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BSA National Camping Award Information

The National Camping Award is granted to Boy Scout troops and Varsity Scout teams for attaining, on either an annual or a cumulative basis, or both, the required number of days and nights (24 hour period) of camping. The award ribbon recognizes significant achievement in annual campouts and/or cumulative campouts over a period of years. The ribbon is designed to be displayed on top of your troop flag pole.

To qualify a troop must have at least 33% of the youth members in attendance on each campout. Summer camps and other long-term camping trips are credited to the troop camping record. A camping log and application for the award can be acquired from your local BSA Council Service Center. These awards are retroactive to January 1, 1991.

To earn the annual National Camping Award, a unit must have reached one of these levels of camping achievement:

Ten days and nights of camping Unit Award, BSA No. 17831

Twenty days & nights of camping Bronze Award, BSA No. 17832

Thirty days and nights of camping Silver Award, BSA No. 17833

Fifty days and nights of camping Gold Award, BSA No. 17834

To earn the National Camping Award for cumulative camping, during its entire history, a unit must have fulfilled the requirements as follows:

One hundred days and nights of camping Unit Award, BSA No. 17827

Two hundred and fifty days and nights of camping Unit Award, BSA No. 17828

Five hundred days and nights of camping Unit Award, BSA No. 17829

One thousand days and nights of camping Unit Award, BSA No. 17830

Individual Scouts and adult Scout Leaders may also qualify for a National Camping Award patch, provided that the required cumulative number of days and nights (24 hour period) of camping has been met. This total can include any combination of camping with the Scout's family, patrol, or Scout unit.

One hundred days and nights of camping Patch, BSA No. 00296

Two hundred and fifty days and nights of camping Patch, BSA No. 00297

Five hundred days and nights of camping Patch, BSA No. 00298

One thousand days and nights of camping Patch, BSA No. 00299

To earn this award patch, an individual Scout needs to keep track of his campouts and have them approved by his Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. This patch may be worn on the right pocket of the uniform shirt, or it may be sewn on a backpack or another appropriate place.

Here are some examples of these award patches:



For more details and an award application talk to your local BSA Council Service Center.

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