

EXPLORING PARTICIPANT POLICY

(18- to 20-year-olds)

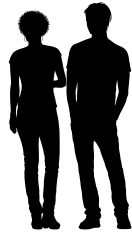


BEGINNING

AUGUST

1

2020








18-20
year
olds

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT

- Adult Application
- Background Check
- YPT

An adult Exploring Participant (EP) is not an adult leader. EPs participate as youth and are listed on roster as youth. An EP does not count as a two-deep adult leader.

STATUS	AGE	ACTION	ENFORCEMENT	ADDITIONAL INFO
 Currently registered Explorer	18-20	Explorer must remain continuously registered in same post without lapse in membership until 3/1/2021 When post renews membership all 18- to 20-year-olds must be registered as EPs	Unless immediately requested by post, Explorer must complete adult app (code EP), background check and YPT by 3/1/2021	Post may implement EP policy for currently registered 18- to 20-year-olds effective 8/1/2020 Adult app (code EP)
 Currently registered Explorer	under 18	–	–	EP policy takes effect when Explorer turns 18
 New Explorer on or after Aug 1, 2020	18-20	Complete adult app (code EP), background check and YPT (no youth app)	–	Adult app (code EP)
 New Explorer on or after Aug 1, 2020	under 18	–	–	EP policy takes effect when Explorer turns 18
 Explorer who wishes to apply for adult membership	21	Register as an adult with the appropriate position code	Must meet adult standards. Complete adult app, background check and YPT	Adult app

APPLICATIONS

www.exploring.org – Scroll down to Exploring resources and select from FORMS
 Click here for [ADULT APP \(includes code EP\)](#) • [YOUTH APP](#) • [NEW POST/CLUB APP](#)

Printed applications, sales kits as well as career brochures may be ordered through your local council.

EXPLORING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:



Q: Will Explorers that are 18-20 years old need to complete an adult application and do they have to take Youth Protection training? How are they supposed to indicate on the application that they are to be registered as an 18-20 year old in a post?

A: Beginning August 1, 2020, all new post applicants 18 through 20 years old must complete and submit an Exploring Adult Application, consent to a criminal background check, and successfully complete Youth Protection Training. An 18 through 20 year old will be considered an adult Exploring participant in the post, but not considered an adult leader. The 18-20 year old Exploring Participant will utilize the “EP” position code on the adult application.

Q: Can an Exploring Participant fill an adult role, such as meeting the two-adult leader policy, since they have filled out an adult application and been through the same training?

A: No. An 18-20 year old will be considered an “Exploring Participant” in the post, but not considered an adult leader. Therefore, Exploring Participants may not fulfill the role of an adult leader including meeting the Two-Adult Leadership policy. Exploring Participants “EP” will participate as youth in the program and will be reflected within your youth membership reports and rosters.

Q: After March 1, 2021, what will the new rules be regarding fraternization? For example, right now a 19 year old and a 22 year old in Exploring should not be in a relationship. After March 1st, can a 19 year old and a 22 year old date? What about an 18 year old and a 17 year old?

A: The roles of volunteer adult leaders in the Exploring program require that clear boundaries be established between adult leaders and youth members. For this reason, fraternization—the formation of peer-based, social relationships between adult and youth members—is not permitted. This prohibition extends to Exploring post advisors who register as adults after their twenty-first birthday.

Q: Can an 18-20 year old be considered as a junior adult leader in Exploring? For example, legally a 19 year old is considered an adult. As of August 1, 2020 once they complete an adult application, can they be considered for junior leadership in a post and count towards two-deep leadership. Will this change after March 1, 2021?

A: The two-deep leadership policy in an Exploring post will not change. An 18-20 year old Explorer who completes an adult application will not be permitted to serve as a leader and count towards the post’s two deep leadership.

Q: With the new age requirements, will an 18-20 year old Exploring Participant (EP) be counted as youth or an adult at high adventure bases?

A: An 18-20 year old Exploring participant will be counted as an Explorer (youth) at high adventure bases.

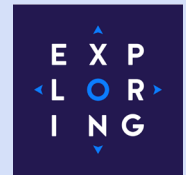
Q: Just to clarify, if you are an 18-20 year old Exploring Participant (EP) on or before MARCH 1, 2021, you will NOT have to fill out an adult application or have a background check as long as you continue to be registered in the same post?

A: That is correct. The Explorer will remain registered and no action is required until March 1, 2021, until the Post is up for renewal or by March 1, 2021 whichever comes first. However, the Explorer must continually be registered in the same post without a lapse in membership. Posts however, can decide to require 18 to 20 year old youth to meet the “EP” coded requirements before the March 1, 2021 date if they so choose.

Q: How soon would a youth that is turning 18 years old be required to take Youth Protection training (YPT)?

A: Unless immediately required by the post, the currently registered Explorer must complete an adult application utilizing the “EP” position code, submit to a criminal background check, and successfully complete Youth Protection Training no later than March 1, 2021.

EXPLORING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:



Q: I just joined/am currently an Explorer under the age of 18, are there any additional actions I need to take prior to August 1, 2020?

A: There is no additional action necessary for any new/currently registered Explorers under the age of 18 years old or for any Explorers under the age of 18 years old that join the program on or after August 1, 2020. Once the Explorer turns 18, the “EP” policy will take effect.

Q: I am an Explorer who has reached the age of 21, can I become an adult leader now?

A: Adults, 21 years and above must complete an adult application, submit to a criminal background check, and successfully complete Youth Protection Training.

Q: Will there be any updates to the sleeping or bathroom/shower policies due to the new 18-20 year old policy?

A: SLEEPING FACILITIES: Sleeping arrangements should be divided in the same manner as restrooms, by sex and by age. However, sleeping arrangements should also provide that those under 18 who share a room have no more than two years difference in

ages and those 18-20 have separate accommodations from those over 21 years of age. The sleeping facilities will accommodate the following housing groups as such: ages 14-16, ages 15-17, ages 18-20. **RESTROOM AND SHOWER FACILITIES:** It is the policy of the Exploring program that restrooms and showers should be divided by sex and age with 18 and older being separated from those 17 and under, unless facilities have lockable doors. If separate shower and bathroom facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted.

Q: How do these new membership rules apply to driving?

A: Follow the same policies as listed in Exploring’s “Safety First Guidelines”. You can find these guidelines located at www.exploring.org, under Unit Resources.

Q: Where can I find the newly updated Exploring Youth, Adult, and New Club/Post applications?

A: “Visit www.exploring.org. The applications are located on the front page, scroll to the bottom, under the “Forms” resource box.”

