

**Boy Scouts of America
Automobile Safety**

It is essential that adequate, safe, and responsible transportation be used for all Scouting activities. Because most accidents occur within a short distance from home, safety precautions are necessary, even on short trips.

General guidelines are as follows:

1. Seat belts are required for all occupants.
2. All drivers must have a valid driver's license that has not been suspended or revoked for any reason. If the vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 people, including the driver (more than 10 people, including the driver, in California), the driver must have a commercial driver's license (CDL).
3. The driver must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age. Youth member exception: when traveling to and from an area, regional, or national Boy Scout activity or any Venturing event under the leadership of an adult (at least 21 years of age) tour leader, a youth member at least 16 years of age may be a driver, subject to the following:
 1. Six months' driving experience as a licensed driver (time on a learner's permit or equivalent is not to be counted)
 2. No record of accidents or moving violations
 3. Parental permission granted to the leader, driver, and riders
4. Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab.
5. All vehicles must be covered by automobile liability insurance with limits that meet or exceed requirements of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. It is recommended that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000. Any vehicle designed to carry 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000.
6. Obey all laws, including the speed limit.
7. Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreation stops. If there is only one driver, the driving time should be reduced and stops should be made more frequently.
8. Travel and rest time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours in one 24-hour period, regardless of the number of drivers available. The intention is to include sleep and thorough rest breaks while traveling long distances.
9. Drivers should refrain from using cell phones (including hands-free units) and text-messaging devices while driving.

The commercial general liability policy is excess over any insurance, which may be available to a volunteer for loss arising from ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle while engaged in an Official Scouting Activity. **Scouting youth (under age 18) are not insured under the Boy Scouts of America commercial general liability policy.**

Don't drive drowsy. Stop for rest and stretch breaks as needed. Fatigue is a major cause of highway accident fatalities.

Carpool Permission

I _____ give permission for my child _____ to ride with the following people:

- Any person over 16 with a valid driver's license _____
- Any person over 18 with a valid driver's license _____
- Any person over 21 with a valid driver's license _____
- Any person from the following list _____ (please provide)

My child may ride with approved drivers on the following occasion(s):

Carpool to and from camp on weekends _____ Leave camp nights off _____ Any occasion _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____