

Junior Leadership Development Academy Camps – August 13-16, 2026

Junior Leadership Development Camp (JLDA) is designed for skill, leadership, and spiritual development of young boys as they progress toward Christian manhood. The camps are designed to challenge the boys mentally, physically, and spiritually all while having fun with boys from throughout New England. They will learn to work together in a group while using the patrol system and will learn what it means to lead as well as to follow as they work to finish both merits and camp specific tasks.

While these camps are meant to challenge the boys, there will also be plenty of fun and they will find new friends beyond the local outpost. The outcome of attendance at JTC, AJTC, and 2 additional adventure camps in addition to earning 8 leadership merits is the earning of a ceremonial saber that may be worn as part of a boy's utility uniform. Note that action camps may be attended if the boys are of age and have met the requirements listed – JTC and AJTC are not required for these camps, however JTC and AJTC must be completed if it is desired to pursue the honor of earning the saber.

Merit Camp:

Start off your JLDA adventure at Merit camp. You will earn different merits and learn how the patrol system helps you to work together and get things done. This camp is geared toward young and adventurous boys. In addition to earning merits in the great outdoors, you will have swim time and fun activities each day. This camp is made for graduates of 5th grade. There are no requirements for camp entry other than a desire to work together and have fun with other Royal Rangers. This camp is a fun entrance into JLDA and a great way to spend some time in the later summer.

- **Requirements for Merit Camp:** Be a graduate of 5th grade.

Junior training camp (JTC) – saber requirement:

JTC is the first official camp on the path to earn your Saber. You will gain greater insight into leadership and using the patrol system while working on challenging and fun projects with your fellow campers. You will use toolcraft, ropecraft, and lashing skills to build a 12 foot tall tower that will support your entire patrol. You will also find your way through the woods on the JTC compass course.

Campers will be challenged spiritually and gain a greater understanding of who God is. Fun at the beach and other activities with your patrol round out the days you will spend at JTC.

- **Requirements for JTC:** This camp is intended for middle school boys (grades 6-8).

Advanced Junior Training Camp (AJTC) – saber requirement:

AJTC is the second required camp on your path to earn your saber. In this camp you will work on greater challenges that build on the lessons learned in Merit Camp and Junior Training Camp. The biggest challenge rests on completing the Pioneering merit with your fellow campers.

The Patrol system is emphasized to the greatest degree in this camp as you will need to work together to get your tasks completed. Do your job well and you will build a 16 foot and 20-foot tower as well as a rope bridge. Campers will also use compass orienteering and camp cooking as well as complete a service project. The sense of accomplishment of this camp is the pinnacle of camp achievement.

- **Requirements for AJTC:** This camp for boys who have graduated from JTC and are familiar with ropecraft, lashing, and toolcraft. Please review these merits prior to attendance.

Canoe Action Camp (CAC):

What better way to spend summer days than on the lake at Ranger Camp. In CAC you will learning proper flatwater canoeing with your fellow campers and end the week with a canoe camping adventure. You will set up a primitive camp, cook your own meals and explore the lake with your fellow Rangers.

- **Requirements for CAC:** If you have not participated JTC or AJTC you must have earned the camping, camp safety and ropecraft and must have a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian affirming the boy's ability to swim. This camp is for boys in high school, though graduates of AJTC who have graduated from 8th grade are also welcome.

Backpacking Action Camp (BAC):

This is the most physically challenging of the JLDA camps. You will hike 25 miles in the White mountains of New Hampshire and learn backpacking skills from a backpacking expert. This camp will prepare you for a lifetime of miles on the trails with memories that will last a lifetime. Don't let the mileage scare you, this camp is made for physically active young men with a lot of energy. You can succeed in this camp. Finish this camp and you will earn your 25-mile patch and have confidence that you can go the distance.

- **Requirements for attending BAC:** It is recommended that you have completed the adventure backpacking merit and/or are regularly active in sports. This camp is for boys in high school, though graduates of AJTC who have graduated from 8th grade are also welcome.
- **Note that Backpacking action camp starts on August 13 at 5pm.**

Survival Action Camp (SAC):

Survival Action Camp will teach you survival skills as you simulate getting lost in the wilderness. and ultimately earn your survival merit with a survival expert. You will learn how to make and sleep in a survival shelter as well as learn foraging and survival skills. Graduates of this camp will know what it means to survive, not just know about survival as you will need to survive 24 hours on food that you forage for in the outdoors (Survival merit requirement). You will get to feel what it is like to be alone at night and learn what it's like to survive with a group of campers, all while under expert supervision. Note that this camp is not meant for everyone, survival is never comfortable, and attendance is not a guarantee of earning your survival merit, but if you succeed you will be confident in your skills beyond the knowledge that any book can give.

- **Requirements for attending SAC** are toolcraft, ropecraft, firecraft, lashing, and camping merits as well as a signed permission from your outpost coordinator attesting that you have passed these merits and that you are a young man who has demonstrated that he is up to the challenge. Attendance at JTC, AJTC, and one additional camp is necessary if you have not earned the required merits. This camp is for High School age boys.

Shooting Sports Action Camp (SSAC):

Shooting Sports Action camp will teach you archery and proper handling of firearms in a beautiful camp setting. You will use the patrol system to make friends and encourage each other throughout your time at camp. Swim time and shotgun clay shooting round out the camp.

- **Requirements for attending SSAC** Prior attendance at JTC and AJTC is encouraged but not required, however you will be camping and using the patrol system so please review the camping merit before attendance. This camp is for high school age boys only.