

NYLT

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What if I don't have the required Official uniform parts?

A: As a leader in your home unit you should have a full Field (Class A) uniform, but if you don't we ask that you be as uniformed as possible. You don't have to rush out and buy the missing parts for the course but you'll likely need a full uniform eventually.

Q: One of my friends is also attending NYLT. Instead of each of us bringing a tent, can we share?

A: No. The course is broken into patrols and it is unlikely that you will be in the same patrol with your friend, so each of you will need a tent.

Q: Since NYLT is basically running in the summer and early fall, do we really need warm clothes?

A: Yes, you do. You should pack for warm days and cold nights. In addition, it usually rains heavy at least one day during the course so you could get cold and wet. Pack accordingly.

Q: So what is the policy on electronics?

A: Our preference is that you don't bring them. Your focus should be on the training and you should be able to get along for six days without texting friends, playing games, or listening to music. However, we do live in an electronics-driven society so here is our policy. No electronic game devices, period. MP3 players can be used only in your tent, with earphones, when you retire for the evening (not during lunch or any other activities. If otherwise used they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the course. Cell phones, if brought, will be collected at check-in. They will be turned off and returned at the end of the course, or made available for calling home. Electronic devices lost or stolen are the participant's responsibility.

Q: I'm kind of a picky eater and have some food allergies; can I still attend?

A: Yes. We can accommodate most food concerns but we do have to know about them! Our meals are fairly basic and we ask that you try them (unless they violate a religious belief or an allergy). We do have substitute foods so no one should go hungry during the course.

Q: What if I "don't fit in"?

A: Well, as a Scout or Venturer you're already "in". We believe the same things. We do not allow hazing by staff members or between participants. The activities are designed for fun and learning, not to embarrass, and the hike to the outpost site is not a grueling test of strength. The key to "fitting in" is actually up to you.

Q: Do we need a bathing suit?

A: That's up to you. There will be no swimming available during the courses. Some youth prefer to shower in a swim suit so if that's what you do, feel free to bring along a swim suit. Speaking of showers, we do have them on weeklong courses - there is hot water, and we do expect participants to use them. Time is provided each day for participants to shower.

Q: What if I can't be there for the whole course or have to leave for a while during the course?

A: The short answer is select another course that you can attend fully. You must complete each training session to receive credit for the course. We may be able to accommodate a slightly late arrival or a short leave of absence (a couple of hours) depending on when it occurs. If these are possibilities they should be discussed with the Course Director in advance to see if we can accommodate.

Q: I understand that NYLT is youth run. Are there adults on staff?

A: Absolutely! NYLT is youth run, but is done so in keeping with National BSA policies. Adults are on-site at all times providing oversight. Adults manage food procurement, materials logistics, and Health Officer duties – basically the behind-the-scenes activities part of a successful course (just like in your home Troop or Crew). In addition they work with the youth staff to address any problems that may arise.

Q: What happens if there's bad weather?

A: The NYLT course has access to indoor facilities that are used in the event of thunderstorms or high winds. The course continues in these locations.

Q: I feel fine now but what if I get sick or break an arm or something right before the course?

A: We actually have this come up pretty much on each course. With your doctor's permission you are welcome to attend the course even with a broken bone. You may be limited in some of the activities but not in any of the actual training. Other than the outpost (which we could transport you to) all of the training is done at our training site. If you have a fever, upset stomach, or an illness that could be passed on to others we do ask that you stay home. We will work out getting you into a future NYLT course.

Q: What about the "report card"?

A: NYLT provides training in key leadership concepts. Some are easy to grasp, some may take time. The Final Course Assessment (we prefer not using the term "report card") is intended to provide the participant, parents, and unit leaders with information on the staffs' observation of how well each participant seemed to grasp the material. With this knowledge everyone can work on those areas of leadership that could use some help. A copy of the rubric used to evaluate participants is on the next page.

Q: How do you get on an NYLT staff?

A: That's actually in your hands. You will receive information after completing this course about **NYLT Advanced**. NYLT Advanced takes the leadership skills you've learned and sharpens them. Part of NYLT Advanced is to actually staff an NYLT course so you can put your leadership skills into practice.

NYLT Participant Evaluation Rubric

Category	5	4	3	2	1
BE: Setting the Example	Invariably acts according to the Scout Oath and Law, even if unpopular. Openly encourages others to act according to the Scout Oath and Law, and helps them to better live up to these values.	Invariably acts according to the Scout Oath and Law. Talks explicitly about these values with others.	Acts according to the Scout Oath and Law most of the time.	Able to recognize behaviors that are in accord with the Scout Oath and Law, but does not always act according to these values.	Often does not act according to the Scout Oath and Law.
BE: Motivation	Devoted to completing tasks and encourages others to do the same. Promotes general warmth and happiness. Driven to help his/her patrol and troop succeed.	Strives to improve self. Strong will to accomplish tasks. Encourages others to succeed.	Appears motivated and committed to learning most of the time. Tries to apply skills and principles to course tasks and activities.	Appears motivated when pushed or encouraged. Shows limited desire to complete tasks.	Little to no interest in course. Frequently causes distractions that detract from others' learning
BE: Confidence	Imparts confidence into others. Maintains a humble and realistic attitude.	Does tasks on his/her own with little direct assistance from staff. Provides assistance to others. Comfortable in front of others	Fulfills expectations but is tentative to exceed them. Does expected amount of work for role. Apprehensive in presenting and to voice opinions while evaluating.	Believes in oneself where comfortable yet falls back in areas where uncomfortable. Skills seem held back by their uncertainty.	Lacks confidence. Holds back patrol's performance.
KNOW: Knowledge	Able to plan activities with, and think creatively about NYLT skills and principles of leadership.	Able to critique and evaluate others' use of NYLT skills and principles of leadership.	Able to apply NYLT skills and principles of leadership during challenge games and other patrol/troop activities.	Able to summarize or explain NYLT skills and principles of leadership to others.	Able to recall specific NYLT skills, principles, and leadership when asked.
DO: Participation in NYLT Activities	Initiates discussions and suggests activities that contribute to learning at NYLT.	Actively participates and often makes comments or behaves in a way that improves planned activities and discussions.	Actively participates in most planned activities and discussions.	Doesn't participate actively, but appears interested in planned activities or discussions.	Rarely participates in planned activities or discussions.
DO: Use of Skills	Always uses NYLT leadership skills during tasks and activities. Encourages and teaches others to use skills.	Always uses NYLT leadership skills during tasks and activities.	Usually uses NYLT leadership skills during tasks and activities.	Able to use NYLT leadership skills during tasks and activities if prompted by others.	Unable or unwilling to use NYLT leadership skills during tasks and activities.
DO: Cooperation and Teamwork	Values teamwork and cooperation; willing to defend these values even if unpopular at the time; statements and actions provide a model to others.	Places high priority on teamwork and cooperation; statements and actions often result in changes in group that improve cooperation and teamwork.	Appears to value teamwork and cooperation; statements and actions demonstrate he is attempting to contribute to group cooperation and teamwork.	Participates in group activities; participates in discussions about cooperation and teamwork.	Rarely engages and cooperates with group, or does so reluctantly.
DO: Leading Yourself	Lives by the Scout Oath and Law / Venturing Oath. Devoted to their personal vision. Consistent and accurate self-evaluations.	Vision is clear with minor faults in plans. Lives by Scout Oath and Law and Venturing Oath. Comfortable with self-evaluation.	Vision apparent and SMART goals are needed to progress further. Shows capacity to self evaluate but not always accurately.	Unclear vision or does not strive to complete it. Vision may still be forming. Has difficulty with self-evaluation.	No vision is apparent. Needs close guidance for personal growth. Shows limited desire for or understanding of self-evaluation.
DO: Leadership Ability	Strong example to others; high level of initiative. Practices servant leadership. Natural role model.	Good example to others. Eager to perform; good level of initiative. Practices servant leadership principles.	Meets expectations and follows directions well. Some examples of taking initiative. Takes leadership when others fail to. Allows others to take leadership roles.	Only leads when directed/guided by staff; prefers others to take leadership roles.	Low level leader; has difficulty achieving goals; lacks concepts of servant leadership.
DO: Relationship with Others	Maintains the respect and trust of patrol members. Treats youth and adult leaders with respect and is openly engaging with them. Superior communication skills.	Is well-liked by his/her patrol members and the youth staff. Has the respect of most of his/her patrol and the staff. Communicates well with all peers.	Is well-liked by his/her patrol members, and interacts with them appropriately. Communicates and interacts appropriately and well with staff.	Befriends some, shows dislike to others. Has trouble communicating with some team members and peers. May portray a negative interaction with staff.	Lacks trust and respect for others. Does not express their opinion and ideas. Seeks out excessive time to be by themselves.