

УКРАЇНСЬКА СКАВТСЬКА ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯ
В США



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CHILD PROTECTION POLICY: BACKGROUND SCREENING AND TRAINING

Purpose

This policy establishes the minimum requirements for background screening and Youth Protection Training required for all Plast USA staff and volunteers who work with or have access to youth members under the age of 18. Individual branches, fraternal groups, and camps may, upon approval of the National Board of Directors, implement more stringent requirements.

General Requirements

A. Code of Conduct

All individuals covered by this policy must sign and adhere to the Plast USA Code of Conduct prior to beginning service.

B. Age Threshold

Background screening requirements apply only to individuals age 18 and older.

C. Financial Responsibility

The costs of required background screening shall be borne by the branch, fraternal group, or camp that the individual serves.

Definitions

Camp - includes but is not limited to three-week camps, specialty camps (spez tabory), KVT, U2, Zolota Bulava (ZB), Pochatkovyj Tabir, Novatskiy Vyshkil. Camp also includes kurinni tabory and stanychnij tabory. Tabir ptashat is not subject to this policy at this time.

Event - includes but is not limited to Orlykiada, Sviato Vesny, vmilist weekend, and prohulky.

Staff and Volunteer Classifications

A. GROUP 1: Staff and Program Leadership

1. **Covered Individuals:**

- Camp counselors
- Branch counselors
- Lifeguards

- Weekend warriors
- Leadership of all camps (including specialty camps)
- Leadership of weekend events

2. **Requirements:**

- **Background Screening:** Once every three (3) years for individuals age 18 and older
- **Youth Protection Training (YPT):** Annually
- **CPR Certification:** Each camp and event must have a minimum of two (2) individuals with current full CPR training. Individual camps and events may require additional CPR-certified staff.
- **Code of Conduct:** Required

B. GROUP 2: Organizational Leadership

1. **Covered Individuals:**

- Branch leadership
- Camp committee members
- National Board of Directors members

2. **Requirements:**

- **Background Screening:** Once every three (3) years
- **Youth Protection Training (YPT):** Annually
- **Code of Conduct:** Required

C. GROUP 3: Support Personnel

1. **Covered Individuals:**

- Administrative staff at camps and events
- Medical providers at camps and events
- Kitchen staff and volunteers at camps and events
- Maintenance personnel at camps and events
- Other support volunteers at camps and events

2. **Requirements:**

- **Background Screening:** Once every three (3) years
- **Youth Protection Training (YPT):** Annually
- **Code of Conduct:** Required

D. GROUP 4: Event Chaperones

1. **Covered Individuals:**

- Adult chaperones at Plast events

2. **Requirements:**

Background screening and YPT are required **if one of the following conditions applies:**

- The event is 72 hours or longer in duration, **or**
- The event includes an overnight component

3. **No requirements if:**

- The event contains no overnight component, **AND**
- The event is shorter than 72 hours without an overnight component

4. **All chaperones must sign:**

- **Code of Conduct:** Required

E. GROUP 5: Incidental Volunteers

1. **Covered Individuals:**

- Individuals who assist at a branch for short periods (approximately 4 hours)
- Individuals who assist at camp for short periods (approximately 4 hours)
- Individuals providing occasional, limited assistance

2. **Requirements:**

- **Background Screening:** Not required
- **Youth Protection Training (YPT):** Not required
- **Code of Conduct:** Required

3. **Critical Restriction:** Incidental volunteers shall NOT be left alone with children at any time. If an individual is expected to be alone with youth members for any period of time, they must be reclassified into the appropriate group and meet all requirements for that classification.

F. GROUP 6: Visitors

Individuals who are not registered to attend and participate in camp, activity or event, or who have not applied to be and have been accepted as counselors at a camp, activity or event are not allowed to take part in activities, in whole or in part. Visitor participation is strictly prohibited.

Compliance and Verification

Branches, camps, and event organizers are responsible for verifying that all covered individuals have completed required background screening and training before beginning service.

Enforcement

Individuals who fail to complete required background screening or training by the applicable deadline shall not be permitted to serve in covered roles until requirements are satisfied. Violations of this policy may result in removal from position and other disciplinary action as determined by appropriate Plast USA leadership.

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the National Board of Directors and updated as necessary to reflect best practices in youth protection.

Effective Date: This policy shall be rolled out in stages. The policy is effective immediately for all camps, including spez and counselor in training camps (vyshkil) taking place during the 2026 summer camp season. Effective dates for all other locations and activities will be announced fall of 2026.

Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization USA
Policy approved by the Board of Directors on 04/08/2026