



**24<sup>th</sup>**  
**WORLD SCOUT**  
**JAMBOREE**  
**SCOUT MONDIAL**  
**UNLOCK a NEW WORLD**  
**— USA —**

***Frequently Asked Questions  
for the USA Contingent  
to the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree***

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## General Event Details

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- What are the dates and location of the 24th World Scout Jamboree?
  - The jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia July 22 to August 2, 2019.
  - Please note the USA Contingent will arrive on site a day prior, on July 21.
- What is a World Scout Jamboree?
  - It's a place for friendship, fellowship, and particularly at the Bechtel Summit, adventure! It's a once in a lifetime opportunity for a BSA scout to get engaged with the global scouting community; this is truly something you won't want to miss.
  - A World Scout Jamboree is the World Organization of the Scouting Movement's largest event, with regular attendance of over 35,000 scouts and scouters from all around the world. And now that the World Jamboree is coming to the Bechtel Summit, it will be the largest ever, with nearly 50,000 scouts and scouters from over 169 countries in the world.
- What makes a World Jamboree different from a National Jamboree?
  - The people. Scouts from 169 countries in the world are invited to participate and the International staff that runs the Jamboree are also from these countries all around the world.
  - The experiences. Scouts and scouters across the US will get to deep dive into the heart of international scouting, meeting friends for a lifetime.
  - The memories. When do you get to meet someone from halfway around the world that shares the same values as you? If you hold up the scout sign, they will instantly know what you mean, no matter what language they speak. Scouting is a universal language.
- How large is the contingent?
  - This is the largest contingent the Boy Scouts of America has ever sent to a World Scout Jamboree - up to 10,000! This includes:
    - Up to 7,200 youth participants and unit leaders
    - Up to 2,700 International Service Team (IST) members
    - 100 Contingent Management Team members
  - To find out more about the USA Contingent to the WSJ, visit our website: <https://www.wsj2019.us>.
- What makes this World Jamboree so special?
  - Two main things:
    - This is the first world jamboree held in the United States since 1967; that's over 50 years ago!
    - Hosting this jamboree is a collaborative effort by all of the Scouts from North America: Scouts Canada, Mexico Scout Association, and the BSA.
  - To learn more about the World Jamboree, visit their website: <https://www.2019wsj.org>
- Can I attend the World Scout Jamboree without being a full member of the USA's contingent?
  - Only members of the Boy Scouts of America may attend the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree as members of the USA Contingent.
  - The WSJ has developed a day visit program to allow individuals and families to get a taste of the action. Visit the WSJ Host committee's website for details: <http://www.2019wsj.org/attend/day-visitors/>.
  - To experience everything a World Jamboree has to offer, we recommend you attend as a member of the USA contingent. Visit our website: <https://www.wsj2019.us>.

## Promoting the USA Contingent

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- Are there any resources I can use to promote the World Jamboree?
  - The USA Contingent has developed a comprehensive set of tools for you to use to share this great opportunity far and wide. Below is a list of just some of them:
    - PowerPoint presentation with speaking notes, for instant presentation use
    - Kiosk presentation for passive use in booths and displays (self-advancing)
    - Images to be used for website and banners
    - Flyers, both for commercial and at-home printing
    - Email templates to be sent to units, districts, councils, etc.
    - Letters from BSA's top youth leaders
  - Visit the contingent's website for the latest material (with more always being added): <https://www.wsj2019.us/resources/#promotion-resources>.
  - Encourage people to sign up for all of our social media channels to be the first to know about all-things USA contingent
    - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WSJ2019USA/>
    - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wsj2019usa/>
    - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WSJ2019USA>
- What is my incentive for promoting the World Scout Jamboree?
  - This WSJ is the best opportunity for members of the Boy Scouts of America to experience the world, without the added cost of travelling abroad. BSA members will interact with people just like themselves from every corner of the world. Simply put, this will likely be the peak of many scout's career as a youth (not to mention many adults' best Scouting experience!).
  - Having the opportunity to change a youth's life is invaluable, and we hope you'll help spread the word.
- Will there be official USA Contingent SWAG?
  - **YOU BET!** It wouldn't be a great Scouting event without patches, neckerchiefs, and all of the other fun stuff, right?
  - The final list of official USA Contingent merchandise is not available, but expect to see it soon.

## Applying to Attend the WSJ

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- How can I attend the WSJ?
  - There are three key ways for you to attend the World Scout Jamboree:
    - Co-ed Participants: between the ages of 14 to 17 (not yet 18) by the time of the Jamboree
      - Specifically, youth participants must be born between July 22, 2001 and July 21, 2005.
    - Staff (International Service Team, IST): at least 18 years of age by the time of the Jamboree
    - Unit leaders: at least 21 years of age by the time of the Jamboree, except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Unit Leader. Similar to BSA's National Jamborees, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Unit Leader will be a "young adult," between the ages of 18 and 21.
  - These age restrictions are applied by the World Jamboree Host committee; the USA Contingent cannot make exceptions for any reason.
- How do I apply?
  - Applications can be submitted on the contingent's website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/apply>.
- How much will it cost to attend the WSJ?
  - Every measure is being taken to keep the WSJ as affordable as possible.
  - Below is the pricing structure for **participants and leaders**.

Region	Fee
Northeast	\$2,500
Central	\$2,500
Southern	\$2,500
Western	\$2,800

- Below is the pricing structure for **International Service Team (IST)** members.

Region	Fee
All	\$1,800

- When do we have to pay?
  - The payment schedule is posted at <https://www.wsj2019.us/apply>.
- Are there any discounts?
  - Applicants who submitted their \$250 deposit (required to submit the application) between November 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018 and make all additional payments on time will have a \$100 discount applied to their last payment.
- Are scholarships available?
  - The USA Contingent's scholarship program represents the largest scholarship program in BSA's history!
  - A needs-based scholarship has been developed to potentially cover **up to half of a youth's posted attendance fee for the WSJ**.
  - Any accepted member of the USA Contingent under the age of 27 is eligible to apply, including youth participants, IST members, and CMT members.
  - More details on the program and application can be found on the contingent's website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/scholarships/>.

- What is the refund policy?
  - The contingent's full refund policy can be found on our website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/apply/> (at the bottom).
- What positions are available for IST?
  - A list of the positions available to apply for as an IST member are available on the contingent website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/resources/#application-resources>
  - A key group is the **Puma Patrol** – a group of 300 youth adults comprised of members from Scouts Canada, Mexico Scout Association, and the Boy Scouts of America. This team will serve as the official ambassadors of the Jamboree, providing hospitality, fun, and excitement during the Jamboree.
- How old do participants have to be to attend?
  - Youth participants must be 14 and not yet 18, meaning born between July 22, 2001 and July 21, 2005. IST members and unit leaders\* can be 18 or 108. (\*3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Unit Leader is a “young adult,” between the ages of 18 and 21. All other unit leaders must be 21+ years old.)
  - These requirements are established by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM); the USA Contingent has no say in this decision, and therefore they are inflexible.
- I will be one day too young/old to participate. Are the age requirements flexible?
  - Unfortunately not. The age requirements were established by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). You should consider attending as an IST member or as a unit leader!
- Can a registered 18 year old Venturer attend as a participant?
  - Unfortunately not. The age requirements were established by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). You should consider attending as an IST member or as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Unit Leader!
- How can someone register if they are currently not a member of BSA due to current membership age requirements?
  - A World Jamboree is a coed event and all BSA members are encouraged to apply. If a potential participant is currently not a member of the Boy Scouts of America due to current membership age requirements and would like to apply for the Jamboree, they should contact their local council for further instructions. They will learn how to register in order to apply for the World Jamboree.
- How will the number of troops/participants be allocated across BSA?
  - The number of units have been allocated on an equitable basis among BSA's Regions and Areas.
- Who will decide on who is selected to go as a participant or as a unit leader?
  - There are many levels of approval to participate in any capacity, including your local council, BSA Area and with National Council.
  - There are no “Golden Tickets” to attend the World Jamboree; there is not a set of things to guarantee attendance at the World Jamboree.
  - The registration order will be taken into account, but it is not “first come, first served.”
- When will those decisions be made?
  - Decisions on members are made on a rolling basis, as applications are received. Timing could vary by region, area, and council.

- The registration order will be taken into account, but it is not “first come, first served.”
- **Participants:** Participants will be notified by Contingent unit leadership if they have been accepted or are being placed on a wait list.
  - If they are put onto a wait list, they will continue to pay according to the Contingent payment schedule.
  - Applicants on the waiting list that are not ultimately selected will receive a FULL refund (including initial \$250 deposit).
- **IST:** Once approved by their local Council and USA Contingent leadership, the application will be sent to the WSJ Host team (the organizers of the Jamboree).
  - The Host will notify the applicant of acceptance/denial and a job assignment. Some assignments will likely come in late 2018 or 2019.
  - **The applicant will need to continue to pay their fee per the payment schedule. If an applicant is not selected, they will receive a FULL refund (including initial \$250 deposit).**
- **Unit Leaders:** Each Contingent unit will have 4 unit leaders, and acceptance timing will be based on the filling of youth in the units, which will have been allocated to each Region and Area.
  - Leaders will continue to pay, according to the payment schedule, even if they have not been confirmed. BSA Regional and Area leadership will select leaders based on their qualifications.
  - Unit leader applicants who are not ultimately selected will receive a FULL refund (including initial \$250 deposit).
  - If an applicant is not selected as a unit leader, they are encouraged to modify their application to be considered as an IST member. If that transition takes place, the selection of the application is handed to the WSJ Host team for final determination.
- A visual description of the selection process was made available in the USA Contingent’s first newsletter “**WOJAM UNLOCKED!**” It’s also available on contingent’s website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/resources/#wojam>.

## Staffing the WSJ

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- After I am selected as an IST member, will I “belong” to the USA Contingent?
  - After the Host committee has selected you as an IST member and assigned you to an area (for example, the Global Development Village), then you will “belong” to that team. Any resources for the USA Contingent are still available to you, but you will work primarily with that team.
- Will I have any down time to enjoy the Jamboree as an IST member?
  - Absolutely! It’s the goal of the Host committee to recruit enough IST members for everyone to have ample time off.
- I have been staffing the past XX number of BSA NSJs. That means I’ll get a spot on staff, right?
  - Unfortunately, it’s not quite that simple. While previous experience is absolutely a consideration, it is not a golden ticket. The World Scout Jamboree is staffed by Scouters from around the world and NSOs are limited on the number of staff that can attend.
- What does an IST member do?
  - Just like any NSJ, program and operational responsibilities still have to be fulfilled. Think of any job to make a 50,000-person city come alive, and it’ll likely be there!
- When will I know what job I have as IST?
  - It takes a lot of specialized skills to host a World Jamboree experience. The Jamboree Host committee plans to make as many IST assignments as possible in advance of arrival at the Jamboree site. Consideration of factors such as a candidate’s skills, areas of interest, and experience will likely figure into the selection process. IST prospects will need to be cleared by their NSO before they can be considered for appointment to the IST. Please note that the primary role of IST is to serve the youth by helping deliver the World Scout Jamboree experience.
  - **The Host committee has said they hope to begin assigning some IST members to positions in the second half of 2018, but many will be assigned in the first half of 2019. Remember: assignments are ongoing!**
- When will IST members need to arrive? When will IST members need to leave?
  - The jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia July 22 to August 2, 2019.
  - BSA IST members arrival and departure dates may vary depending on their position.
- Will I be able to attend only half of the WSJ as an IST member, similar to BSA’s National Jamboree?
  - At this time, the Host committee has no plans to offer attendance to only half of the WSJ.
- Are there any areas of IST that need extra help?
  - Due to health and safety laws, some areas of IST may require special certifications, such as shooting, healthcare, and other relevant fields.
- What can I do to improve my chances of being accepted?
  - There is no one thing you can do to guarantee selection as a member of IST.



## Communication

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- How can I learn more information about the USA contingent?
  - We have a really great website: <https://www.wsj2019.us>.
  - Also, follow us on social media on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and wherever else you are. Look for @wsj2019usa
  - If you are looking for more information about the World Jamboree program, visit the hosts' website at <http://www.2019wsj.org/>.
  
- Are there any regular publications made by the USA Contingent?
  - There are two main ways we share content in long form:
    - **WOJAM UNLOCKED!** – the contingent's regular newsletter. Each copy is distributed to every BSA member who has submitted an application to the contingent and is either accepted or is pending. It's also available on the contingent's website: <https://www.wsj2019.us/resources/#wojam>.
    - The website also includes a blog, which features great in-depth articles about different aspects of a World Jamboree. The direct link is: <https://www.wsj2019.us/blog/>.
  
- I want to talk to a real human being. How can I do that?
  - The best way to talk to real people is to connect with us on social media (Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter). Volunteers constantly monitor this and will reply to your questions promptly.
  - The USA Contingent management team includes top-notch BSA professionals that actively monitor an email address. To directly contact them, send an email to [uscontingent2019@scouting.org](mailto:uscontingent2019@scouting.org).
  - Questions about the application process can be directed to BSA's Member Care at (972) 580-2489.