

# The BSA Expands Programs to Welcome Girls from Cub Scouts to Highest Rank of Eagle Scout

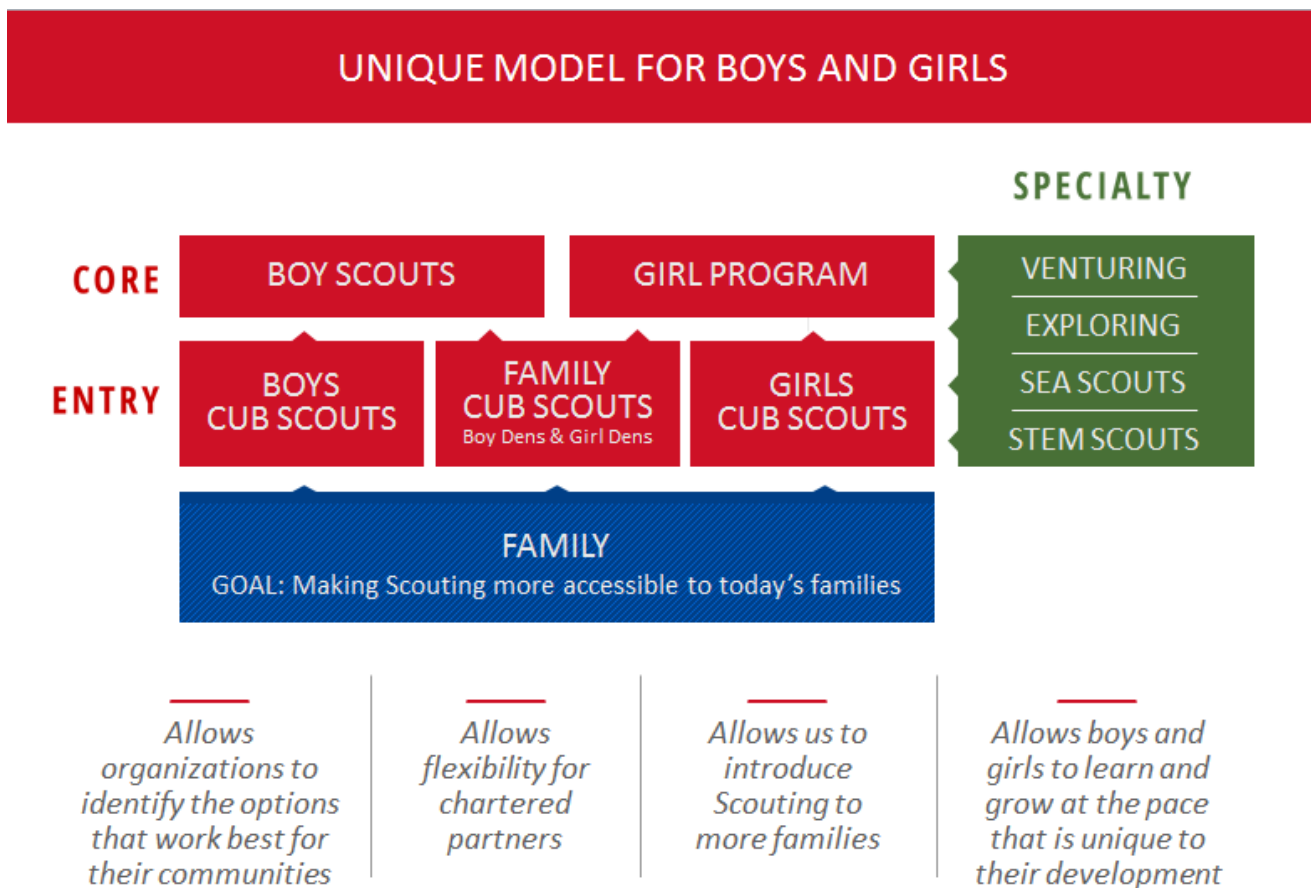
Starting in 2018, families can choose Cub Scouts for their sons and daughters, who can take advantage of the life-changing experiences provided through Scouting. A program for older girls will be delivered in the coming year to offer a Scouting program to older girls, allowing for participating girls to earn the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

The Boy Scouts of America is committed to serving youth, families and communities through programs that deliver character development and values-based leadership training for young people— all while remaining true to our mission and core values, outlined in the Scout Oath and Law.

## A Unique Model to Provide Program Options for Boys and Girls

Cub Scouting is organized in packs and dens. In 2018, an existing pack may choose to establish a new girl pack, establish a pack that consists of girl dens and boy dens or remain an all-boy pack. Cub Scout dens will be single-gender — all boys or all girls. Cub Scout packs, meanwhile, can include any combination of all-boy or all-girl dens. The choice is left to individual pack leaders in consultation with their chartered organization.

This hybrid model builds on the benefit of a single-gender program while also providing character and leadership opportunities for both boys and girls.



Using the same curriculum as the Boy Scouts program, the organization will also deliver a program for older girls, which will be announced in 2018 and projected to be available in 2019, that will enable them to earn the Eagle Scout rank.

## Scouting Programs

### [Cub Scouts](#)

Cub Scouts is a year-round program whose mission is to develop character and ethical decision making skills for children in the first through fifth grades (7 to 10 years old). Cub Scouting is organized into groups called packs and dens, each of which is led by dedicated volunteer leaders who teach Cub Scouts fun, valuable lessons, help learn citizenship, and develop physical fitness.

### [Boy Scouts](#)

Boy Scouts is a year-round program for youth age 11–17 designed to build character, citizenship, and personal fitness through a vigorous outdoor program and peer group leadership with the counsel of an adult Scoutmaster. Scouting is the ultimate form of learning by doing. Boy Scouts explore their interests and improve skills while working toward Scouting's highest rank: Eagle.

## Specialty BSA Programs

### [Venturing](#)

Venturing is a co-ed youth-development program of the Boy Scouts of America that provides positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Local community organizations establish a Venturing crew by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, develop leadership skills, and become good citizens. Venturing crews can specialize in a variety of avocation or hobby interests.

### [Exploring](#)

Exploring exists to teach important life and career skills to young people from all backgrounds through immersive career experiences and mentorship provided by community and business leaders like you. Together, we equip young people with character, leadership and life skills that can be used both today and in their future careers. Businesses and community organizations initiate a career-specific Explorer post or club by matching their people and organizational resources to the career interests of youth in the community. The result is a program of interactive activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

### [STEM Scouts](#)

STEM Scouts is a co-ed program available in 20 markets nationwide, quickly expanding as the demand for and interest in STEM-related activities among youth increase. STEM Scouts harnesses young people's passion for technology and learning to teach them new skills in a fun, interactive environment. STEM Scouts work with STEM professionals and conduct experiments that could lead to new inventions, technologies, machines, and develop ideas that change lives. The learning modules are designed and vetted by STEM educators and professionals to be fun and age-appropriate. Hands-on activities help students learn the academic concepts behind the experiments.

### [Sea Scouts](#)

Sea Scouting has promoted better citizenship and improved members' boating skills through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage. Sea Scout units— called ships- are established all across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long-lasting friendships.