WOOD BADGE

Information for Employers Regarding the Boy Scouts of America Wood Badge Course

Wood Badge is the ultimate leadership development program for adult leaders of the Boy Scouts of America. It has been widely recognized as Scouting's most advanced training program.

Through the years, the content of Wood Badge has gradually changed and evolved—from the campcraft and Scoutcraft skills of its early years, to the more effective communication, relationship, and planning competencies today. Wood Badge now draws upon the most current leadership models used by businesses, corporate America, university programs, the military, and other leadership entities and organizations to present the latest in leadership theory, competencies, and behaviors.

Wood Badge has five central themes that are implemented using 14 competencies. These are:

Living the Values—personifying the values, setting the example.

- Drive Vision, Mission, and Values
- Know the Territory
- Inspire the Heart

Growing—knowing and growing yourself first—a commitment to continuous improvement and lifelong learning.

- Know Thyself
- Learn to Listen, Listen to Learn
- Apply Interpersonal Savvy

Connecting—with other people.

- Communicate Effectively
- Learn to Listen, Listen to Learn
- Include and Optimize Diverse Talent
- Apply Interpersonal Savvy
- Manage Conversations

Guiding—focusing on enabling and developing others.

- Include and Optimize Diverse Talent
- Plan With a Bias for Action
- Develop Individuals and Teams
- Manage Conversations
- Coach and Mentor
- Embrace and Lead Change
- Create a Culture: "Train Them, Trust Them, Let Them Lead!"

Empowering—ultimately helping other people to become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, and more likely, themselves, "to serve and to lead."

- Plan With a Bias for Action
- Coach and Mentor
- Embrace and Lead Change

These workshops are taught through some lecture, group discussion, and hands-on-exercises. At the conclusion of the course, attendees will have created five goals that apply the leadership training they received. A counselor is assigned to work with each attendee for 18 months to ensure application of the training received and completion of the goals.

Similar leadership training is available through sources such as The Ken Blanchard Companies. Although these corporate trainings can run from $950-$1,300 per eight-hour day, this five-day Wood Badge course is being offered at $425 ($375 for those who register early).

Leaders at many companies (such as IBM, Motorola, and Intel) have recognized the value this training is to their employees. As such, many agree to pay the course fees and/or give time off as part of their employee's professional development and training plan. Individual company policies vary, however.

If you would like additional information, please contact the Boy Scouts of America, Narragansett Council at (401) 351-8700.

Wood Badge Training Resources

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