Information for Employers Regarding BSA Wood Badge

Wood Badge is the highest and most advanced training course offered by the Boy Scouts of America. While the course is rich in scouting history and tradition, participants will spend 5 full days and 3 nights over two weekends learning modern leadership theories from contemporary scholars such as Stephen R. Covey (author of *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* and *Principle-Centered Leadership*) and John P. Kotter (author of *Leading Change*).

Wood Badge has five central themes that encapsulate the course content and fourteen leadership competencies. The central themes are:

1) Living the Values  
2) Growing  
3) Connecting  
4) Guiding  
5) Empowering

The fourteen leadership competences are:

1) Drive Vision, Mission, and Values  
2) Know Thyself  
3) Communicate Effectively  
4) Include and Optimize Diverse Talent  
5) Learn to Listen, and Listen to Learn  
6) Plan with a Bias for Action  
7) Develop Individuals and Teams  
8) Know the Territory  
9) Apply Interpersonal Savvy  
10) Manage Conversations  
11) Coach and Mentor  
12) Embrace and Lead Change  
14) Inspire the Heart

These workshops are taught through lecture, group discussion, hands on exercises, and through the creation of personal goals that apply the leadership training received. At the conclusion of the course, attendees will have created at least 5 goals. A counselor will be assigned to work with each attendee for 18 months to ensure application of the training they received and the completion of the 5 goals.

Leaders at many companies (such as IBM, Motorola, and Intel) have recognized the value this training is to their employees. As such, many agree to pay the course fees ($285) and/or give time off as part of their employee’s professional development and training plan. If you would like additional information, please feel free to contact the Boy Scouts of America, Longs Peak Council at 1-970-330-6305.