

# TRAIL CREW TREK (TCT)

## 2023 APPLICATION



The Trail Crew Trek Program (TCT) is an exciting program at Philmont Scout Ranch for Scouts who are interested in the natural environment and committed to being responsible stewards of the land through conservation work. Trail Crew Trek is a seven-day trail construction session followed by a seven-day trek through Philmont's 140,711 acres of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rocky Mountains of northeastern New Mexico.

The TCT program will offer each participant hands-on experience with a variety of conservation projects with a heavy emphasis on leadership development and critical thinking and decision making. Participants will learn the basic and advanced skills needed to construct multi use backcountry trails and conduct conservation work projects. Participants will get hands-on experience with both trail construction and maintenance practices that will prepare participants to initiate and lead projects in their home area. In addition, participants will learn from conservation

and land management experts from BSA professionals and members of the Northeastern New Mexico land management and recreation communities.

During the TCT program, each crew will focus on personal and project leadership development. Leadership skills and practices will be taught by the staff and will be implemented by the participants throughout the trek. Each participant will have the opportunity to be a "Project Manager of the Day" during the work week so that participants can gain experience running an efficient conservation project and managing personnel. After leaving the worksite, a "Crew Leader of the Day" will be responsible for route planning, coordinating educational opportunities, and facilitating crew decisions. The experience of working on a wide array of projects will provide knowledge and skills that can be used to complete projects at local camps and managed areas in the participant's community when they return home.

TCT participants will work and hike in crews under the leadership of trained instructors, many of whom have academic backgrounds in the sciences, natural resource management, and/or years of experience working in an outdoor classroom. Crews will be composed of young men and women from across the country. All crew equipment such as tents, cooking gear, and tools will be provided by Philmont, and all participants will be covered by campers' insurance.

Philmont Scout Ranch is comprised of 140,711 acres (219 square miles) of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rockies. Philmont has over 350 miles of trails throughout the ranch. Philmont ranges from 6,500 feet to 12,441 feet in elevation above sea level. Because of the remote setting and elevation, participants need to be prepared both physically and mentally to handle the challenges of the trek. Philmont experiences a wide variety of weather situations. Participants should be prepared for 100° , 40° nights, as well as days of rain and even snow. All this adds to the Philmont experience.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Be at least 16 years old by the date the program begins, but not yet 21 by the date it ends
- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America in a Scouts BSA Troop, Venturing Crew, Ship, or Post
- Be in excellent physical condition, able to hike 10 or more miles with a 40-50 lb. backpack and be able to lift and handle materials up to 75 pounds. (Philmont height and weight guidelines will be strictly enforced.)
- All participants in backcountry programs are required to have a current BSA Health and medical form completed within 12 months of their arrival at Philmont. The Annual Health and Medical Records part A, B, and C must all be completed, and Part C must be signed by a MD, DO, PA, or NP.

## HOW TO APPLY

Complete the following application. Apply early for best consideration. Applications will continue to be accepted until all spaces are filled. Have it approved by a parent or guardian and your unit leader. Philmont will notify you of your acceptance. If accepted, a packet of materials will be emailed in March to assist you in preparing for your Philmont work and trek experience.

## PROGRAM FEE AND TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

The fee is \$450 in 2022 for the two-week experience. **A \$150 non-refundable deposit is required with this application.** The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Philmont as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant. Applicants not accepted will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received at Philmont by May 1. No-shows are not eligible for a refund. We will accept applications until sessions are filled. **Scholarship funds are available on a limited basis, apply using the attached application.**

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Shuttles are available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico and Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado Airports to Philmont. The shuttles depart the airport at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, depending on the location, on the day **before** your scheduled start date, arriving at Philmont approximately 6:30 to 7:00 pm. The return shuttles leave from 6:00 to 7:30 am on your departure date, arriving at the Airports at 9:45 am to 12:00 noon, depending on location. You may also consider the bus or train arrival at Raton, New Mexico (45 miles from Philmont). A roundtrip shuttle is available from Raton. If you do not arrive by shuttle, plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 — 11:00 am on your scheduled start date. The Shuttle information/registration forms will be included in your March packet. **Note:** Shuttle times may change so please check shuttle registration forms upon receiving them or call Philmont for updated information.

The Trail Crew Trek is a fourteen-day program. Participants depart the morning of the fifteenth day (June 26, July 17, and August 7 are departure dates).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information about the ROCS Program such as shuttle arrangements, physical requirements (BSA Annual Health and Medical Record), equipment needs, and hiking questions, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281 or email [camping@philmontscoutranch.org](mailto:camping@philmontscoutranch.org). Another source of information to assist you in preparing for your adventure can be found at [www.philmontscoutranch.org](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org).

During our program season, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281, seven days a week, and ask for the Ranger Department or Camping Registration. During this time, Philmont Logistics will also be able to assist with transportation concerns or problems.

During the summer season, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281, seven days a week, and ask for the Conservation Department or Camping Registration. During this time, Philmont Logistics will also be able to assist with transportation concerns or problems.

## TRAIL CREW TREK SESSION DATES FOR 2022

Session One: **June 12-26**    Session Two: **July 3-17**    Session Three: **July 24- August 7**

**Please Note:** If fewer than five participants register for a session by May 1, the session may be cancelled. Participants will be promptly notified and alternative programs suggested.

## TRAIL CREW TREK CODE OF CONDUCT

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of each individual member. This ensures the success of our projects and provides the maximum benefit to every participant. As a TCT participant I understand this and support the reasonable demands and conduct expected of me.

### AS A TRAIL CREW TREK PARTICIPANT, I WILL

- ✓ Live the Scout Oath and Law
- ✓ Observe, respect, and strive to live the Philmont Wilderness Pledge
- ✓ Observe the rules of the Philmont Conservation Department and my Instructors
- ✓ Wear my full official BSA uniform or work clothes as required
- ✓ Attend and participate in all functions of the program
- ✓ Be personally responsible for damage and loss of property
- ✓ Respect all safety procedures and learn to properly use equipment
- ✓ Be considerate of participants and staff at Philmont Scout Ranch at all times
- ✓ Understand that fighting with another participant or staff member is prohibited, and will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant
- ✓ Understand that theft, vandalism, or deliberate destruction of property of other participants or Philmont is not permitted and will result in dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant
- ✓ Understand the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, tobacco, or illicit drugs at any time during the program will not be permitted and will result in dismissal from the program, at the expense of the participant. This standard shall apply to all participants. Compliance with state law regulations will apply at all times.

**By signing along with my parent/guardian on the final page of this application, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the code of conduct for the Trail Crew Trek Program and have read and understand all the information about the Trail Crew Trek Program as listed on this application.**

2023 APPLICATION

(Please type or print clearly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_
(first) (middle) (last)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth\* \_\_\_\_\_ (\*Must be 15 by program start date, but not 21 by its conclusion)

Additional Information: Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_
(male / female) (inches)

BSA Registration #: \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUTING AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE:

Registered with: [ ] Troop [ ] Venture Crew [ ] Post [ ] Ship Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Tenure \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_
------(Check One)-----

Council Name \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Positions Held

Previous Philmont Experience \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Other High Adventure Experience / Backpacking Experience (please be specific)

Total no. of backpacking overnights \_\_\_\_\_ Longest backpacking expedition: Days \_\_\_\_\_ Miles \_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular Activities \_\_\_\_\_

Honors / Awards Received

Camp Staff Experience (When and Where)

CPR/First Aid Certifications \_\_\_\_\_

I PREFER THE FOLLOWING SESSION:

FIRST SESSION: [ ] JUNE 12 - JUNE 26 [ ] SECOND SESSION: JULY 3 - JULY 17 [ ] THIRD SESSION: JULY 24 - AUGUST 7
(June 27, July 18, and August 8 are departure dates)

Please Note: If fewer than six participants register for a session by April 1, the session may be cancelled. Participants will be promptly notified, and alternative programs suggested.

I request a vegetarian meal plan: [ ] Yes [ ] No

[ ] \$150 deposit enclosed
(check payable to Philmont Scout Ranch)

I request a special diet meal plan: [ ] Yes [ ] No

***Beware of Potential Risks***

*Philmont offers High Adventure backpacking treks and program activities in relatively inaccessible mountainous terrain. Parents, advisors, and youth participants should be alert to the potential for injury. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Philmont staff members will instruct you regarding safety measures to be followed. Each participant is expected to follow these safety measures and to accept responsibility for their health and safety.*

By signing below, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the code of conduct for Ranch Hands, as listed in this application and have read and understand all the information about the Ranch Hands Program.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL:**

My son/daughter has our complete permission to participate in a Philmont Ranch Hands experience. I understand that this work is physically demanding and involves a degree of risk to participants as might be expected from hard work, riding, and/or handling horses. I, along with my son/daughter, also acknowledge and agree with the Code of Conduct.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIT LEADER APPROVAL:**

I attest this applicant is a member in good standing and approve his/her participation in the Ranch Hands Program.

Unit Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FEE SCHEDULE:**

The total fee is **\$1,235 for 2023**. A \$150 deposit fee must accompany this application. The remaining balance of \$1,085 will be due upon receipt of confirmation.

**NOTE: Deposit fee, all required signatures of approval, and one letter of recommendation must accompany application.**

Please make check payable to **Philmont Scout Ranch** and mail to: **PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH  
ATTN: RANCH HANDS  
17 DEER RUN RD.  
CIMARRON, NM 87714**

Philmont Contact Information: Phone: 575.376.2281

Email: [camping@philmontscoutranch.org](mailto:camping@philmontscoutranch.org)

Web Address: [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org)

**HIGH ADVENTURE RISK ADVISORY**

**Philmont Scout Ranch Experience.** 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.

**Risk Advisory.** Philmont has an excellent health and safety record and strives to minimize risks to participants by emphasizing appropriate safety precautions. Because most participants are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions, they do not experience injuries. 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.

All Philmont participants should understand potential health risks inherent at or above 6,700 feet in elevation in a dry Southwest environment. 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, heat exhaustion, and motor vehicle accidents, can worsen underlying medical conditions. Native wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes, and mountain lions usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken.

Please call the Philmont Infirmary at 575-376-2281 if you have any questions. All participants and guests should review all materials and websites related to the experiences they are planning to have at Philmont Scout Ranch. **Any exceptions to Philmont's medical requirements must be approved by the Philmont Infirmary in advance of arrival at Philmont.**

**PHILMONT WEIGHT LIMITS FOR BACKPACKING AND HIKING**

Participants on Philmont Backcountry programs must meet the established height and weight guidelines. These guidelines are strictly enforced and failure to meet these guidelines will result in you not being able to participate. These guidelines are enforced because overweight individuals are at a greater risk for heart disease, stroke, and injury. Each participant must be no more than the maximum acceptable weight for their height on the chart below. Due to the limitations of rescue equipment, evacuation efforts from remote sites, and limitations on horse capacity, no one over 200 pounds will be permitted to participate in the Ranch Hands program.

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.

**Philmont Approval.** Staff and/or staff physicians reserve the right to deny the participation of any individual based on a physical examination and/or medical history. Each participant is subject to a medical recheck at Philmont.

**RANCH HANDS HEIGHT/WEIGHT CHART\***

Height (inches)	Max. Weight	Height (inches)	Max. Weight
60	166	64	189
61	172	65	195
62	178	66 and over	200
63	183		

This table is based on the revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

\* The maximum weight for any horse program at Philmont is 200 pounds.

**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 200 pounds and no participant will be permitted to participate if they exceed 295 pounds.



# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION — INDIVIDUAL TREKS

A limited amount of financial assistance is available for Rayado, ROCS, STEM, or TCT participants. To apply, please complete this application and return it to Philmont by February 1 of the year attending. All information will remain confidential.

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (middle) (last)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT # \_\_\_\_\_

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- \* How long have you been a member of the Boy Scouts of America? \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Leadership position(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Local council camp experience (where & when): \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Philmont experience: \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Other high adventure experience: \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Honors/awards (school, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Attach an essay that will help the scholarship committee understand your hopes and expectations if accepted as a participant. Please address the following topics directly:*

- 1) *What previous experiences have you had that will help you meet the challenges of this program?*
- 2) *What do you hope to learn or accomplish through this experience?*
- 3) *How will this experience help you in future service to Scouting; in pursuing other educational, career, or life interests?*
- 4) *What will be your greatest contribution (skill, talent, character trait) as a participant of this trek.*

**Parent/Guardian Information:**

Father \_\_\_\_\_ Employer/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Employer/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

State circumstances that require you to apply for financial assistance: *(attach additional page if needed)*

Amount of fee to be paid by:	
Participant	\$ _____
Family	\$ _____
Unit or Chartered Partners	\$ _____
Total Available	\$ _____
Financial Assistance Requested	\$ _____

**Signatures required:**

Participant \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_