ADVISOR'S GUIDEBOOK

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

2026

2026 Advisor's Guidebook

CHECKLIST

_____ Pay deposit by December 1, 2024

_____ Pay advance fee by October 1, 2025

_____ Begin populating roster September 15, 2025

_____ Share Crew/Expedition number with all crew members September 15, 2025

_____ Remind crew that scholarship application opens October 1, 2025.

_____ Begin looking at itineraries December 16, 2025

_____ Enter itinerary selections between January 16 and February 16, 2026

_____ Pay balance fee by March 1, 2026

_____ **Roster is completely populated with everyone's information by May 1, 2026, so we are not charged a $150 late fee per person not listed on the roster.** (Imagine a blinking, flashing marquee sign here with sirens blaring!!!)

_____ Enter travel plans in the Gateway Roster at least two weeks before trek.

_____ I booked my travel plans on _____(date) with _____ (name of travel co.)

_____ Remind anyone with special dietary requirements that they need to look at the 2026 Trail Food Menu & Ingredients List available on the website on May 1, 2026, so they can purchase and package their replacement or supplemental food and ship it to Philmont at least 2 weeks prior to trek.

_____ Watch Preparedness Seminars

_____ October 15, 2025
_____ November 19, 2025
_____ December 17, 20
_____ January 21, 2026
_____ February 18, 2026
_____ March 18, 2026
_____ April 15, 2026

_____ Call Carrie (575-376-1139) or Monica (575-376-1140) if we have questions.

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2026 Advisor's Guidebook

Welcome to Philmont Scout Ranch!

This Guidebook is designed to assist units and council contingents in planning a successful Philmont adventure. Your journey has already begun, and proper preparation now will result in a smoother, more enjoyable expedition.

It is important that each adult Advisor becomes familiar with every aspect of the trip. Equally important is sharing information with participants and their parents. Philmont is not like your local Scout camp, and we understand that Philmont might not be for everyone.

Philmont is hard! The stamina required to hike Philmont is much greater than you may be used to due to the distances traveled, elevation changes, and the overall duration of the trek. It is important that everyone is aware of potential hazards, so every participant should understand *Philmont's Risk Advisory*, which can be found in the Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record.

Refer to: https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/philmonttreks/trekrequirements/risks/.

Philmont places emphasis on physical preparation including a detailed Annual Health and Medical Record. Crews should carefully select participants, taking height/weight and medical conditions into consideration.

A Philmont trek is a crew-based, youth-led activity. Youth crew members fill the leadership positions; the adult crew members provide advice and guidance to them. **Advisors provide this to the entire crew, not just their own children.**

Philmont and Scouting America expect that all participants will conduct themselves in a Scout-like manner. An estimated 22,000 participants attend Philmont every summer from across the nation and the world. While this provides an enriching experience for participants, it also requires a great deal of respect for each other. Let the Scout Oath and Law guide your crew in ALL situations.

Please read this guide carefully and distribute it to your other advisors. Both experienced and new Advisors will find the answers to many of their questions regarding their upcoming Philmont trek within the following pages. Good luck as you continue to prepare for the trek of a lifetime! We look forward to serving you and your crew.

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www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org
www.PhilmontTrainingCenter.org
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PHILMONT

Prepared. For Life.™

"Delivering Wilderness Adventures that Last a Lifetime"

Who may participate?

In keeping with the policies of Scouting America, rules for participation are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, marital or familial status, genetic information, citizenship status, protected activity, or any other status or classification protected by applicable federal, state, and/or local laws.

Participants must be registered members of Scouting America who will be 14 years of age OR have completed 8th grade and be at least 13 years of age prior to participation. DO NOT request or expect any exceptions to this rule.
Some special programs allow for individual person registration and participation. A crew must have a majority of its members under age 21. Each participant must be capable of participating in the backpacking or horseback riding trek. Please note that specific programs may have additional requirements for participation including but not limited to a 210 lb. weight limit for Cavalcades and horse rides. Each participant must meet the health requirements as outlined in the Annual Health and Medical Record.

Harassment, Hazing, Initiations, & Discipline

Philmont and Scouting America prohibit language or behavior that belittles or puts down members of the opposite sex, unwelcome advances, racial slurs, chastisement for religious or other beliefs, or any other actions or comments that are derogatory of people. Any form of hazing, initiation, ridicule, inappropriate teasing, or bullying is prohibited and will not be allowed. **Participants who do not meet these expectations may be asked to leave.**

Conduct

The Scout Oath and Law should serve as the guide in all interactions with other participants and staff. Philmont serves groups from many different backgrounds, and it is important that each group respects each other. This includes co-ed and female crews and female staff, members of various religious organizations, Scouts and Scouters of all gender identities and sexualities, and those of different ability. It is not acceptable to act in a manner which belittles, harasses, or makes others uncomfortable.
Each group should develop a procedure regarding unacceptable behavior and conduct. The best method to accomplish this is to outline expectations before the trip, as well as consequences if a participant chooses to act in a way that is contrary to the established guidelines. Parents and guardians must be informed of these guidelines.
Remember, Advisors are responsible for their participants at all times — Philmont cannot provide supervision should a participant be removed from the trail for discipline reasons. They will be sent home at their own expense.

Tobacco, Alcohol, & Drug Abuse

Our Scout Oath reminds us to keep ourselves physically strong. The use of smokeless or smoking tobacco, including vaping and E-cigarettes adversely affects the body and causes cancer. Because of the ever-present wildland fire danger, smoking is not permitted on Philmont trails. If adults must smoke in the backcountry, do so in an established camp near an unused fire ring. Smoking is not permitted in Camping Headquarters except in the designated area of the Advisors Lounge. Please refer to: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss04/.

Photo (Talent) Release Information

All Philmont Scout Ranch participants are informed that photographs, film, video tapes, electronic representations and/or sound recordings may be made during their visit to Philmont Scout Ranch. These images may be used for training and promotion purposes for Philmont Scout Ranch and other projects approved by Scouting America. Each participant, by completing the Annual Health and Medical Record "Part A: Informed Consent, Release Agreement, and Authorization", will fulfill the necessary Photo (Talent) Release requirements for Philmont Scout Ranch. (For complete statement please refer to Part A of the Annual Health and Medical Record.)

Introduction

This guide has been extensively reorganized, rewritten, and checked for the summer of 2025. Unit and/or contingent leaders as well as Crew Advisors should read it and become familiar with its contents. Hopefully, the guidebook will not only take some of the mystery from preparing for a Philmont adventure but will also serve as a reference as you get ready to come to Philmont.

Scouting America Registration

Lead Advisors must verify that all adult Advisors and youth participants are registered members of Scouting America. Verification is also required that all participants 18 years and older have a current certification of Youth Protection Training (within the past two years). The expiration dates for Scouting America Registration and Youth Protection Training must be after the last day of the trek.

Youth Protection Policies

Philmont takes Youth Protection very seriously. Some of the Youth Protection policies that apply to participants at Philmont (and throughout Scouting) relate to registration and training. The complete set of Youth Protection policies may be found at https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/.

Age	Scouting America/Youth Protection Policies
Under 18	• Must be registered in a Youth position
18-20	• Must be registered in an Adult position (Adult Program Participants) • Must be current in Safeguarding Youth training
21+	• **At least 2 registered leaders are required but Philmont requires 3.** • A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth. • All leaders must me current in Safeguarding Youth Training.

All registered adults must have current annual Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Training. This means all participants 18 years and older who are registered in any unit in Scouting America, or as an adult volunteer must have current Safeguarding Youth Training. Due to the great concern Scouting America has for the issue of child abuse in our society, the Safeguarding Youth program has been developed to help safeguard both our youth and adult members. Adult Scouting America Registration requires verification of Safeguarding Youth Training. All adults participating in a Philmont trek must be registered.

Youth Protection Training and documentation are available at your local council or online at https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/.

Philmont will strictly enforce Youth Protection policies, which include the *Scouting's Barriers to Abuse.*
(https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a)

Adult Leadership

Philmont requires that each crew participates with THREE adult Advisors, aged 21 or older (FOUR if a co-ed crew is not registered in the pilot program in Scouts BSA or as a Venturing Crew – at least one female). While Philmont only requires one adult female, it is recommended to have two. This provides flexibility if an adult Advisor needs to leave the trail. **If a youth participant must come off the trail for any reason, their parent cannot accompany them if it would result in the crew becoming a Substandard Crew. All advisors should understand they function as advisors for the entire crew, not just their own children!** They are responsible for ensuring the crew follows all Scouting America and Philmont rules. The exception to this would be for an adult who is caregiver for a special-needs or disabled Scout; they are expected to work directly with that Scout to ensure their safety and successful trek completion.

Co-ed/Female Crew Leadership Requirements

Crews with female youth are required to provide at least one adult female Advisor while en route to and from Philmont and while on trek.

Council Contingent crews may have a mixed registration of Scouting America members, to include Scouts BSA, Venturing, Exploring, and Sea Scout programs.

The guidelines for units to attend as a co-ed Philmont crew per Scouting America policy are below. Your unit may attend co-ed by one of the three options listed:

1. **Attending as linked male and female Scouts BSA troops in the same Philmont crew**
   - Scouts BSA is a single-gendered program; as such, male and female Scouts BSA troops can attend together in the same crew **IF** *each troop* provides their own leadership in the Philmont crew. Each troop must have a minimum of 2 adult leaders age 21+ attending in the crew. This is a total of 4 adult leaders age 21+ for a Philmont crew composed of 1 female troop and 1 male troop that are linked. At least one of these adults must be a female.
   - Units who do not share the same charter partner must have local council and charter partner approval per the Scouting America Guide to Safe Scouting.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require buddy pairs to be single gender. However, a third youth/participant in the same two-year age range may be added to allow for a mixed gender buddy group of three.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require 2 adult leaders age 21+ to attend, although Philmont requires **THREE**. If female youth are present, at least one of those leaders MUST be female.
2. **Attending as a Venturing Crew, Sea Scout Ship or Exploring Post**
   - Venturing, Sea Scouting, and Exploring are coed programs.
   - Members of these programs can attend co-ed if Scouting's Barriers to Abuse (below) are met.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require buddy pairs to be single gender. However, a third youth/participant may be added to allow for a mixed gender buddy group of three.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require 2 adult leaders age 21+ to attend, although Philmont requires **THREE**. If female youth are present, at least one of those leaders MUST be female.
3. **Attending as a Scouts BSA troop involved in the pilot program**
   - Scouts BSA troops involved in the pilot program may attend Philmont as a co-ed crew.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require buddy pairs to be single gender. However, a third youth/participant may be added to allow for a mixed gender buddy group of 3.
   - **Scouting's Barriers to Abuse** require 2 adult leaders age 21+ to attend although Philmont requires **THREE**. If female youth are present, at least one of those leaders MUST be female.

Youth Participants

Participants must be registered members of Scouting America who will be at least 14 years old OR have completed 8th grade and be at least 13 years old prior to participation.

Youth participants must be registered members of Scouting America and may participate in a Philmont trek in one of the following ways:

- As members of a chartered unit—Troop, Crew, Post, or Ship.
- As members of a council contingent or district contingent with required leadership.
- As individuals in the Rayado men/women, Ranch Hands, Trail Crew, ROCS, or Order of the Arrow Trail Crew treks. (Participant age requirements vary for individual treks.)

Each participant must be physically and emotionally capable of participating in the backpacking or horseback riding trek. Each participant must meet the health requirements as outlined in the Annual Health and Medical Record.

Philmont "Crew"

Participant's ages also come into play in the makeup of a "crew" at Philmont. Note that Philmont treks (12, 9, and 7- day) and Cavalcades must conform to the policies shown here. Crew makeup for Individual program crews will be determined by the department responsible for those programs; they will establish the "crews" based on criteria specific to the program(s).

Philmont Crew Makeup Policies

- Maximum crew size is 12 youth and adults (15 for Cavalcades)
- Minimum crew size is 8 youth and adults (10 for Cavalcades)
- Maximum of 4 registered adults (21+) (5 for Cavalcades)
- Minimum of 3 registered adults (21+)
- Crew must be majority youth (14-20)
- All crew members 18 or over must be registered in adult positions and be current in Safeguarding Youth Training

Frequently, crews become Substandard if a youth crew member becomes ill or sustains an injury and is transported to the Infirmary for care. Removing this single crew member could result in the crew being below the minimum crew size. If the injured crew member's parent insists on accompanying the youth to the Infirmary, removing the two crew members very often makes the crew Substandard.

Parents are permitted to come off the trail with their child only in very limited circumstances. Clearly if the parent is the caregiver for a child with special needs or is disabled, they are encouraged to accompany them. Otherwise, parents should only come off the trail with their child if the child is experiencing serious medical conditions such as broken bones, laceration(s) needing stitches, there is a high potential the child will be transferred from the Infirmary to an outside medical facility, possible surgical procedures (appendix, etc.), mental health or developmental issues, or other similar serious conditions. The parent will not be permitted to accompany the child in any event if their leaving would result in the crew becoming "substandard". If Philmont can implement steps that rectify the substandard crew issue, the parent can join their child when the solution is achieved.

When a youth participant is transported to the Infirmary for medical care, they are housed either in the Infirmary or in Infirmary Tent City. In either facility, adult leadership is provided by Philmont in conformance with Scouting America Youth Protection policies.

If an adult accompanies their child to the Infirmary, they will be housed in an Advisor tent in Base Camp Tent City and will be provided with meals in the Camper Dining Hall. They can coordinate with Infirmary Tent City to eat with and participate in other activities with their child if medically possible.

The Infirmary can release the youth crew member to rejoin their crew or to be sent home. If they are released to go home, Philmont's Logistics department will assist the parent in making travel arrangements. **It is the family's responsibility to pay for any needed transportation and lodging after departing Philmont. They must depart Philmont within 24 hours of being discharged from the Infirmary.**

If the Infirmary releases the youth crew member to rejoin their crew, they will be transported to the next staffed camp on the crew's Itinerary. Depending on the Itinerary, they may have to remain in Base camp for a day or more until the crew arrives at a staffed camp.

The youth and the parent should understand that they may not qualify for the Philmont Arrowhead award patch if they come off the trail during their trek or Cavalcade. This will be dependent on what they had accomplished before the medical situation occurred as well as what they were able to do after being reunited. They could be ineligible for the

Arrowhead award because they did not complete their trek (went home after being released), did not participate in a Conservation project, or did not fulfill other requirements for earning the Arrowhead award.

Tenting Policies

Tenting arrangements at Philmont (both in Base camp and in the backcountry) follow Scouting America's tenting requirements (www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/) and must meet the requirements shown below.

Scouting America Tenting Rules

- Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth.
- Youth sharing tents must be no more than two years apart in age.
- In Cub Scouting, parents and guardians may share a tent with their family.
- In all other programs (Philmont treks and cavalcades), youth and adults are required to tent separately.
- Spouses may share tents.
- As an exception, a parent or guardian may share a tent with their own child if they are of the same sex.

Be aware that:

- The same tent sharing should be used in base camp tent city and in the backcountry.
- It is important that crews determine their tenting requirements before coming to Philmont.
    - **Crews should utilize 2-person tents wherever possible.** If a crew member cannot share a tent because of the rules above, they should bring a one-person tent to minimize weight. Three-person tents may require more space than is available in some backcountry camps.
    - **Crews should use the minimum number of tents permitted with the crew makeup and the Scouting America tenting rules above.**
    - Philmont backcountry camps have limited space; fewer tents will make the best use of this space.
    - Philmont can provide the crew with 2-person tents at no charge. No 1-person or 3-person tents are available.
    - Philmont does not provide stakes or ground cloths for tents.

Crew Organization

A "crew" at Philmont is made up of youth and adult participants. There are several Scouting America and Philmont policies that must be followed for adult advisors and youth leadership "positions" for each crew. For a multi-crew reservation (unit or council contingent), one person must be the designated "Contingent Advisor".

Advisors

"Advisors" are the adult leaders of the crew. **All Advisors must be physically capable of hiking and camping for the**

entire length of the trek. Each Advisor is expected to reflect high moral standards established by custom, traditional values, religious teaching, and following the Youth Protection guidelines.
Philmont recommends that groups identify alternate adult leadership who are available to step in at the last minute in the event an adult Advisor is unable to attend. **Philmont CANNOT provide staff to meet Scouting America's two-deep leadership requirement.**

An Advisor's main role is to coach, mentor, and support the Crew Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Wilderness Pledge Guia. By doing this, the youth leaders will gain leadership experience throughout the trek and will be able to help all members of the crew develop into a strong team.

Adults should "Advise" the youth on "how" to make decisions, not "what" decisions to make. We all learn from our mistakes. Let the youth make mistakes as long as safety is not endangered. After they have made a mistake, talk with them about how the mistake could have been avoided, what other things could have been considered in making the decision that led to the mistake, etc.

As stated earlier, **all advisors should understand they function as advisors for the entire crew, not just their own children! They are responsible for ensuring the crew follows all Scouting America and Philmont rules. The exception to this would be for an adult who is caregiver for a special-needs or disabled Scout; they are expected to work directly with that Scout to ensure their safety and successful trek completion.**

Here are some questions to discuss with all the adults in your crew before arriving at Philmont. This will help with decisions that may need to be made while on the trail.

- Do they all understand that Scouting, especially a Philmont trek, is youth-led?
- Are they prepared to let the chosen youth leaders guide the experience and to step in only when there is a health and safety concern?
- Do they understand the Safeguarding Youth guidelines and will assure that all the Barriers to Abuse are in place? This means they understand that youth and adults sleep separately and they will not be sharing a tent with their child.
- Do they understand that they will be an adult advisor for the entire crew, not just their own child?
- Will they stay on the trail and be an advisor for the entire crew if their child needs to leave the trail for a minor injury or illness like blisters, ingrown toenails, or a sprained ankle? Of course, if it is something serious, the parent can and should come off the trail with their scout. Be advised that a parent that comes off the trail with their injured/ill scout will not be able to stay with their scout in Infirmary Tent City (ITC). They will have stay in an available tent in trailbound/homebound tent city.

Advisors should ensure the safety and well-being of each crew member through:

First aid treatments.
Administration of required medications.
Proper water purification.
Supervision any time a stove is in use.
Guidance and support in emergency situations.

Advisors also help foster positive crew dynamics, help settle disputes between members of the crew, assist with administering proper discipline if required, and ensure that the crew operates following all Youth Protection guidelines.

Adult Advisors must make every effort to help youth leaders succeed. By coaching and mentoring, adults can play a

critical behind-the-scenes role. Adults make sure that safety procedures are followed and that Youth Protection policies are practiced.

Youth Leadership

A trek at Philmont is a "youth-led" activity. This is why the rules for crew makeup require a majority of youth participants. The leadership of the crew while at Philmont comes from these youth participants, not the adult advisors!

Throughout the history of the Ranch, the leadership growth of each youth member while practicing the Patrol Method has been a critical part of the total experience. Key leaders practicing servant leadership ensure that the crew has an enjoyable and successful trek. This is particularly true for the **Crew Leader**, **Chaplain's Aide**, and **Wilderness Pledge Guía**.

Crew Leader

A well-qualified Scout should be elected as Crew Leader before training begins. The Crew Leader is responsible for organizing the crew, assigning duties, making decisions, and recognizing the capabilities of each crew member. They lead by example and discuss ideas and alternatives with the entire crew to arrive at a consensus before acting. This responsibility requires someone with leadership ability who is respected by everyone. The adult Advisors will work closely with this individual.

<u>The Crew Leader's responsibilities include:</u>

- Incorporate the principles of the Scout Oath and Law into the trek experience.
- Follow the assigned itinerary.
- Complete and manage a crew duty roster.
- Adhere to all Philmont bear and wildlife procedures.

Crew Leaders will receive more information/training in Logistics and a meeting with other Crew Leaders on the day of your trek (Day 1). Please print the Crew Leader's Orientation sheet and give it to your Crew Leader as soon as they are elected (**https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/treks/expeditions/2024crewpacket/**)

Chaplain's Aide

Each crew should also select a Chaplain's Aide; perhaps a member of the crew who has received a religious award in Scouting. The Chaplain's Aide is responsible for assisting the crew in being reverent during their time in the backcountry, as well as working with the Crew Leader and Lead Advisor to ensure the smooth operation of the crew The Chaplain's Aide will be asked to lead daily devotionals from the *Eagles Soaring High* booklet, lead grace before meals, and encourage participation in religious services. The Chaplain's Aide will guide the crew's participation in the Duty to God program and will certify completion of the Duty to God Award requirements for each crew member. (Awards will be available to purchase at the Tooth of Time Traders at the conclusion of the trek; proceeds support the Chaplain Program at Philmont).

<u>The Chaplain's Aide's responsibilities include:</u>

- Set a good example by living the principles of the Scout Oath and Law.
- Teach the Philmont Grace to crew and use it before meals.
- Lead Roses, Buds, and Thorns each night.
- Assist the Crew Leader and Advisors in conflict resolution.
- Provide support to fellow crew members that are having difficulties.
- Encourage fellow crew members in their own personal walk with God.
- Lead crew in daily reflections from *Eagles Soaring High* booklet.
- Encourage the crew to attend chapel services in Base Camp and in the backcountry if services are available on the crew's itinerary.

Chaplain's Aides will receive more information/training in a meeting with other Chaplain's Aides on the first day of your trek (Day 1). Please print the Philmont Chaplain's Aide Orientation sheet and give it to your Chaplain's Aide as soon as they are elected (**https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/treks/expeditions/2024crewpacket/**)

Wilderness Pledge Guía

Each crew will select a Wilderness Pledge Guía *(Guide).* This individual will help the crew understand the principles of the Philmont Wilderness Pledge and Leave No Trace principles. This person helps the crew focus on camping practices that adhere to wilderness ethics outlined in the two approaches and ensures that the crew follows all Philmont camping practices. With more than 20,000 participants camping each summer at Philmont, it is important that each person does their share to ensure that we protect Philmont and our neighbors' properties for generations to come.

The Wilderness Pledge Guía's responsibilities include:

- Learn the principles of Philmont's Wilderness Pledge and Leave No Trace
- Assist the crew in implementing Philmont's Wilderness Pledge and Leave No Trace principles throughout your trek.
- Guide the crew in discussions about wilderness ethics by focusing on a different principle of Leave No Trace for seven days on the trail.
- Help the crew follow all camping practices as outlined by their Ranger and strictly follow Philmont's bear and wildlife procedures.
- Help crew members earn the Wilderness Pledge Achievement Award with the help of the Ranger/Horseman/Wrangler.
- Lead the crew in preparation and completion of the scheduled conservation project while on the trail.

The Wilderness Pledge Guía will receive more information/training in a meeting with other Wilderness Pledge Guías on the day of your crew's arrival at Philmont (Day 1). The Wilderness Pledge Guía will certify completion of the Wilderness Pledge Achievement Award requirements for each crew member. Awards may be purchased at the Tooth of Time Traders at the conclusion of the trek; proceeds support the Sustainability Program at Philmont.

Leave No Trace...
Bigfoot's been doing
it for years!

Crew Size

The **minimum** and **maximum** crew sizes (minimum of 8 and maximum 12 campers for treks and minimum of 10 and maximum of 15 for Cavalcades) are strictly enforced. Crews with fewer than the minimum for their activity type will not be permitted on the trail. Crews with more than the maximum must determine how to reduce their numbers to the maximum for their activity type.

These crew sizes are the best sizes for Philmont crews. This is due to Youth Protection and safety reasons – if a crew member is injured, a team of 4 will be sent to obtain assistance. This team must meet Youth Protection rules as do the crew members remaining with the injured person. Philmont's itineraries have been developed with these numbers in mind and campsites are designed to comfortably accommodate a maximum of 12 campers (campsites used for Cavalcades can accommodate larger crews).

Council contingents and other large groups should organize their crews according to hiking and camping abilities. Each crew can then choose an itinerary that corresponds to the abilities of its participants and travel at an appropriate pace.

Philmont reserves the right to combine smaller crews within contingents or multi-crew groups to maximize staff resources. Should something happen to one of the Advisors, other adult Advisors need to be prepared to move to another crew within the contingent or multi-crew group. This may involve being moved to a different itinerary if

necessary. If a crew goes below the minimum size while on the trail and it is not possible for Philmont to absorb that crew in another crew, the crew that is smaller than the minimum size may have to come off the trail and be sent home.

Due of the minimum number of adult Advisors required and/or the minimum crew size, it is imperative that adult leaders stay on the trail with their crew in the event their child is transported to the Infirmary. If the child's injury/illness is severe, we understand that a parent should be with their child. In that event we will make every effort to ensure the remainder of the crew can stay on the trail with adequate adult leadership or crew size. This may require combining the crew with another crew (and changing to their itinerary) or other options. Be aware that this is not always possible, and the crew may have to come off the trail and depart Philmont.

Youth Experience

Philmont Scout Ranch is designed to be a youth experience. Waite Phillips set forth the following statement at the time of his gift to the Boy Scouts of America:

> *"These properties are donated and dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America for the purpose of perpetuating faith, self-reliance, integrity, and freedom—principles used to build this great country by the American pioneer. So that these future citizens may, through thoughtful adult guidance and by the inspiration of nature, visualize and form a code of living to diligently maintain these high ideals and our proper destiny."*

Waite Phillips wanted the Philmont experience to focus on the youth participants!

Practicing the Patrol Method

Your Philmont Trek will provide you with an opportunity to practice many skills that you have learned while participating in your Troop, Crew, Post, or Ship. This experience brings to focus the importance of the Patrol Method. Each crew is a small group of participants much like a patrol. The crew members are close in age and experience level and working together helps them develop a sense of pride and identity. The participants elect their Crew Leader, divide the jobs to be done, and share in the satisfaction of accepting and fulfilling group responsibilities.

Three members of the crew will have a leadership responsibility that lasts the duration of the trek: Crew Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Wilderness Pledge Guía. Position descriptions are provided earlier in this guidebook. In addition, all members of the crew will serve in some leadership role each day, either as the primary or the assistant. Examples of rotated leadership responsibilities for the crew include navigator, cook, dishwasher, bear bags manager, water gatherer, and fire watchman.

The camping methods practiced at Philmont Scout Ranch support the Patrol Method concept. Two examples of this include cooking and washing dishes as one group. Members of the crew will rotate and fulfill these important responsibilities throughout the trek. This allows crew members to practice servant leadership as they take on a task that will support the entire crew.

Some of the current wilderness camping methods focus on the individual. In support of Scouting America, Philmont will focus on the crew and the accomplishments that they can achieve by working together as a team.

Various camping techniques will be taught to your crew by your Crew's Ranger. We recognize that you may have "better" ways of doing things but, what your Ranger teaches not only keeps the Philmont backcountry pristine but also supports the Patrol method. Please do not follow the Ranger's instructions then switch to "your way" when the Ranger departs. This simply teaches your young people that they can follow rules when they want and ignore them other times!

The Ranger/Horseman/Wrangler assigned to the crew will help the entire crew achieve the most from their Philmont Adventure!

Advisor's Packet

In March, each registered Lead Advisor will be sent a packet of materials for the crew. Included will be *The Guidebook to Adventure* (a copy for each member of the crew), an overall Philmont map, insurance pamphlet, and a letter from the Camping Director. The Lead Advisor's packet contains all the information needed for your Philmont trek. If lead advisors are not entered into the Camping Gateway, the advisor packet is mailed to the reservation contact of the expedition. This person will be responsible for distributing a packet to each crew's Lead Advisor.

Please notify Philmont if a change occurs in the Reservation Contact or if their address or email changes, as updates are emailed occasionally.

The Ranger/Horseman/Wrangler assigned to the crew will help the entire crew achieve the most from their Philmont Adventure!

Philmont Camping Gateway

The Philmont Camping Gateway is an online platform specially designed to help units register and plan for a successful Philmont trek. If you registered your unit to attend Philmont, then you have already accessed the Camping Gateway. After registration, units can access the Camping Gateway to find updates such as waitlist position and payment schedules.

After Philmont records the first payment for a reservation, the Camping Gateway will send a special email to the Reservation Contact with a link to access their invoice. A link to the crew's Roster will be emailed in September. The Camping Gateway will walk the Reservation Contact through selecting their crew Lead Advisor(s). Each Lead Advisor will be responsible for entering participant information for each member of their crew.

The Gateway is accessible by email invitation link only. If you are a Lead Advisor or Reservation Contact, look for an email from **rosters@registerphilmont.org** and you'll find a link to access the Gateway Roster. You will create your own password. Write it down somewhere so you do not forget it!

Reservation Contact

This person created the initial Philmont reservation and has been the primary contact for payments and planning. Sometimes the reservation contact also plays the role of a Lead Advisor. Once inside the Philmont Camping Gateway, Reservation Contacts have the option to view and modify information for every crew roster in their reservation.

Lead Advisor

One Advisor in each crew is designated the "**Lead Advisor**". This person is the principal Advisor responsible for coordinating a successful Philmont experience for each member of the crew. This adult organizes their crew and enters information for each crew member into the Philmont Camping Gateway prior to arriving at Philmont. In addition to participant information, the Lead Advisor also submits their planned Philmont arrival and departure travel information. All adults support the Lead Advisor in accomplishing the duties of an Advisor.

Crew Roster

Every crew attending Philmont for a trek or Cavalcade must submit important participant information (Crew Roster) using the Philmont Camping Gateway. Near the top right-hand corner of the roster page is a "Participant Worksheet" button that you may send to each participant, so you have all the information needed to complete the roster. The complete crew roster must be entered no later than May 1 of the year you are attending. Each entry made after May 1 will be subject to a $150 late addition fee. This means that ALL participant information must be entered. You have NOT completed your roster by being paid in full.

Crew member information on the crew roster can be updated any time. This permits the Lead Advisor to change crew members without incurring the late addition fee.

Travel Plans

Arrival and Departure plans must be submitted in the Camping Gateway at least two weeks prior to your arrival at Philmont. Any last-minute changes to arrival information can be made by emailing Logistics at philmont.logistics@scouting.org or by calling (575) 376-2281 and asking for the Logistics Transportation Manager. Philmont participants have found public carriers to be reliable transportation to the Ranch. Contact the representative of any of the carriers on the list for scheduling information and costs. You may also find the list of carriers at https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/resources/traveling-to-philmont/travel-companies-serving-philmont/ .

Itinerary Selection

In mid-December, the Itinerary Guidebook will be published for crews to download and review. Lead Advisors will receive an email regarding itineraries and itinerary selection. Starting in mid-January, Lead Advisors can begin to submit itinerary preferences within the Gateway. These preferences can be modified until mid-February, when the Gateway will process all selections and make assignments using a random and fair process. You will be notified via email after your itinerary has been assigned. For more information on Itinerary Selection, please see the Itinerary Guidebook.

Sister Crew

All crews on 12, 9, and 7-Day treks will have the option to request to share an itinerary with another crew on a matching length trek with a matching arrival day. Lead Advisors may select a Sister Crew as soon as they access their crew roster through the link received via email. Once a Sister Crew arrangement has been confirmed by both crews, either crew's Lead Advisor may submit itinerary preferences for both crews when Itinerary Selection opens in January. Please be aware that sister crews must function as independent crews. They do not hike or camp together and members may not move between crews. Sister crews can do evening activities together and, potentially, program activities in staffed camps.

Expedition Number

Crews at Philmont are identified by an "Expedition Number". This is because crews come from units from all over the world — there may be multiple Troop 101's or Crew 101's at Philmont at any time. The expedition number provides a unique identification for each crew. **All correspondence regarding the crew and all phone callers should use the crew's expedition number.** Share this number with all crew members.

For all crews, the first three digits are in the form of "mdd" where m is the Month and dd is the Day of the crew's "Arrival" date at Philmont (Day 1). e.g., "715" represents July (7) fifteenth (15).
When the crew reservation is made, a temporary Expedition number is assigned in the form of "mdd-nnn"
Where: "nnn" is a three-digit unique number.
When the first crew payment is made, the reservation Expedition Number is changed to a permanent Expedition Number.
Expedition numbers are in different forms for different types of programs. They include:

- 12-Day Treks: **mdd-X(-nn)**
- 9-Day Treks: **mdd-9X(-nn)**
- 7-Day Treks: **mdd-7X(-nn)**
- Cavalcade: **mdd-yy**

- **Where:**
  X = a unique one or two alphabetic character identifier assigned after the first crew payment is accepted.
  (-nn) is a unique crew number for multi-crew reservations. This is not present for single crew reservations.
  -yy is used for Cavalcade Crews:
  "CV" & "CW" designate Southern Itinerary cavalcade crews.
  "CX" & "CY" designate Northern Itinerary cavalcade crews.

Examples:
624-120 Reservation for crew arriving June 24 (has not made Reservation payment)
624-C 12-Day Expedition arriving June 24
624-BB 12-Day Expedition arriving June 24

624-K-03 12-Day Expedition for third crew in a reservation ("K") arriving June 24
702-9B 9-Day Expedition arriving July 2
701-7B 7-Day Expedition arriving July 1

Emergency Messages from Home or Work

Philmont Emergency Telephone Number: (575) 376-2281
While at Philmont, your crew will be in the backcountry and will NOT be able to receive messages from home or work. In the event of an emergency, call Philmont at (575) 376-2281. This number is answered 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. If it is possible to get a message to a crew member, it may take up to a day to deliver the message. It may not be possible for the crew member to return the message. Because of this, all crew members should make appropriate arrangements for others to conduct their business for the duration of the trek.

Mail to Campers at Philmont

Mail can be sent to campers while they are at Philmont. Mail and packages will be delivered to the Philmont Mail Room in Base Camp. Be sure to include the Expedition Number! Please ship packages at least two weeks prior to arrival to allow ample time for delivery.

The US Postal Service or UPS may be used but be aware there is NO "overnight" delivery available!

Camper's Name, Expedition Number
47 Caballo Rd
Cimarron, NM 87714

Financial Fees & Expedition Budget

The 12-Day expedition fee is $1,725 for each participant in 2026, youth or adult. A deposit of $150 per participant (including adult Advisors) is required to hold your arrival date. Refer to your last invoice for your specific payment schedule.

ALL fees (Reservation, Advance and Balance as indicated in the payment schedule) are NON-REFUNDABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE to the balance of fees in the event of cancellation. Be cautious of making reservations or paying fees for those who have not made a financial commitment.

Philmont must commit financial resources to employ staff, purchase food and supplies, and prepare for summer operations. Participants are therefore also required to make a financial commitment to attend. Be conservative in making reservations to avoid losing fees due to cancellations. Additional crew participants can be added to fill a crew to 12 members. Fees for additional participants can be included with your advance payment due October 1. The balance payment is due March 1.

SEND FEES TO: Camping Registrar
Philmont Scout Ranch
17 Deer Run Road
Cimarron, NM 87714

2026 Fee Payment Schedule

Be sure you have completed and submitted the Reservation Form with the initial fee payment.

AMOUNT DUE (Per Person)					
TRANSMITTAL	**12-Day Trek**	**9-Day Trek**	**7-Day Trek**	**Cavalcade**	**DUE DATE**
Reservation	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00	December 1, 2024
Advance	$787.50	$735.00	$622.50	$607.50	October 1, 2025
Balance	$787.50	$735.00	$622.50	$607.50	March 1, 2026

There is a **Late Addition Fee of $150** for any name added to the roster after May 1, 2025, regardless of whether or not you have paid in full. You **must** have all participant information entered in the roster.

Scholarships

It is the vision of Philmont Scout Ranch to continue to positively impact the lives of young people and their Scouting leaders through inspiring and effective delivery of the finest Scouting possible through backcountry adventures and Philmont Training Center experiences. Philmont receives many donations from all over the country from those who have had the opportunity to experience Scouting Paradise in God's Country and want to share that opportunity with others. There are several financial need-based scholarships available from Philmont, your local council, or elsewhere. Scholarship funding is limited so please apply quickly.

Waite Phillips Scholarships

Philmont offers scholarships to young people through the generosity of a gift made by Waite Phillips in the 1960s. The funds are distributed by two primary methods:

1. Funds are allocated to each council with a contingent participating at Philmont. If you have young people who need financial assistance, contact your local Scout Service Center about the availability of scholarship money. Youth apply to the council and the award amount is credited after the certification form is received by Philmont.
2. Individual units (Scouts BSA Troops, Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Explorer Posts) may apply for a Waite Phillips scholarship. Each crew may apply for one scholarship worth $400. Application forms are emailed to Reservation Contacts and are due back to Philmont by February 1 prior to the upcoming summer. This scholarship is to help make it possible for a youth member to participate who might not otherwise be able to experience Philmont.

Donor Scholarships

The Donor Scholarship application can be found on our website: https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/treks/crew/expeditions. Scroll down to the Fees & Scholarships section and click on the Scholarship Application button. Donor Scholarships are based on need and can vary in endowment. Scholarship funding is limited so please apply early. Donor Scholarships are available to

youths and adults. Multiple members from a crew may apply. There is a $10,000 scholarship cap per crew. The scholarship application opens October 1 the year before attending. If you have questions about Philmont scholarships, please contact Philmont.Camping@scouting.org.

Refund Policy

We understand that sometimes unexpected circumstances arise, and plans must change. Due to the significant advance planning required for a Philmont adventure, all fees paid are non-refundable. If a cancellation becomes necessary, please notify us as soon as possible.

Refunds may be considered under the following circumstances:

- **Military Deployment:** 100% refund
- **Death of a First-Degree Relative:** 100% refund
- **Medical Exclusions Upon Arrival:** 50% refund or transfer to PTC program if space is available

Refund Request Procedures

- Refund requests must be submitted **prior to the arrival date** of your trek or PTC program. Requests received after this date cannot be considered.
- To request a refund, please email the following information:
    1. Participant's name
    2. Crew number (e.g., 609-A) or PTC conference/adventure/program name
    3. Reason for cancellation
    4. Official documentation to support the request (Doctor's statement, obituary, military deployment/transfer, etc.)
    5. Contact information for follow-up
- **For trek refunds:** email Philmont.camping@scouting.org
- **For PTC refunds:** email Philmont.trainingcenter@scouting.org

Once a refund request is approved, you will receive notification. Philmont submits the refunds to the National Office of Scouting America and a check will be issued to the Unit on the registration. The check will be sent to the Reservation Contact on behalf of the participant. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for processing a refund.

Philmont does not refund crews for canceled flights or ground transportation and strongly recommends trip insurance.

All refunds are subject to approval by the Director of Camping and the Director of the Philmont Training Center.

Crew Budget

In establishing the actual fee for each participant, please review the budget worksheet found below. It is important to include all expenses.

FEE & DESCRIPTION	PARTICIPANT CHARGE	TOTAL CREW FEES ($)
Philmont Fees Covers all Philmont meals, tents, cooking gear, program resources, camper's insurance, Advisor's packets, medical care, chaplain services, use of horses and burros, Philmont Arrowhead patch, crew photo, etc.		
Transportation Transportation costs to and from Philmont. Be sure to check insurance coverage on packs and gear in transit.		
Meals & Lodging All meals and lodging en route to and from Philmont (use of military bases helps cut down expenses). Include gratuities and occasional treats along the way.		
Training Meals and other incidental costs for weekend training events.		
Promotion Costs for promotion to include production of all materials, postage, hats and/or t-shirts, etc.		
Equipment – Purchase or Rental Include purchase or rental of any equipment or supplies required by expedition. Expeditions are required to bring backpacking stoves. (Crews using commercial transportation must ship their stoves and fuel bottles using ground service only prior to their arrival).		
Side Trips & Tours During travel to and from Philmont		
Contingency Allowance for any contingency during the trip that may require unexpected expenditures. Refund at the end of the trip if unused.		
Philmont Scholarship Waite Phillips Scholarships are available from Philmont by two primary methods—your local council or directly through the reservation contact/lead advisor. There is also a general scholarship available. Deduct if you have a participant who receives financial assistance.		
TOTAL	**$**	**$**

Contingency Fund

Groups should have a contingency fund to cover unexpected expenses such as emergency transportation, roadside repairs, equipment failure, or additional luggage fees.

High Adventure Committee

Planning and preparing for a successful Philmont expedition require careful consideration of several different aspects of trip planning and execution. To accomplish these tasks efficiently, it helps to have a committee of interested individuals.

The responsibility of planning and executing this experience should not rest in the hands of one or two people who also serve as adult Advisors on the trek. Responsibilities should be divided among members of this "Philmont Scout Ranch High Adventure Committee". Regardless of whether the expedition is reserved as a Unit (single or multiple crews) or as Council Contingent (single or multiple crews), a committee will ensure that all required tasks are accomplished.

Committee Member Prospects

- Council/district volunteers or members of a unit committee with an interest in High Adventure.
- Past participants—youth and adult. Youth participants who have been to Philmont within the last ten years are great resources, and they are eligible to serve as adult Advisors if they're over 21.
- Past Philmont staff members
- Parents of participants
- Adult Advisors
- Philmont Ambassadors

Committee Assignments

- **Leadership**
  - Select adult Advisors for each crew and identify alternates in the event of last-minute cancellations.
  - Support the selection of youth leadership roles for each crew (Crew Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Wilderness Pledge Guia *(Guide)*).
  - Work with Lead Advisors and provide support in using the Philmont Camping Gateway and selecting itineraries.
- **Promotion/Marketing**
  - Develop a recruiting program to ensure that all available participant slots are filled. All crews that arrive with the maximum capacity of 12 participants will receive the "La Docena Adventurado" Award.
  - Conduct Philmont information sessions at the local troop, district, and council levels. These can be done at events such as summer camp, camporees, training events, and roundtables.
  - Include information about additional Philmont opportunities, such as individual programs, for youth who cannot join the crew due to schedule conflicts.
  - Utilize all marketing channels available such as unit, district, and/or council websites, newsletters, and social media platforms.
  - Continue marketing to and recruiting potential alternate participants in the event of last-minute cancellations (both youth and adult).
  - Conduct parent information nights and be prepared to address any questions and/or concerns.
  - Be prepared to organize a "Welcome Home" event to share the crew's adventure with friends and family following the trek. Use this as another opportunity to promote individual programs at Philmont for participants that are eager to return to Philmont.

- **Finance**
  - Develop a budget. Explore as many travel options as possible to find the most cost-effective means of travel and lodging for your crew(s).
  - Include a contingency fund in the planning process to help cover emergencies that might arise during travel to and from Philmont as well as during your trek.
  - Utilize available scholarships. Philmont participants can apply for the Waite Phillips Scholarship, which assists approximately 750 Scouts every year and grants approximately $300,000 annually. Philmont Donor Scholarships are available at https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/crew/expeditons. Look for other local scholarship opportunities as well.
  - Plan and support fundraising activities to help participants raise the funds needed for their travel and

expedition expenses.

- **Transportation**
  - Develop travel plans that include the following:
    - Overnight accommodations
    - Meals
    - Side trips and tours
  - Arrange transportation to and from Philmont Scout Ranch (Cimarron, NM) via:
    - Private vehicles
    - Public transportation
    - Charter services
  - Ensure the trip plans and accommodations abide by SAFE Checklist and the policies and guidelines outlined in the "Guide to Safe Scouting." (https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/)
  - Submit arrival and departure plans in the Camping Gateway. (Found on your roster page.)

- **Equipment**
  - Help and support each crew member in securing the correct equipment for the experience.
  - Coordinate the selection and procurement of all crew equipment required for the expedition.
  - Coordinate special items such as crew t-shirts.
  - Coordinate special food needs for medical and/or religious requirements.
  - Assist with organizing and procuring food, equipment, permits, and reservations needed for weekend shakedown training trips.
- **Training**
  - Ensure that the crew meets the requirements for Wilderness First Aid and CPR training. (At least THREE individuals must upload current training certifications in the Gateway. These can be youths or advisors.)
  - Ensure that all your adult leaders have up-to-date Safeguarding Youth training.
  - Conduct at least two weekend shakedown training events.
- **Health & Fitness**
  - Assist all members of the crew in completing their Annual Health and Medical Record. (https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/) Work with the Lead Advisor to ensure that all participants meet the Philmont requirements, including the height/weight requirements.
  - Review all Annual Health and Medical Records to be sure they are complete, and that each participant has included a copy of their health insurance information with their medical record.
  - Develop and implement a physical fitness program for all members of the crew. This may include physical performance "mileposts" each crewmember must achieve in preparation for the trek.
  - Track fitness activities to encourage all members of the crew to be ready for the physical demands of a Philmont trek.

SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR PHILMONT PARENT RALLY

Purpose of Meeting

- To acquaint parents and youth with Philmont and the Risk Advisory.
- To share the calendar of events leading up to departure for Philmont.
- To inform them of procedures regarding payment of fees, Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Records,
- equipment needs, travel itinerary to/from Philmont, and any other trek requirements.
- Introduce expedition leadership, both adults and youth if the latter has been determined.

- Introduce the physical fitness plan and shakedown training plan.

Meeting Agenda

- **Opening**
  - Philmont maps posted; photos of previous Philmont trips (if applicable).
  - Display of snapshots, souvenirs, mementos, etc. from Philmont.
  - Display of personal equipment needed with explanation of gear.
- **Meeting**
  - **Welcome & Introductions**
  - **What is Philmont?**
    - Presentation by a youth or Advisor who has been to Philmont on a previous trek. Include a brief history of Philmont and use Philmont's promotional videos from www.youtube.com/philmontscoutranch.
    - Keep it brief (no more than 30 minutes).
  - **Administrative Details**
    - Explain the budget and what contributes to all costs associated with it.
    - Emphasize deadline of fee payments and the commitment required by each participant.
    - Review refund policies.
  - **Travel Plans**
    - A uniform is highly recommended for travel and Base Camp.
    - Backpack (for ALL trek related gear); mention the opportunity to rent a backpack at Philmont.
    - Day pack for travel essentials and moving around Base Camp.
    - Boots (sturdy, comfortable, and broken in).
    - Guide for spending money during travel, at Philmont, and on the trail.
    - Review organization of crews and plans for shakedown training.
- **Physical Preparation**
  - Review and distribute Risk Advisory (pp 5-6 of AHMR form) to all parents.
  - Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record.
  - Discuss height/weight requirements, as they are strictly enforced.
  - Share fitness plan.
- **Discussion about the importance of parents engaging and supporting their child's success at Philmont**
- **Review the plan for team building and communication**
- **Distribute any forms and collect fees**
- **Question & Answer Session**
- **Closing**
  - Introduce the Philmont Hymn (See back cover or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o45PWUrks9o)
- **Notes**
  - Additional parent informational/organization meetings may be necessary.
  - Suggestion: Plan a cookout using dehydrated/freeze-dried menus and invite parents; review additional fitness suggestions.

Recommended Preparation Plan

It is important to have a detailed plan to help organize your crew to prepare for their Philmont adventure. This plan provides a breakdown of tasks and actions by quarter and month. A space is available to insert the name of the person responsible for completing the item.

MONTH/SEASON	SUGGESTED ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Winter 2024/Spring/Summer 2025	**Recruit a Philmont High Adventure Committee**; conduct monthly meetings *(CC, U)*	_____
	Conduct critique with previous years' expedition Advisors *(CC)*	_____
	Council Philmont Kick-Off *(CC)*	_____
	Determine attendance objective for councils & districts *(CC)*	_____
	Establish schedules for mailings, meetings, promotions *(CC)*	_____
	Confirm three-deep leadership per crew with at least one alternate *(CC, U)*	_____
	Announce details in council bulletin and provide Philmont updates, noting leadership participation, trip details, age/grade requirements and height/weight requirements for participation *(CC)*	_____
	Share Philmont plans with Camping Committee *(CC)*	_____
	Share Philmont plans with Unit Committee (U)	_____
	Promote Philmont at Roundtables *(CC)*	_____
	Recruit participants and collect Reservation Fee Payment from each participant *(CC, U)*	_____
	Transmit Reservation Fee Payment to Philmont (U – Dec. 1, CC – Jan. 31)	_____
	Enter Crew Roster on the Philmont Camping Gateway; Lead Advisors will be able to enter, update, or modify information *(CC, U)*	_____
Fall 2025	Continue recruiting members of the Philmont High Adventure Committee; conduct monthly meetings *(CC, U)*	_____
	Collect Advance Fee Payment from each participant *(CC, U)*	_____
	Transmit Advance Fee Payment to Philmont (due Oct. 1) (*CC, U*)	_____
	Philmont High Adventure Committee meets with all selected expedition Advisors and reviews plans *(CC)*	_____
	Conduct Philmont Parents' Rally *(CC, U)*	_____
	Sign up 100% of quota *(CC)*	_____
	Share Risk Advisory Statement with parents *(CC, U)*	_____
	Arrange transportation and overnight accommodations to and from Philmont *(CC, U)*	_____
	Make plans for training and the second parents' meeting *(CC, U)*	_____

	When the Itinerary Guidebook is published, begin reviewing itineraries with crew to determine top choices. *(CC, U)* Download Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Forms online *(CC, U)*	_____

(U) – Unit, (CC) – Council Contingent

MONTH/SEASON	SUGGESTED ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
September 2025 to December 2025	Submit Scholarship Certification Form to Philmont (due Jan. 1) *(CC)*	_____
	Apply for Waite Phillips and General Scholarship (due Feb. 1) *(U)*	
	Each participant should schedule a medical exam; review completed medical forms prior to shakedown training *(CC, U)*	_____
	Continue updating Philmont news in council bulletin *(CC)*	_____
	Begin physical fitness plan *(CC, U)*	_____
	Conduct shakedown training weekends (at least two recommended) prior to arrival at Philmont; start moderate and gradually increase pack weight and difficulty *(CC, U)*	_____
	Review SAFE Checklist *(CC, U)*	_____
January to April 2026	Conduct Philmont High Adventure Committee meeting monthly *(CC, U)*	_____
	12-Day, 9-Day, and 7-Day reservations complete the online Itinerary Selection through the Camping Gateway (CC, U)	
	Transmit Final Fee Payment to Philmont by March 1 *(CC, U)*	_____
	Receive Advisor's Packet: includes *The Guidebook to Adventure,* insurance pamphlet, and an overall Philmont map *(CC, U)*	_____
	Continue physical fitness training *(CC, U)*	_____
	Share Accident and Sickness Insurance information, Risk Advisory Statement, Expedition Number and Philmont Address & Emergency Phone Number with parents *(CC, U)*	_____
	Complete and confirm details for travel plans *(CC, U)*	_____
	Continue physical fitness training *(CC, U)*	_____
May 2026	Conduct Philmont High Adventure Committee monthly meeting *(CC, U)*	_____
	Complete Crew Roster and Arrival & Departure Information online in the Camping Gateway. Rosters must be fully populated (all participant information) by May 1 to avoid a $150 Late Addition Fee. Travel plans must be entered at least two weeks prior to arrival *(CC, U)*	_____
	Prepare a press release story for your local news publications; press release forms can be found online at www.philmontscoutranch.org/pressrelease.aspx *(CC, U)*	_____
	Continue physical fitness training *(CC, U)*	_____
June/July/August 2026	**BRING TO PHILMONT**: Photo ID will be checked at Registration for anyone 18 or older *(CC, U)*	_____

	Email philmont.logistics@scouting.org or call Logistics at (575) 376-2281 with any last-minute changes to arrival plans *(CC, U)*	_____	
Following your trek	Conduct Philmont High Adventure Committee Meeting to review the experience & evaluate preparation for the next High Adventure experience *(CC, U)*	_____	
	Plan family follow-up event to share photos and stories *(CC, U)*	_____	

(U) – Unit, (CC) – Council Contingent

Expedition Training & Planning

To ensure the success and enjoyment of a Philmont trek, proper training and planning needs to occur. Each crew should conduct several backpacking trips to prepare each member physically and mentally and to mold the unit into an efficient camping crew. Philmont encourages crews to conduct at least two shakedown weekend trips. These shakedown activities should be for the three-fold purpose of improving physical abilities, practicing camping skills that will be used at Philmont, and developing a cohesive crew that works together. Shakedown Guides can be found at https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/resources/food-and-cooking/.

Participants on most Philmont treks are eligible to earn the 50-Miler Award. Ten hours of conservation service are required to earn the award. Each participant will complete three hours of conservation service during their trek. Crews are encouraged to conduct an activity that allows time for seven hours of conservation service prior to their trek. By completing the additional service prior to the trek, each member of the crew will be eligible to receive the 50-Miler Award upon their return home. There is the opportunity to select a 50-Miler Award trek that allows crews to complete 10 hours of conservation while at Philmont.

Physical Preparation

To enjoy the Philmont experience participants must be physically prepared to carry a 35- to 50-pound backpack over steep, rocky trails at elevations ranging from 6,500 to 12,441 feet. A regular program of physical conditioning for at least three to six months prior to the trek is essential. A longer period of conditioning is required for those unaccustomed to physical exercise. A program of regular aerobic exercise is highly recommended to become physically conditioned for Philmont. Plan to exercise for 30 to 60 minutes 3 to 5 times per week.

Jogging, running uphill, climbing long flights of stairs, and hiking with a full backpack are excellent methods of preparation. How fast you run or how far you go is not nearly as important as regular exercise. Other aerobic exercises such as swimming, bicycling, stationary cycling, and aerobic exercise classes can supplement your training. Start slowly and gradually increase the duration and intensity of your exercises. Start a journal to record your progress. If anyone has questions, have them contact their family physician or an exercise physiologist.

Backpacking is the best way to prepare for a Philmont trek. It is highly recommended that everyone in a Philmont crew review the Backpacking Merit Badge pamphlet as a source of information. The Venturing Backpacking pamphlet also has excellent tips for preparing for a Philmont trek. Be Prepared!

Select a hilly area for your training. Start with a short hike and a light pack. Increase the mileage and your pack weight as your training progresses. It is important to hike often enough while carrying a pack and wearing the boots that you will use at Philmont to toughen your feet and break in your boots. Most of the crews that participate indicate on their evaluation forms that additional physical training by all members of their crew would have been helpful.

As said earlier, **Philmont is hard!** The stamina required to hike Philmont is much greater than you may be used to due to the distances traveled, elevation changes, and the overall duration of the trek.

Suggested Conditioning Program

MONTH	CONDITIONING
December/January	Complete health history on individual medical form and get parental approval (signature). Be examined by a physician or osteopath. Call the physician's attention to the High-Adventure Risk Advisory on the back page of the medical form that describes the rigors of a Philmont trek and to the Examiner's Certification section that indicates areas of medical concern. Ask the physician about any special medical needs or areas of concern. If overweight, get a physician's recommendation on how to lose weight through dieting and exercise to meet Philmont's height and weight requirements. Walk, jog in place, swim or ride a stationary bike for 20+ minutes at least 3 to 5 times per week. Gradually increase the length of time and intensity of exercises. Purchase a pair of quality hiking boots. A pair of boots 6 to 8 inches high with sturdy sole are recommended. Wear your boots to school or work and when walking anywhere to break them in and to condition yourself.
February/March	When weather permits, jog, run or walk outdoors. Start with 20-minute sessions and gradually increase the length and the incline or speed. While walking, begin to carry your backpack and gradually add weight to it.
April/May	Continue exercising. Schedule a couple of 5- to 10-mile day hikes and at least two overnight backpacking trips of 10 to 20 miles. Plan the second trek to cover more rugged terrain or increase the mileage. Whenever possible, hike in the boots that you will use on the trail and carry your backpack.
June/July	Continue exercising right up to the day you depart for Philmont. Come to Philmont in top physical and mental condition ready for backpacking with a 35 to 50-pound pack over steep, rugged trails at high elevations.

Circle acceptable conditioning and training activities to prepare for your Philmont adventure.

First Aid & Health

Philmont Infirmary

Philmont's Infirmary is an "Infirmary" licensed by the State of New Mexico. It is supported by the Kansas University Medical School which has provided doctors, nurses, medics, and medical students as summer professional medical staff for over 60 years.

Treatment

If a participant is injured or becomes ill while at Philmont, they are likely to be treated by the Infirmary. Initial support will most often come from backcountry staff who will communicate with the Infirmary by radio. Depending on the situation, the injured person may be transported from the backcountry to the Infirmary for treatment. In other instances, the person may be treated in the backcountry while remaining with the crew.

For participants brought to the Infirmary for treatment, the objective will be to provide treatment necessary for recovery and then to reunite them with their crew at the earliest possible time. This will be at the first staffed camp the crew will be staying at after the participant is cleared to return to the trail. If the participant cannot be cleared to return to the trail, Philmont's Logistics department will assist them in making arrangements to return home.

NOTE: Your crew Ranger will provide you with instructions on how to get help if you need it while your are on the trail. A note of caution however, you should think about how you could/would handle the situation if you were somewhere like a National Forest instead of Philmont. Whith your Wilderness First Aid training, you should be able to handle many of the injuries/illnesses that occur in the backcountry.

If yo do send for help, you should be aware that you will very likely be told to stay where you ae until assistance arrives. They will then assess the situation and either call for additional help or assist you getting the injured/ill person to a staffed camp or other location where a vehicle can take them to the Infirmary. This will almost always result in your crew missing that day's program and often not getting into camp until late in the day. If you can spread the injured/ill person's pack load among other crew memebers and walk them to the next staffed camp, it will result in minimal loss of program for the other crew members.

You should also plan who you will send for help if that is warranted. It's best to have a strategy in place before an emergency occurs. You will be taught to send four people to the next staffed camp, with information, to get help. Pre-plan who the four should be so you continue to have "two-deep" leadership with the team and the group staying with the injured/ill person.

Supervision

The Infirmary does have inpatient beds, but most participants are treated as outpatients. As such, they will be housed in "Infirmary Tent City". While there, Philmont provides the adult supervision and "two-deep leadership" required by Scouting America Safeguarding Youth policies.

Since supervision is provided and space is limited, it is requested that the parent(s) not come off the trail with an injured or ill youth (and youth not come off the trail with an injured or ill adult). Coming off the trail may result in the crew falling below minimum size, no longer having adequate adult leadership, and other problems that may have consequences for the remaining crew members. If the injury/illness is significant, it is recommended that the parent/youth come off the trail, but this should not occur for routine matters (blisters, ingrown toenails, sprained ankle.)

Wilderness First Aid & CPR Training

Philmont requires that each crew have 3 participants who have completed Wilderness First Aid and 3 participants that have completed CPR training or hold a medical license.

Current certification cards must be uploaded to the Gateway to verify this requirement. With 3 Wilderness First Aid and 3 CPR trained members on the trek, the crew will be better equipped to handle emergencies. This requirement can be met by youth and/or adult participants. Different crew members may hold the certifications – the same person does not have to be certified in Wilderness First Aid and certified in CPR. The required certifications may be held by 3 to 6 crew members.

CPR Training

Philmont requires that each crew have 3 participants who have completed CPR training. There is no list of approved CPR courses, but it is highly recommended that the CPR certification include training in Adult and Child CPR, Choking, and use of an Automated External Defibrillator. Current CPR cards should be uploaded in the Gateway prior to arrival at Philmont.

Wilderness First Aid

Philmont requires each crew to have 3 participants that have completed WFA training. The approved courses listed below are a minimum of 16 hours with at least 8 hours taught in person. These certifications usually last for two years and the classes fill up quickly so get this training done early in your preparations. Any adult or youth 14 years old and up may take the Wilderness First Aid training. Wilderness First Aid training can be obtained from the following organizations recognized by the American Camping Association:

- American Red Cross – www.redcross.org
- American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) – www.ashinstitute.org
- Emergency Care and Safety Institute – www.ECSInstitute.org – Wilderness First Aid Advanced Level Course
- National Safety Council – www.nsc.org – NCS Advanced First Aid
- National Ski Patrol – www.nsp.org – Outdoor Emergency Care
- Remote Medical International – www.remotemedical.com
- Sierra Rescue – www.sierrarescue.com
- SOLO – www.soloschools.com
- The Mountaineers – www.mountaineers.org – Mountaineering Oriented First Aid
- Wilderness Medical Associates (WMA) – www.wildmed.com
- Wilderness Medicine Institute (WMI) – www.nols.com/wmi/
- Wilderness Medicine Outfitters – www.wildernessmedicine.com – Distance Learning Course does NOT qualify)
- Wilderness Medicine Training Center – www.wildmedcenter.com
- Wilderness Safety Council – www.wfa.net
- Wilderness Safety & Emergency Response (W.I.S.E.R.) – www.wiser-wfr.com

Scouting America, the American Red Cross, and the Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI) have national agreements with the primary goal to help councils become self-sufficient in teaching First Aid courses. Check with your local Council Service center for help in locating a course in your area.

Philmont will accept the following advanced levels of training in lieu of Wilderness First Aid and/or CPR. A copy of the current license or certification must be shared with Philmont during the registration process. Remember to bring cards or certifications for verification.

- Wilderness First Responder
- Outdoor Emergency Care/Ski Patrol
- EMT-Basic, EMT-Advanced or Paramedic
- Military Corpsman, Medic or Equivalent Medical Training
- Registered Nurse
- Licensed Nurse Practitioner
- Licensed Physician's Assistant
- Licensed Physician, MD or DO

First Aid Kit

Each crew must bring a firs aid kit. The *Guidebook to Adventure*, available in the Advisor's packet, will contain recommended first aid kit supplies. Many over-the counter medications are available at the Tooth of Time Traders.

Each crew carries its own first aid kit to treat minor cuts, bruises, scratches, and burns. More serious cses must be treated by Philmont's medical staff, which includes doctors, nurses, and medical students. All staff camps have two-way radios for reporting serious illnesses and injuries to the Philmont Infirmary.

Several Philmont employees are certified by the New Mexico State Police to serve as Field Coordinators for search and rescue operations. When necessary, Philmont can request resources from throughout the state of New Mexico and Adjacent states including trained search and rescue personnel (in addition to the Philmont staff), search dogs, trackers, helicopters, and other support. Philmont has written plans for managing different types of emergencies that may arise.

The most common injuries or illnesses needing treatment at Philmont are:

- Sprains (knee or ankle)
- Abrasions/Lacerations
- Altitude Sickness
- Dehydration
- Upper respiratory infections
- Upset stomach
- Sore Throat
- Nose bleeds

First aid providers should be knowledgeable in recognizing and treating these ailments.

Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Form

All participants in backcountry programs are required to have a current Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record completed within 12 months of their arrival at Philmont. The Annual Health and Medical Record parts A, B, and C must all be completed, and Part C must be signed by a MD, DO, PA, or NP.

The completed Annual Health and Medical Record should be reviewed by the crew's lead advisor to ensure they are aware of any medical issues that may arise on the trek and to make sure that it is filled out completely. The completed forms need to be uploaded into the crew roster on the Camping Gateway in advance of your crew's arrival at Philmont. Bring a copy of the form to Philmont with you in case there is a problem with the uploaded electronic version or an emergency during travel.

NOTE: An individual should always contact the family physician first and call Philmont at 575-379-2281 if there is a question about the advisability of participation. Philmont's Chief Medical Officer and other medical staff of the Philmont Infirmary reserve the right to make medical decisions regarding participation of individuals at Philmont.

For more information about completing the Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record please visit: https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/medical-formfaqs/. The Philmont High Adventure Risk Advisory should be

read by each participant and their parent or guardian. It should also be shared with the medical provider completing the medical evaluation. The Philmont High Adventure Risk Advisory contains helpful information and interpretation.

Religious Beliefs & Medical Care

The following is the policy of Scouting America regarding medical requirements:

> *Medical examinations for camp attendance are required of all campers for the protection of the entire camp group. The immunization requirement is waived for persons with religious beliefs against immunization. This form can be obtained at* www.philmontscoutranch.org/philmonttreks/healthform/.

Immunizations

Scouting America encourages all members of the Scouting community to use available vaccines to fully protect themselves from infectious diseases that are dangerous for children and adults living in the United States. Participants who are not immunized are subject to identification so that they may be located in case of a necessity for isolation or quarantine as required by local public health official directives. Based on risk, a valid (within last 10 years) tetanus immunization is required to participate. State or local requirements for resident camping may be more restrictive.

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (DTaP or Tdap)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) (if born in 1957 or later)
- Varicella (VAR) (chicken pox) (if born in 1980 or later)
- Polio (IPV)

Although not required, the following immunizations are **strongly recommended** by both Scouting America and the CDC. Please review your age-appropriate immunization status with your personal health care provider:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (DTaP or Tdap)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) (born 1957 or later)
- Varicella (VAR) (chicken pox) (if born in 1980 or later)
- Polio (IPV)
- COVID-19
- Hepatitis A (Hep A)
- Hepatitis B (Hep B)
- Pneumonia (Pneumococcus): PVC13 or PPSV23)
- Influenza (annually)
- Haemophilus Influenza Type B (HIB)
- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
- Meningococcus Conjugate (Men ACWY)
- Meningococcus Type B (Men B)
- Shingles — Zoster recombinant (RZV)

As new vaccines become available these requirements and recommendations may be modified.

Exemptions to this immunization policy will be accepted for medical reasons as determined for everyone (e.g., those with congenital conditions, compromised immune systems, or taking certain medications). Scouts and Scouters who have been exempted from required vaccinations MUST have this documented by their personal health care provider on their Annual Health & Medical Record form.

Height & Weight Restrictions

Philmont Scout Ranch has established weight limit guidelines. These measurements are used because overweight individuals are at a greater risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, altitude sickness, sleep problems and injury. Each participant's weight must be less than the maximum acceptable limit in the weight chart.

Participants 21 years and older who exceed the maximum acceptable weight limit for their height at the Philmont medical recheck WILL NOT be permitted to backpack or hike at Philmont. **They will be sent home at their expense.**

For participants under 21 years old who exceed the maximum acceptable weight for height, the Philmont staff will use

their judgement to determine if the youth can participate. Philmont will consider up to 20 pounds over the maximum acceptable weight limit; however, exceptions are not made automatically and **discussion with the Philmont** Infirmary **in advance is required for any exception**. Due to rescue equipment restrictions and evacuation efforts from remote sites, under NO circumstances will any individual weighing more than 295 pounds be permitted to participate in backcountry programs.

Participants planning to participate in the Cavalcade program or horse rides must not exceed 210 pounds. No exceptions will be made.

Philmont does not have a lower weight limit, but all participants must be able to carry all the required equipment without exceeding a pack weight of 30% of their body weight.

Height/Weight Chart

Height (inches)	Maximum Weight (lbs)	Height (inches)	Maximum Weight (lbs)	Height (inches)	Maximum Weight (lbs)	Height (inches)	Maximum Weight (lbs)
60	166	65	195	70	226	75	260
61	172	66	201	71	233	76	267
62	178	67	207	72	239	77	274
63	183	68	214	73	246	78	281
64	189	69	220	74	252	79+	295

Assessment of body fat percentage:

Both youth and adults who do not qualify for the exemptions listed above may also seek an exemption by having their body fat percentage measured. Males must have a body fat percentage less than or equal to 15%, and females must have a body fat percentage less than or equal to 22%. This testing can be done using a water displacement test, whole body air displacement testing (e.g., BodPod), or dual energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) scan. Any other methods of testing such as skin fold testing will not be accepted. Contact your primary healthcare provider to find out where these tests may be available. Regardless of the result of any displacement testing, no participant will be permitted to participate in horse programs if they weigh more than 210 pounds and no participant will be permitted to participate if they exceed 295 pounds.

Philmont Scout Ranch Horseback Riding Policy -- NEW in 2025

To ensure the safety and well-being of riders and horses, Philmont Scout Ranch has established the following height-to-weight guidelines for all horseback riding activities. Riders must meet the specified height and maximum weight limits outlined below, in addition to demonstrating the ability to independently mount and dismount a horse.

Height	Max Weight		Height	Max Weight
56"	125		65"	168
57"	129		66"	173
58"	134		67"	179
59"	139		68"	184
60"	143		69"	189
61"	148		70"	195
62"	153		71"	200
63"	158		72"	206
64"	163		73” & up	210

Medical Conditions

Allergies & Anaphylaxis

People who have had an anaphylactic reaction from any cause must contact the Philmont Infirmary before arrival. If you are allowed to participate, you will be required to have appropriate treatment with you. You and at least one other member of your crew must know how to administer the treatment. If you do not bring appropriate treatment with you, you will be required to buy it before you will be allowed to participate.

Asthma

Asthma must be well-controlled before participating at Philmont. Well-controlled asthma may include the use of long-acting bronchodilators, inhaled steroids, or oral medications such as Singular.

In this instance, "well-controlled" means:

- A rescue inhaler is used less than two times per week.
- Nighttime awakenings due to asthma symptoms occur less than two times per month.

You will NOT be allowed to participate if:

- You have asthma NOT controlled by medication.
- You have been hospitalized or gone to the Emergency Room to treat asthma in the past six months.
- You have needed treatment with oral steroids (prednisone) in the past six months.

You must bring an ample supply of your medication and a spare rescue inhaler, none of which are expired. At least one other member of the crew should know how to use the rescue inhaler. Any person who has needed treatment for asthma in the past three years must carry a rescue inhaler on the trek. If you do not bring a rescue inhaler, you must buy one before you will be allowed to participate.

Chronic Medical Conditions

Participants with most chronic medical conditions can participate successfully at Philmont if those conditions are well managed, and the participant has a plan for management prior to the trek. The best way to learn how to manage a chronic medical condition at Philmont is through progressive shake down hikes before coming to Philmont.

Diabetes

Both the person with diabetes and one other person in the group need to be able to recognize signs of excessively high or low blood sugar. An insulin-dependent person who was diagnosed or who has had a change in delivery system (insulin pump) in the last six months is advised not to participate. A person with diabetes who has had frequent hospitalizations or who has had problems with low blood sugar should not participate until better control of their diabetes has been achieved. If an individual has been hospitalized for diabetes-related illnesses within the past year, the individual must obtain permission to participate by contacting the Philmont Infirmary at (575) 376-2281.

If the diabetic person uses an insulin pump and/or continuous glucose monitor, they must ensure they have adequate supplies and power for these devices for the duration of their trek. There will be no opportunities to recharge devices in Philmont's backcountry. If their device(s) communicate with a smartphone, the app used should be duplicated on one or more other crew members' smartphones to provide backup.

Insulin needed during the trek should be kept cool in an insulin cooling case similar to the FRÍO insulin cooler, stored outside the diabetic person's backpack so the case can breathe (evaporative cooling.)

Hypertension

Upon arrival at Philmont, all adult participants (21 years and older) will have a blood pressure check as part of the medical recheck process. Participants with a history of hypertension should be well controlled and must have a blood pressure below 160/95 at medical recheck before being allowed on the trail.

Medications

Philmont participants who need daily, or emergency medications should bring enough medication for their entire trip, it should be in date and in the original container for medical recheck. Participants who arrive without their medication or have medications that are expired will be required to get that medication at their own expense before being allowed on the trail.

Philmont maintains a secure and licensed pharmacy and can store backup medications for participants.

Mental Health

A Philmont adventure can be a stressful and isolating experience for some participants and can be difficult for participants with a history of mental health illness. Participants should not stop taking any medication prior to coming to Philmont and should talk with their physician about how these medications may affect them while on the trail. Participants with a history of mental health illnesses should participate in multiple shakedown hikes with their crew prior to coming to Philmont to evaluate themselves and how they are feeling during the hikes.

Cell phone service and power are very limited in most of the Philmont backcountry. If a participant relies on a phone call, text, or games as a coping mechanism during stress those may not be available at Philmont. Learning new coping mechanisms and time away from electronics before a Philmont adventure will help participants be more successful.

Recent Musculoskeletal Injuries & Orthopedic Surgery

Participants will put a great deal of strain on their joints. Individuals who have significant musculoskeletal problems (including back problems) or orthopedic surgery/injuries within the last six months must have a letter of clearance from their treating physician to be considered for approval. Philmont should be contacted in advance of participation. Permission is not guaranteed. Ingrown toenails are a common problem and must be treated 30 days prior to arrival.

Seizures (Epilepsy)

The seizure condition must be well-controlled by medication. A well-controlled condition is one in which a year has passed without a seizure. Exceptions to this guideline may be considered on an individual basis and will be based on the specific type of seizure and likely risks to the individual and/or other members of the crew.

Food Allergies & Dietary Restrictions

Philmont trail food is a high-carbohydrate and high-caloric diet by necessity. It contains wheat, milk products, sugar and corn syrup, and artificial coloring/flavoring. **If an individual in your crew is allergic to any of the food products in our menu or requires a special diet, suitable replacement food must be purchased at home and brought to Philmont to replace those items. Food substitutions may be made ONLY for medical (including allergies), religious, or vegetarian/vegan reasons.** All food shipped to the backcountry is subject to inspection to ensure that food is being substituted for these reasons. ***There is no fee reduction for individuals who bring their own food.***

If you think you may need replacement food, refer to https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/resources/food-and-cooking/ for the menu and ingredients list. The list for the summer menu will be available online in early May each year. Review the list and determine which items in each meal would cause a problem and replace with substitute food items. Keep in mind that Philmont participants need approximately 3,000 calories per day.

All meals are numbered 1 to 10. Meal schedules and labels are determined by the **calendar date**, rather than a crew's day on their trek (for example, every crew eats B1, L1 and D1 on the 1st, 11th, and 21st of each month; every crew eats B2, L2 and D2 on the 2nd, 12th, and 22nd, etc.). The menu number is shown on the Crew Leader's Copy form (note that it shifts by one on August 1, so the crew does not eat the same menu number on consecutive days). Package the substitutes for each meal together in a plastic bag and label them each with your expedition number, the person's name, and the meal that the substitute food bag is needed for (ex: Lunch 5). Do this for all items that need to be substituted in all meals. The key is to be sure all bags are clearly labeled.

On the day of your arrival at Philmont, your crew's Ranger/Horseman/Wrangler, the Crew Leader, an Advisor, and the

individual(s) needing the substitute food should bring their food and the crew's Crew Leader Copy to Logistics. The Logistics staff will then group the meals by backcountry commissary and arrange for them to be delivered. At the time of your backcountry food pickup, both the standard-issue meal bags and the substitute food bags will be available at the commissary. Everyone is issued the standard meal bags, and it will be the responsibility of the person(s) with food substitutes to remove the items they cannot eat.

Appropriate substitutions can be arranged for food served in the dining hall by indicating the type of food restriction(s) on the Camping Gateway and speaking with the Dining Hall Manager at mealtime.

Kosher/Halal Trail Menu
Philmont supports a Kosher/Halal trail menu. To assist crews in identifying which items are Kosher, the menu has an identification mark by each item that qualifies.

Crews or individuals that require a Kosher/Halal trail menu may bring substitutes for items that are not Kosher/Halal for each meal. These items must be labeled as outlined in the link above.

Philmont provides *My Own Meal* products which are Glatt Kosher/Halal **for dinner entrées only**. These meals must be picked up from Outfitting Services and processed in Logistics at the same time as the substitutes brought from home. *My Own Meals* need only to be immersed in boiling water for five minutes to be ready. Philmont has Kosher vessels (brand new and not used) available. We recommend that Jewish and Muslim Scouts either bring their own trail stove or purchase one at Philmont so that they do not have to wait for a crew stove to boil their water and as a result, not eat at the same time as their crew members. Philmont Scout Ranch will do its best to provide specific information to help in planning meals for Jewish and Muslim Scouts.

Additional Information
You may direct specific questions or concerns to the Philmont Jewish Chaplain or the Philmont Scout Ranch Director of Camping by emailing philmont.camping@scouting.org.

Risk Advisory

Philmont has an excellent health and safety record and strives to minimize risks to participants by emphasizing appropriate safety precautions. Most participants do not experience injuries because they are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions, work as a team with your crew, and take responsibility for your own health and safety.

Philmont staff members are trained in first aid, CPR, and accident prevention. They can assist the adult Advisors in recognizing, reacting to, and responding to accidents, injuries, and illnesses. Response times can be affected by location, terrain, weather, or other emergencies and could be delayed for hours or even days in a wilderness setting.

All Philmont participants should understand potential health risks inherent at or above 6,700 feet in elevation in a dry Southwest environment. These include high elevation; a physically demanding high-adventure program in remote mountainous areas; camping while being exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods, and heat; and other potential problems, including injuries from tripping and falling, falls from horses, and heat exhaustion. Native wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes, and mountain lions usually present little to no danger if proper precautions are taken.

Risk & Physical Preparedness

The Philmont experience is NOT risk-free. Staff will instruct participants in safety measures. Be prepared to listen to and follow these measures. Accept responsibility for the health and safety of yourself and others in your crew. Each participant must be able to carry 25 to 30 percent of their body weight while hiking 5 to 12 miles per day in an isolated mountain wilderness ranging from 6,500 to 12,000+ feet in elevation over trails that are steep and rocky. Weather during summer and autumn includes temperatures from 30° to 100°F, low humidity (10 to 30 percent), and frequent - sometimes severe thunderstorms.

Your Philmont trek should not be the first experience with hiking and backpacking for a crew. Physical training and shakedown hikes in the year leading up to your trek will give you the greatest chance of success. These shakedown hikes not only help you to build physical fitness but also allow participants to evaluate their gear and clothing to see how it will

function at Philmont, as well as make plans for dealing with any medical emergencies or conditions that may arise at Philmont.

Insurance

The Philmont camper fee includes insurance coverage for health, accidents, and sickness en route to and from home and while hiking the trails of Philmont. This policy is an Excess Insurance Plan, meaning that the plan will pay all those eligible expenses incurred from a covered accident or sickness not paid by any other collectible insurance or pre-paid health plan in force for you or dependent children. If no other collectible insurance or pre-paid health plans are in effect at the time of the loss, this plan will pay all eligible covered expenses up to the plan limits. There is no deductible under this plan. Specific information about the camper's insurance plan will be included in the Advisor's Packet. **Name and policy number of the family policy must be noted on each medical form AND a copy of the insurance card (front and back) must be attached. If no insurance is in force, state NONE on the form.**

Travel & Transportation

Arrival & Departure

Many months of planning lead up to the crew's arrival at Philmont. **Arrange your travel itinerary to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on your SCHEDULED arrival day.** It is preferable that you arrive the day before your scheduled arrival versus arriving later on your scheduled arrival day.

Plan your **departure** from Philmont after breakfast on the morning following your trek (Day 13 for 12-Day Treks, Day 10 for 9-Day Treks, and Day 8 for 7-Day Treks). For crews needing to depart early on this day, arrangements may be made in Registration during check-in for a "Continental" breakfast at 5:45 am.

Philmont "Days"

Day 0 is for early arrival. Crews traveling by train are encouraged to arrive a day early. Crews flying into Denver, Colorado Springs, or Albuquerque may also arrive a day early. There is a nominal fee for the extra night and extra meals.

Day 1 is your "**arrival date**". It corresponds to the month/date of the first 3 digits of your expedition number. For example, an expedition number of "704-??" should arrive at Philmont July 4 ("7" / "04"). Crews should plan to arrive at Philmont no later than 11:00 a.m. that day. Crews traveling by train to Philmont should refer to page 38. **Please do not plan to visit the Villa Philmonté or the National Scouting Museum on Day 1.** You will be busy and will not have time.

Note: It takes approximately 24 hours from the time a crew arrives at Philmont to check-in before they are ready to head out on their trek. Crews arriving mid-morning on Day 1 (or early arrival on Day 0) can expect to depart base camp for their trek mid-morning on Day 2.

Day 2 is a day when any check-in procedures not completed on Day 1 are finished and the crew will depart base camp for their trek. The actual departure time will be dependent on the time the crew arrives on Day 1.

If a crew finds that their travel arrangements require arriving or departing at times other than on scheduled days, Philmont recommends that groups utilize other alternatives. **If it is necessary to arrive early or depart late, please enter the information in the Philmont Camping Gateway. All layovers are limited to one night before arrival *OR* one night after trek completion.**

If you would like to arrive 2 days early, your crew may take part in our new **Stay & Play program**, offered through the Philmont Training Center. Enter your arrival date in the Gateway and further information will pop up.
To reduce the impact on other crews and program activities, early arrival crews should try to arrive prior to 7:00 p.m.

This might require making overnight arrangements at other locations and arriving at Philmont in the morning on the regularly scheduled arrival day.

Scheduled expeditions will have priority when it comes to Base Camp accommodations, over groups arriving early or departing late. All early arrivals/late departures will be assigned trail tents for lodging unless space is available in regular 7’ x 9’ wall tents on platforms with cots. The charge for extra lodging is $15 per person/per night and additional meals are $8 per person/per meal.

If a crew is delayed en route due to some unexpected situation, please notify Philmont by calling (575) 376-2281 and ask for the Welcome Center.

Meals Provided by Philmont

		7-Day Trek			9-Day Trek			12-Day Trek			Cavalcade			Sample Date for
"Day"	Activity	B	L	D	B	L	D	B	L	D	B	L	D	704-?? Expedition
0	Travel/Early arrival for west coast train crews													7/3
1	"Arrival Day" – Begin check-in process		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	7/4
2	Depart Camping HQ for Treks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/5
3		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/6
4		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/7
5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/8
6		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/9
9	7-Day Treks return to Camping HQ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/10
8	7-Day Treks Depart for home Cavalcades return to Camping HQ	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7/11
9	9-Day Treks return to Camping HQ Cavalcades Depart for home				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			7/12
10	9-Day Treks Depart for home				✓			✓	✓	✓				7/13
11								✓	✓	✓				7/14
12	12-Day Treks return to Camping HQ							✓	✓	✓				7/15
13	12-Day Treks Depart for home							✓						7/16
		21 Meals			27 Meals			36 Meals			23 Meals			

✓ *Camping Dining Hall*
✓ *Trail or Dining Hall meal*

Please refer to your invoice for your specific arrival and departure dates. The Philmont fee for a 12-Day trek covers 36 meals and 12 nights lodging, staff, and program supplies. *Prorating for missed meals is not available*.

Your expedition begins with lunch on your arrival day (Day 1). For 12-Day treks, you will come off the trail on Day 12 and depart Philmont after breakfast on Day 13. 9-Day Treks will come off the trail on Day 9 and depart on Day 10. 7-Day Treks will come off the trail on Day 7 and depart on Day 8. Cavalcades will come off the trail on Day 8 and depart on Day 9.

Your arrival time will determine your first meal at Philmont. Meals are served at the following times:

TRAILBOUND CREWS	HOMEBOUND CREWS
Breakfast – 6:30 a.m.	Breakfast – 5:45 a.m. (Continental) 7:00 a.m. (Regular)
Lunch – 11:30 a.m.	Lunch – 12:15 p.m.
Dinner – 4:45 p.m.	Dinner – 5:45 p.m.

A continental breakfast option is available at 5:45 a.m. for groups departing Philmont very early. This must be arranged at the Registration Office upon arrival at Philmont.

As a courtesy to all groups in Base Camp (homebound and trailbound), please DO NOT plan to depart Philmont prior to

5:45 a.m. Early morning departures impact everyone's ability to obtain adequate rest. Planning an extra travel day could allow a crew to leave Philmont at a reasonable time, visit local attractions, and position themselves closer to airports for early plane departures one day later.

Transportation Services

Philmont does not endorse any agency or vendor listed in this publication but provides this information to assist groups in making travel and lodging arrangements.

- Airlines to Denver (270 miles from Philmont), Colorado Springs (190 miles from Philmont), Pueblo (159 miles from Philmont), Albuquerque (220 miles from Philmont) and Amarillo (220 miles from Philmont) – obtain chartered bus directly to Philmont.
- Charter bus service arranged at home direct to Philmont.
- Amtrak Train to Raton, NM; Philmont bus to and from Philmont – (800-872-7245 or www.amtrak.com).
- Amtrak Train to Denver, CO; obtain charter bus directly to Philmont.

Inquire with airline reservation personnel about the possibility of supplemental chartered airline services offering packaged plans with reduced group rates. Review baggage fees and other airline related costs to include in the budget.

Travel Companies Serving Philmont

- **Blue Sky Adventures** (877-225-8375 or www.blueskyadventures.net) charter service from Albuquerque, Denver, or Colorado Springs.
- **Cornerstone Bus Leasing & Rental** (844-496-8287 or www.cornerstonebusleasing.com/philmont-shuttle-rental-discount) Rental/Leasing of Mini-Bus Chassis from Denver or Colorado Springs.
- **Go Shuttle, LLC** (888-722-1483/720- 276-9976) van shuttle service from Denver and Colorado Springs.
- **Greyhound Charter Services** (800-454-2487 or www.greyhound.com or charters@greyhound.com)
- **Gray Line** of Colorado Springs (719-633-1181 or coloradosprings@grayline.com) provides transfer services to/from Philmont for groups or individuals from Colorado Springs Airport.
- **Gray Line** of Denver (303-289-2841 or denver@grayline.com) provides daily transfer services to/from Philmont for groups or individuals from Denver International Airport and Denver Amtrak.
- **Herrera Coaches, Inc** (505-242-1108, fax: 505-242-1125 or www.herreracoach.com)
- **Leading the Way Tours, Inc** (866-696-5073 or christine@leadingthewaytours.com) charter services from Colorado Springs, Denver, or Albuquerque.
- **Pacesetter** (303-289-5637) provides service from Denver (airport or Amtrak) and Colorado Springs.
- **Peak 1 Express** (970-423-7033 or info@peak1express.com)
- **Premier Charters, Inc** (303-289-2222 or ryan@ridepremier.com) provides service from Denver and Colorado Springs.
- **Ramblin' Express** (800-772-6254 or 719-590-8687 or service@ramblin.com) service in the Rocky Mountain region.
- **MileMarker Van Rentals** (720-419-1903 or reservations@milemarkervanrenteal.com) 15-passenger vans available for group rentals. Our rental depot is located next to DIA, with a shuttle to and from DIA for your troop's convenience. Vans are spacious and equipped with plenty of luggage room and wi-fi.

Private Vehicles

This method of transportation should be used only with full assurance that vehicles are safe, and drivers are reliable. Make sure there is adequate insurance coverage for each vehicle. Review the *Guide to Safe Scouting* for information about automobile liability insurance requirements, motor vehicle and driver checklist, and using automobiles, SUVs, and vans. **Philmont is NOT responsible for vehicles parked in the camper parking areas.**

Philmont Bus Service

Philmont provides round-trip bus transportation to and from the bus and train stations in Raton, NM at a cost of $55.00 per person (subject to change). This bus fee is payable on the day your crew checks in at Philmont. Buses are scheduled upon entering your Arrival Plans through the Camping Gateway. Due to commercial schedules, it may be necessary for you to eat in Raton prior to arriving at Philmont. If you arrive in Raton after 10:30 a.m. or 5:00 p.m., plan to eat a meal in town as you will not arrive at Philmont in time for a scheduled meal. The shuttle bus driver will take you to a fast-food location in Raton. Crews arriving by train should take their arrival time at Philmont into consideration.

Amtrak Transportation

Although Amtrak periodically changes its schedules and trains can be delayed, the (current) Amtrak service to/from Raton (Philmont) is:

Direction	Train #	Arriving From	Arrives Raton	Departing To	Departs Raton
Westbound	3	Chicago, Kansas City	9:47 am	Albuquerque, Los Angeles	9:52 am
Eastbound	4	Albuquerque, Los Angeles	4:22 pm	Chicago, Kansas City	4:26 pm

Crews traveling by train, whether from the East or the West, should plan to arrive on Day 0. This will allow crews to start their trek on time even if the train is delayed. Philmont's buses will stop so crews can have lunch at fast food restaurants in Raton before continuing to the Ranch. There will be a nominal fee for arriving a day early.

If you travel by Amtrak and cannot arrive/depart Raton on your arrival/departure day, please consider planning to stay the night outside of Philmont. Space for early arrival/late departure crews is often extremely limited in base camp. You are not guaranteed a platform, canvas wall tent for Day 0 arrivals. Philmont's buses will transport you between the train station and motels in Raton or Cimarron and pick you up at the motel the next morning to continue to Philmont. Email philmont.camping@scouting.org to discuss these options.

PHILMONT LANDMARKS WORD SCRAMBLE

BLYAD OUMANITN	_____	AEFRESSH SPAS	_____
TOHOT OF MIET	_____	WATENSLOL PSSA	_____
CRITOIROCANM EPAK	_____	UMOTN PHLPLISI	_____
TRHA EAKP	_____	VOSLRE ALEP	_____
ARTLI PKAE	_____	GIB RDE	_____
KLABC NIOMUANT	_____	CCNAMEHO EPKA	_____

Lodging In & Around Cimarron, NM

A list of all locations that offer overnight accommodations for groups traveling to Philmont is available at https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/resources/traveling-to-philmont/near-philmont. Contact locations directly to make a reservation or seek specific information.

Phone Number	Agency & Address	Location	Distance from Philmont
575-377-6271	Cimarron Canyon State Park P.O. Box 185 Eagle Nest, NM 87718 www.nmparks.com	Ute Park, NM	20 miles
575-445-3615	NRA Whittington Center P.O. Box 700 Raton, NM 87740 info@nrawc.org www.nrawc.org	10 miles SW of Raton on Highway 64	40 miles
575-376-2343	Ponil Campground 31006 U.S. Highway 64 Cimarron, NM 87714 www.Ponilcampgrouds.com	Cimarron, NM	6 miles
575-445-5607	Sugarite Canyon State Park HCR 63, Box 386 Raton, NM 87740 www.nmparks.com	Raton, NM	55 miles
575-376-2268	Hikers Cimarron Inn & RV Park 212 E. 10th St., P.O. Box 631 Cimarron, NM 87714 www.hikerscimarroninn.com	Cimarron, NM	5 miles
575-376-2664	St. James Hotel 617 Collison Ave Cimarron, NM 87714 www.exstjames.com	Cimarron, NM	4 miles
575-425-0005	Blue Dragonfly Inn 600 W. 18th St. Cimarron, NM 87714 www.bluedrangonflyinn.com	Cimarron, NM	4 miles
575-376-4105	Grand National B & B 609 S. Sherman Ave. Cimarron, NM 87714 visit@grandnationalbandb.com	Cimarron, NM	4 miles
575-376-2246	Casa del Gavilan Historic Inn 570 N-21 Cimarron, NM 87714 www.casadelgavilan.com	Cimarron, NM	5 miles

Other Information

Uniforms

Philmont strongly recommends groups wear the Scouting America field uniform ("Class A") while in Base Camp, especially at chapel services, dinner, and Opening and Closing campfires. The uniform is also appropriate for traveling to and from Philmont. It is NOT required on the trail and may be left in personal vehicles or crew lockers for crews using public transportation.

Trading Post – Tooth of Time Traders (ToTT)

The Tooth of Time Traders carries gear that will cover all your crew gear and personal equipment needs, as well as Philmont souvenirs. To sign up for email updates and mailings, go to https://store.philmontscoutranch.org/ and register your account today. If you want further information or have any questions, you can email toothoftimetraders@scouting.org. The Tooth of Time Traders can produce custom t-shirts for your crew. Information can be found online at store.philmontscoutranch.org/custom-crew-gear/. They also carry a wide variety of Scouting t-shirts and other clothing. The use of Philmont logos is permitted provided they are manufactured by a Scouting America licensed vendor.

Start shopping at www.toothoftimetraders.com!

Fishing Licenses

All participants 18 years or older planning to fish are required to purchase a fishing license from New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, either online or at the Tooth of Time Traders. Fishing licenses for participants 18 years and older are NOT available for purchase in the backcountry.

Fees for non-resident fishing licenses are as follows: (Subject to change.)

License *(2024-2025 NM Game & Fish pricing)*	**License Charge**	**Habitat Stamp[1]**	**Habitat Management & Access Validation (HMAV)[2]**	**Vendor Charge**	**Total Charge**
1 Day	$12.00	$10.00	$4.00	$1.00	$27.00 or $17.00
5 Day	$24.00	$10.00	$4.00	$1.00	$39.00 or $29.00
Philmont youth (under 18) license[3]	$ 1.50	n/a	n/a	$0.50	$2.00
Annual	$56.00	$10.00	$4.00	$1.00	$71.00 or $61.00

[1] If planning to fish on U.S. Forest Service Valle Vidal land, anglers must purchase a **Habitat Stamp** ($10.00).

[2] All anglers 18 years old or older are required to purchase the **HMAV** ($4.00).

[3] Sold at Tooth of Time Traders, Abreu, and Phillips Junction. These licenses are good for the trek duration and only valid for fishing at Philmont.

The Habitat Stamp and/or HMAV stamp is only purchased once each license year.

If you are purchasing a one-day, five-day, or Philmont Youth license, we recommend that you do so at the Tooth of Time Traders after you arrive at Philmont. This is so we may help you align the actual fishing days with your itinerary and insure you have the required validations (Habitat Stamp or HMAV) before purchasing a non-refundable license. It also saves time in the backcountry. There is a special online kiosk at the Tooth of Time Traders available to help participants obtain their licenses.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish requires each applicant to create an online account with a username and password before they can purchase a license. The system will assign the applicant a unique Customer Identification Number (CIN). Each person in the crew planning to purchase a license should obtain their own Customer Identification Number. You can speed up the process of purchasing your license at Philmont by obtaining this information before you leave home — **be sure to bring your CIN to Philmont**. Adults also must know their Social Security number to purchase a fishing license. http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/fishing/licenses-permits/

Pack Rental

Philmont maintains several different brands of internal and external frame backpacks for rent. This can be helpful for participants who are not able to purchase a backpack for the trek, find that their pack is not the correct size, or is not durable enough for Philmont's trails. Philmont rents packs, with a pack cover, for $30 for the duration of the trek.

Shipping Procedures

There are many different items that you may need to ship to Philmont, some of which may have specific shipping requirements. Fuel and stoves are some of the most common items shipped to Philmont, but the information below applies to any item that needs to be shipped to the Ranch.

Philmont requires crews to use backpacking stoves. Visit https://store.philmontscoutranch.org/ for information on fuel for your Philmont Expedition. White gas and isobutane/propane fuel type canisters are available at Camping Headquarters and trading posts/commissaries along your itinerary in the backcountry. All liquid fuel containers should be spun aluminum or hard plastic bottles designed to carry fuel.

If you are traveling by commercial transportation, you will need to ship your stoves and fuel bottles by United States Postal Service (USPS) or United Parcel Service (UPS). Your package must be sent using ground service only. Please plan ahead and allow two weeks for your items to be shipped to Philmont.

If you plan to ship your stoves and fuel bottles, please follow the steps below:

1. Purge stoves with attached tanks until they sputter and go out.
2. Wash fuel bottles with hot, soapy water and air dry for at least 24 hours.
3. Box stoves and fuel bottles. Do NOT ship matches, lighters, compressed fuel canisters or other hazardous materials.
4. Use the following address to ensure that you receive your stove and fuel bottles:

   Advisor's Name, Expedition Number
   47 Caballo Rd
   Cimarron, NM 87714

5. This address can also be used for participant mail and packages which will be delivered to the Philmont Mail Room in Base Camp. Be sure to include the Expedition Number! Please ship your packages at least two weeks prior to your arrival to allow ample time for delivery.
6. If you are using UPS, we strongly recommend that you obtain a prepaid return shipping label. Without a prepaid return shipping label, Philmont Mail Room staff will assist you in shipping your items home with either USPS or UPS.
7. At the conclusion of your expedition, the Philmont Mail Room staff will coordinate the shipping of your items home. Similar steps in preparing your stoves and fuel bottles are required. Stoves with attached tanks must be purged and fuel bottles must be washed with hot, soapy water. The Mail Room will allow the items to dry before the boxes are sealed and shipped. This part of the process will usually take place after your crew has departed. Return instruction sheets are provided when you arrive at Philmont.

Philmont works closely with the local US Post Office and UPS. These procedures must be followed closely to comply with all regulations to ensure that your stoves and fuel bottles are shipped properly.

Crew Lockers & Security

Philmont provides crew lockers with locks as well as safekeeping storage services for crews. Crew lockers (2' x 2' x 3') are available for items not needed on the trail. **These lockers are limited and groups traveling by private vehicle will be asked to store items in their vehicles. Crews using lockers will be limited to two lockers based on availability**. Safekeeping storage is available for valuables such as tickets, cash, credit cards, car keys, etc. Items are sealed in envelopes and placed in a safe located at Camping Headquarters. Never leave valuables in tents or unattended. Philmont is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Smartphones

In an age of technology, smartphones are a common tool used in everyday life. While backpacking in the backcountry is an experience best enjoyed without the distractions of technology, Philmont recognizes that their use is more common than ever. Photographs and videos can be taken on these phones, and solar chargers are widely available, as well as several useful outdoor apps. Cell phone service is very limited in Philmont's backcountry – it is generally available in the base camp area.

If it is imperative that a smart phone be taken on the trail, ensure that it is being utilized in a way that enhances the Philmont experience and does not detract from the adventure for your crew or for other crews on the trail. Download apps that will help the learning experience. Find a good stars/constellation app, an animal tracks/scat/calls app, or compare bird calls you hear on the trail with a bird call app. Reserve texting and phone calls for emergency use only.

Keep in mind that there are **NO OPPORTUNITIES** on the trail or in any backcountry camp to ever recharge a smart phone, camera, or other electronic device.

Drones

Philmont does **NOT** allow the use of drones by participants for any purpose and restricts the use of drones to only include the Philmont Marketing Department, the Philmont Conservation Department, and the Philmont Fire Department.

Day One at Philmont

The first stop at Philmont will be the Welcome Center at Camping Headquarters. Drive in beside the Gateway to the unloading area at the Welcome Center. You will be greeted by a staff member with complete instructions for unloading and parking. Please follow them carefully. Have a small daypack filled with the following items ready to carry with you: Water, rain gear, hat, sunscreen, prescription medications in original bottles, special foods, and photo ID for anyone 18 and older.

Crew Check-In

The Day 1 check-in process has several steps. Upon arrival at Philmont's Welcome Center, the Council Contingent Advisor or Lead Advisor for a single crew should identify themselves to the Welcome Center staff. After meeting their Ranger, the first step in the check-in process will be Registration. **The Lead Advisors for all contingent crews or multiple-crew groups MUST report to the Registration Office at the same time.** They should be accompanied by every crew member aged 18 and older for a photo identification card check. Rosters will be verified, and outstanding finances paid.

The Lead Advisors should also bring the following with them to Registration:

1. Copy of online Crew Roster with any last-minute changes noted.
2. Cash, a check, or credit card for any outstanding fees or charges. Philmont **does not** accept American Express.

After the Contingent/Lead advisor has completed the Registration process, they can rejoin their crews to complete Base Camp procedures.

Multi-crew reservations (whether individual units or council contingents) must arrive at Philmont together. If they travel separately, they must rendezvous in Cimarron and then arrive at the Welcome Center at the same time.

Early Arrival

When your crew arrives a day early (and before 4:00 pm), you will be able to check-in at the Registration Office and turn in any special foods at Logistics, thus saving you some time the next day.

Meet Your Ranger

At the Welcome Center, you will meet your Ranger, a well-qualified staff member who has a sincere interest in your group and has been trained to help your crew get started on a successful Expedition.

The Ranger's job is to lead you through a series of important check-in stops, each designed to help your crew prepare for your adventure.

Stops will include:

- Camping Headquarters – Registration
- Conservation – Site Orientation
- Emergency Information
- Laundry
- Logistics – Trip Planning
- Mail Room
- Marketing & Photo Services – Crew Photo
- Outfitting Services – Gear/Food Issue
- Philmont Infirmary – Medical Recheck
- Security – Lost and Found
- Shakedown
- Tooth of Time Traders

By planning ahead and using your time wisely, your crew may have time to visit the National Scouting Museum, Seton Memorial Library, Villa Philmonté, Kit Carson Museum at Rayado, Historic Chase Ranch, and the Tooth of Time Traders. Do not plan any of these for Day 1. See *The Guidebook to Adventure* for more information.

Philmont Check-In

- **Start hydrating now!** Due to the low humidity and bright sun at Philmont, your body needs significantly more water than you are likely accustomed to. Typically, it is recommended participants drink 1 liter of water per hour while on the trail. Always carry a water bottle with you!
- **Tent Assignment**: You will receive tent assignments at the Welcome Center for your first night at Philmont. A staff member will show your crew where to find their assigned tents.
- **Registration:** Your contingent leader or Lead Advisor will meet a registrar in Camping Headquarters. All participants 18 and older must check in with a current photo ID. Philmont requires that three people in each crew be currently certified in Wilderness First Aid Basic and CPR. Current certifications will need to be uploaded prior to arrival. A large Safekeeping envelope will be provided to store locker/vehicle keys, extra money, credit cards, and/or valuable documents in the safe while your crew is on the trail. Any outstanding fees will be paid at this time. Individual crew advisors will need cash, a check, or credit card payment for expedition balance fees, transportation, or any other potential charges that may be due by the individual crew.
- **Crew Photo**: A trained Philmont photographer will take your crew photo before you depart for the trail. Most crews elect to wear their Scouting America uniforms or a crew uniform. The Lead Advisor will also receive a free digital download to share with all crew members. Additional photo merchandise is available at https://www.philmontphotoarchive.org/Crew-Photos.
- **Logistics**: Only your Lead Advisor and Crew Leader will meet one of the itinerary planners at Logistics to finalize arrangements for your program, food pickups, bus transportation, and conservation sites. Your Crew Leader should bring their *Crew Leader Field Guide* and an unmarked Philmont Overall map to mark your route and campsites. Your Crew Leader will receive a detailed copy of your itinerary for use while on the trail.
- **Medical Recheck**: A medical recheck, which may include blood pressure and weight check, will be given to all crew members. Your Ranger will give you the procedures for this required recheck. You will need to bring all medication (in original containers) with you to the recheck. To make the medical recheck as smooth as possible, crew advisors should closely check the

  Annual Health and Medical Record of each crew member to ensure they are completely and properly filled out and that all medical forms are uploaded to the Gateway before arrival. Additional information on chronic health issues can be found on the Philmont Website.

  A participant whose weight exceeds the maximum allowable weight on the height/weight chart will not be allowed to participate and should not attend or they will be sent home at their own expense.
- **Outfitting Services**: Outfitting Services is in the Mabee Services Building. Trail equipment including tents, poles, cooking pots, etc., will be issued to your crew along with your first issue of Trail Meals. The Crew Leader's Copy of your itinerary must be presented to draw your trail food. White gas purchases and pack rentals are also handled through Outfitting Services.
- **Philmont Mail Room:** The Mail Room is also located in the Mabee Services Building near Outfitting Services. Your Adult Advisor or Crew Leader should plan to check for mail before leaving this area.
- **Shakedown**: You will unpack everything in a place designated by your Ranger. Your Ranger will review the necessary items and demonstrate the best methods of packing at Philmont. Store excess items in your crew locker or vehicle.

  PLEASE NOTE: After leaving Camping Headquarters, there is NO opportunity to return excess baggage. If you have doubts about taking certain items, discuss them with your Ranger. Your Ranger is NOT permitted to bring any crew gear you take on the trail back to Base Camp nor can items be left in a backcountry camp to be delivered and held in Base Camp. You are responsible for carrying everything you take with you for the duration of your trek.
- **Conservation Project and Emergency Boards**: Your Ranger will describe these information boards in more detail at their designated sites in Base Camp.
- **Tour Camping Headquarters:** As time permits, your Ranger can give you a tour of Camping Headquarters.

- **Tooth of Time Traders** (TOTT): Your tour should include a visit to the Tooth of Time Traders where a complete supply of outdoor gear and equipment, Philmont items (patches, belts, buckles, maps, gift cards, etc.), and other souvenirs are available. Items are also available online at www.ToothofTimeTraders.com. The Tooth of Time Cantina, where snacks and beverages are available, is located adjacent to the TOTT.
- **Headquarters Dining Hall:** In Camping Headquarters, you will eat in the dining hall. The menus are well-balanced and nutritious.

  If any of your crew members have special dietary requirements, be sure to enter them in the Gateway prior to arrival so the Dining Hall staff is prepared.
- **Leadership Meetings**: Separate meetings will take place for Lead Advisors (all adults should attend), Crew Leaders, Chaplain's Aides, and Wilderness Pledge Guías. Topics will include current backcountry conditions as well as tips to improve your Expedition.
- **Religious Services**: Chaplains of Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, and LDS faiths conduct services at Camping Headquarters beginning at 7 p.m. daily. Your crew is encouraged to attend. The Tooth of Time Traders will be closed at this time.
- **Contact home**: After supper is a good time to write home. Your parents will enjoy hearing from you. Philmont postcards are available at the Tooth of Time Traders, Mail Room, and in backcountry Trading Posts.
- **Opening Program:** Your first evening program at Philmont is a portrayal of the "Philmont Story", a historic narrative of the Southwest. Your Philmont adventure begins here. Warm clothing, rain gear, a flashlight, and water are recommended for this and all evening programs.
- **A Good Night's Sleep**: Following the campfire, quietly return to your tent for a good night's sleep as it will help you adjust to the altitude and be ready for your trek. Tomorrow, you hit the trail! Be sure your crew adheres to the nightly quiet hours. Your actions can negatively impact others.
- **Security, Lost-and-Found, Crew Lockers:** Philmont employs a Seasonal Security Staff to assist with Lost and Found, issue crew lockers, and provide security. Crew lockers are reserved for crews traveling by public transportation. Crews with vehicles will store belongings in their vehicles. The number of lockers is limited (max 2 lockers per crew). Lockers are 2' x 2' x 3'. When you hit the trail, nothing can be left in your tent. Do not leave valuables in tents while in Base Camp – Philmont is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- **Laundry**: Dirty clothing may be laundered at Philmont's self-service laundromat. One or more crew members should be assigned to bring all the crew's dirty clothes to the laundry. All clothing should be marked with your name in indelible ink and any loose patches or insignia and supplies should be removed to save time and confusion. Laundry soap and supplies are available from the Tooth of Time Traders or the laundromat.

Check Out Day

The day you come off the trail will be busy. If you are bussed from the trailhead back to Basecamp, have your Crew Leader stop in the Welcome Center and pick up the Expedition Check-Out sheet. If you hike into Basecamp, have your Crew Leader pick up the Expedition Check-Out sheet from Outfitting Services. Every crew will need to turn in gear at Outfitting Services, but the rest of your check-out should be completed at Camping Registration. You will be able to pick up your Safekeeping envelope, turn in locker keys, pay outstanding Infirmary fees, complete any other unfinished business, and then pick up your Arrowhead patches. The Closing Campfire will be at 8:30 pm.

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W	U	B	L	D	Q	H	I	G	H	A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E	R	V	B	T	D	P
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Z	Y	M	M	O	P	G	T	W	A	L	S	U	Z	G	H	L	G	Y	K	U	L	E	I	J
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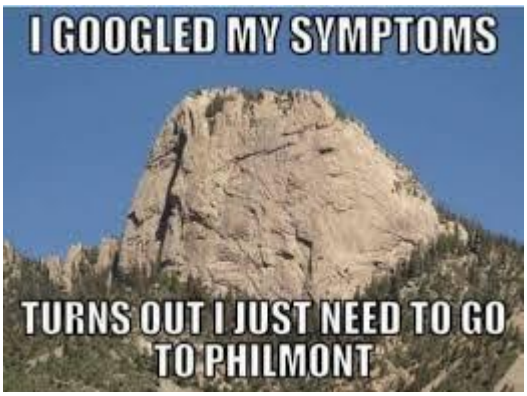
Wilderness Pledge Guia
Safeguarding Youth
Advisors Packet
Risk Advisory
Travel Plans
Transportation
Philmont
Itinerary
Reservation Contact
Expedition Number
Chaplains Aide
Patrol Method
Medical Form
Preparation
Gateway
Roster
Height and Weight Chart
Tenting Policies
High Adventure
Leave No Trace
Crew Leader
Sister Crew
Deadlines



Philmont's preferred provider for transportation from Denver International Airport and Colorado Springs Airport

https://www.mountainshuttle.com/services/scouts-philmont-transportation/

Philmont Hymn

Silver on the sage,
Starlit skies above,
Aspen covered hills,
Country that I love.
Philmont here's to thee,
Scouting Paradise,
Out in God's country, tonight.

Wind in whispering pines,
Eagles soaring high,
Purple mountains rise,
Against an azure sky.
Philmont here's to thee,
Scouting Paradise,
Out in God's country, tonight.

Philmont Grace

For food, for raiment,
For life, for opportunity,
For friendship and fellowship,
We thank thee, O Lord.
Amen

Delivering Wilderness
and Learning
Adventures that
Last a Lifetime

Change Lives