

# Iowa Challenge Training Consortium 2026 COPE & Climbing Training



## Become a COPE/Climbing Facilitator in your local BSA Councils!

**Mid-Iowa – Hawkeye Area – Northeast Iowa - Winnebago - Blackhawk  
Mitigwa - Howard H Cherry - CS Klaus - Ingawanis - Canyon - Lowden**

### 3 Training Modules:

- COPE & Climbing Foundation Training
  - Fundamentals of COPE & Climbing
  - Initiative Games
  - Safety Measures
  - Life Safety Systems
  - Emergency Procedures
  - Climbing Tower & Zip Line Operation
  - **April 17-19, 2026 at Ingawanis Adventure Base**
- COPE Instructor Training
  - Prerequisite: COPE & Climbing Foundation Training
  - More initiative games
  - High COPE & Tower Operation
  - Low COPE
  - Team-building
  - **May 1-3, 2026 at Howard H Cherry Scout Reservation**
- Natural Rock Climbing Instructor Training
  - Prerequisite: COPE & Climbing Foundation Training
  - Climbing techniques
  - Climbing classification
  - Anchor systems
  - Site selection and management
  - Natural rock climbing programs at Backbone State Park
  - Climbing Merit Badge Clinic on Saturday: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM September 26, 2026 at Backbone State Park
  - **September 25-27, 2026 at Camp CS Klaus**



Youth and adult participants are welcome. Level of certification available varies according to age and demonstrated competence:

- Level II Instructors must be at least age 21
- Level I Instructors must be at least age 18
- Instructors in Training must be at least age 16
- Scouts age 14-15 are welcome to attend and participate in running programs, but cannot earn certification



Watch for registration details on the calendar page of your council websites.

**Contact for questions:**

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Blackhawk Council <https://blackhawkscouting.org/>  
COPE/Climbing Chairs  
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**Registration opens January 4, 2026. To Register, go to;**  
**<https://www.winnebagocouncil.org/calendar/>, navigate to April 17 on the calendar, and click on the COPE & Climbing Training event or click here:**  
**<https://mycouncil.winnebagocouncil.org/Event/6260> to go to the Foundation Training event.**

**Fees: \$40 per weekend event (includes food, lodging, and equipment)**