that may call into question your suitability to supervise, guide, care for, and lead young people?

Tear off the following pages and provide to applicant separately.

BACKGROUND CHECK DISCLOSURE

A consumer report is a background check in which information (which may include, but is not limited to, criminal background, driving background, character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and mode of living) about you is gathered and communicated by a consumer reporting agency (“CRA”) to Boy Scouts of America and/or its subsidiaries, affiliates, other related entities, successors, and/or assigns (the “Company”).

Company may obtain a consumer report on you to be used for employment purposes as defined by applicable law (in your case this means for the purpose of evaluating you as a new or existing volunteer).

ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES

Minnesota individuals only: You have the right to request a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of any consumer report from First Advantage, P.O. Box 105292, Atlanta, GA 30348, 800-845-6004.

New York individuals only: Boy Scouts of America and/or its subsidiaries, affiliates, other related entities, successors, and/or assigns (the “Company”) may request or utilize subsequent consumer reports (other than investigative consumer reports) on you throughout your volunteer relationship with the Company. Upon request, you will be informed whether or not a consumer report was requested, and if such report was requested, informed of the name and address of the CRA that furnished the report. Your written request should be made to the Company at Boy Scouts of America, Membership Standards Team S201, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079. You may also contact the Company by email at MembershipStandards@scouting.org.

California individuals only: Under California law, an “investigative consumer report” is a consumer report in which information on a consumer’s character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living is obtained through any lawful means. In connection with your application to be a volunteer and/or continued engagement as a volunteer (i.e., for employment purposes under California law) with Boy Scouts of America and/or its subsidiaries, affiliates, other related entities, successors, and/or assigns (the “Company”), Company may obtain an investigative consumer report (as defined under California law). With respect to any investigative consumer report from an investigative consumer reporting agency (“ICRA”), Company may investigate the information contained in your volunteer application and other background information about you, including but not limited to obtaining a criminal record report, obtaining information about your character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living, verifying references, work history, your social security number, licensure, certifications, driving records, and other information about you, including interviewing people who are knowledgeable about you. The results of this report may be used as a factor in making volunteer placement/staffing decisions. The source of any investigative consumer report (as this term is defined under California law and as explained more fully above) will be First Advantage, P.O. Box 105292, Atlanta, GA 30348, 800-845-6004. Information regarding First Advantage’s privacy practices can be found at www.fadv.com.

Under California Civil Code section 1786.22, you are entitled to a visual inspection of files maintained on you by an ICRA, as follows:

- (1) In person, if you appear in person and furnish proper identification, during normal business hours and on reasonable notice. A copy of your file shall also be available to you for a fee not to exceed the actual costs of duplication services provided;
- (2) By certified mail, if you make a written request, with proper identification, for copies to be sent to a specified addressee. An ICRA complying with requests for certified mailings under the California Code shall not be liable for disclosures to third parties caused by mishandling of mail after such mailings leave the ICRA;
- (3) A summary of all information contained in your files and required to be provided by the California Code shall be provided to you by telephone, if you have made a written request, with proper identification for telephone disclosure, and the toll charges, if any, for the telephone call are prepaid by you or charged directly to you.

“Proper Identification” means information generally deemed sufficient to identify you, which includes documents such as a valid driver’s license, social security account number, military identification card, and credit cards. Only if you cannot identify yourself with such information may the ICRA require additional information concerning your employment and personal or family history in order to verify your identity.

The ICRA will provide trained personnel to explain any information furnished to you and will provide a written explanation of any coded information contained in files maintained on you. This written explanation will be provided whenever a file is provided to you for visual inspection.

You may be accompanied by one other person of your choosing, who must furnish reasonable identification. An ICRA may require you to furnish a written statement granting permission to the ICRA to discuss your file in such person’s presence.

BACKGROUND CHECK AUTHORIZATION

(Please print)

Name: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

List any other names used (nickname, maiden/married last names): _____

Date of birth: _____

To the extent permitted by applicable law, I hereby consent to and authorize Boy Scouts of America and/or its subsidiaries, affiliates, other related entities, successors, and/or assigns (the "Company"), to procure consumer report(s), which may include criminal background check(s) and/or investigative consumer report(s) (as defined by applicable California law), on my background from a consumer reporting agency ("CRA") or from an investigative consumer reporting agency ("ICRA"), as described in the **Background Check Disclosure** and the **Additional Disclosures** (all of which I have received separately from the Company). I have reviewed and understand the information, statements, and notices in the **Background Check Disclosure** and the **Additional Disclosures**, as well as this **Background Check Authorization**. My authorization remains valid throughout my volunteer relationship with the Company, such that, to the extent permitted by applicable law, I agree Company can procure additional consumer report(s), which may include criminal background check(s), during my volunteer relationship without providing additional disclosures or obtaining additional authorizations. Except as otherwise prohibited by applicable law, I consent to and authorize the Company to share this information with Company's current or prospective clients, customers, others with a need to know, and/or their agents for business reasons (e.g., to place me in certain positions, work sites, etc.).

I understand that, if I am selected for a volunteer position, a consumer report will have been conducted on me.

- For California, Minnesota, or Oklahoma individuals only:** If you would like to receive from the CRA, the ICRA, or the Company (as applicable) a copy of the report that Company may procure, please check this box.

Signature _____ Date _____

