

In – Person Program

Participate with friends and have donuts and lunch!

**2026 Daniel Carter Beard
College of Commissioner Science
Hosted by: Councils of NST 4 & 5**

Hawkeye Area Cedar Rapids, IA	Illowa Davenport, IA	Mississippi Valley Quincy, IL/Burlington, IA
Northeast Iowa Dubuque, IA	Winnebago Waterloo, IA	Mid Iowa Des Moines, IA

Saturday, April 11, 2026

**Marion Methodist Church
5050 REC Drive
Marion, Iowa 52302**

**Physical Doors Open at 8:00 am
Classes 9:00 am to 4:45 pm**

Read all information thoroughly before registering!

Course Catalog and Registration Information:
Degree Requirements, Daily Schedule, Course Descriptions,
Overnight Lodging, Trading Post Merchandise online,
Directions to College, Information on Course Changes,
Personal Training History Record, and
Online Registration instructions.

Special Guest Speaker – Commissioner Town Hall
Various Councils
Topic – “Question and Answer”



The Daniel Carter Beard College of Commissioner Science is a great opportunity.
For all commissioners and other Scouters to share experiences and learn new
Scouting information as well as earn Commissioner College Degrees.

Online registration and Course Catalog available Jan. 12, 2026
College of Commissioner Science page on Hawkeye Area Council Web Site:

<https://mycouncil.hawkeyescouting.org/Event/5521>

Facebook page “Daniel Carter Beard College of Commissioner Science”

Dear Commissioners,

Welcome to Daniel Carter Beard Commissioner College.

On behalf of the organizing committee, it is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to every one of you attending the Scouting America Commissioner College. Get ready for an enriching experience as we gather to strengthen our commitment to leadership, service, and the enduring values of scouting.

Embrace the Spirit of Learning

This Commissioner College is more than just a gathering; it is an opportunity to deepen your understanding, enhance your skills, and connect with fellow commissioners who share the same passion for scouting excellence. Whether you are a seasoned commissioner or just starting your journey, there is always something new to learn and explore.

A Program Tailored for You

Our schedule is designed to offer a diverse range of workshops, discussions, and practical sessions led by experienced commissioners and scouting professionals. From the fundamentals of effective unit service to the nuances of navigating complex challenges, each session is crafted to provide actionable insights and strategies to take back to your units.

Networking and Fellowship

One of the most valuable aspects of Commissioner College is the chance to connect with like-minded individuals who share your dedication to scouting. Take advantage of the networking opportunities, share your experiences, and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

What to Expect

- **Inspiring Keynote Address:** Kick off the event with a motivating keynote speech that sets the tone for a weekend of learning and growth.
- **Interactive Workshops:** Engage in hands-on workshops covering a wide array of topics, tailored to various levels of experience and expertise.
- **Roundtable Discussions:** Join fellow commissioners in roundtable discussions to share best practices, troubleshoot challenges, and brainstorm innovative solutions.
- **Recognition Ceremony:** Celebrate the achievements and milestones of our scouting community in a special recognition ceremony.

Venue and Logistics

- **Date:** April 11, 2026
- **Location:** Marion Methodist Church, 5050 REC Drive, Marion, Iowa 52302

Registration: <https://mycouncil.hawkeyescouting.org/Event/5521>

Closing Thoughts

As you embark on this Commissioner College journey, remember that you are not only investing in your own growth but contributing to the continued success of scouting for generations to come. Your dedication is what makes our scouting community thrive.

Thank you for being a part of this transformative experience. We look forward to seeing you at Commissioner College and creating lasting memories together.

Yours in Scouting,

Mark Curran
2026 Dean of College / Winnebago Council Commissioner
c: 319-529-0019
Email: markymark@mchsi.com

2026 DCBCCS Staff

Title	Name	Phone	Email
Dean of the College (Chancellor)	Mark Curran ¹	319-529-0019	markymark@mchsi.com
Dean of Bachelor	Chad Little	319-329-0956	delphius@msn.com
Dean of Master	Stacey Ward	319-427-0520	kwardee95@gmail.com
Dean of Doctorate	Marv Wilson	515-360-0081	marv.wilson@outlook.com
Dean of Continuing Ed 1	Christen O-Connor	319-290-4832	Christenb1@gmail.com
Dean of Continuing Ed 2	Kevin Dicks ⁴	217-440-6882	kevindicks@hotmail.com
Dean of Curriculum	Danny John	319-936-2180	dany54@yahoo.com
Registrar	Jim Fenske	319-310-7797	fenske4scouts@gmail.com
Dean of Facilities	Mark James	319-361-2499	mjamesx246@gmail.com
Dean of Food Services	Luke Hawkins ²	319-521-2291	Lhawk1302@gmail.com
NST 4 Commissioner	Bill Lenker	615-521-9021	Bill.Lenker@sio.midco.net
NST 5 Commissioner	Kirk Boyer	573-638-2638	BSABoyer@gmail.com
<u>Council Promotion-CCS</u>			
Illowa	Jim Coe ³	309-789-9079	jimcoe67@gmail.com
Hawkeye Area	Mark James	319-361-2499	mjamesx2@fntcs.com
Mid-Iowa	Whit Johnson	815-342-0301	steam2856@gmail.com
Mississippi Valley	Kevin Dicks ⁴	217-440-6882	kevindicks@hotmail.com
Northeast Iowa	Rick Leute ⁵	563-451-3152	leute.rick@frontier.com
Winnebago	Mark Curran ¹	319-529-0019	markymark@mchsi.com
<u>Council Commissioners</u>			
Illowa	Bill Serre	309-716-6246	serrewilliamo@gmail.com
Hawkeye Area	Kevin Kropf	319-270-4498	kkropf431255@gmail.com
Mid-Iowa	Whit Johnson	815-342-0301	Steam2856@gnauk.com
Mississippi Valley	Kevin Dicks	217-440-6882	kevindicks@hotmail.com
Northeast Iowa	Bruce Hallahan	563-590-4545	Bhallahan@vanmeterinc.com
Winnebago	Mark Curran ¹	319-529-0019	markymark@mchsi.com
<u>Council Professionals</u>			
Illowa	Zach Beuthien	563-212-6370	Zachary.Beuthien@Scouting.org
Hawkeye Area	Ethan Brander	319-200-2247	ethan.brander@scouting.org
Mid-Iowa	Grant Reigelman	505-266-2135	Grant.Reigelman@scouting.org
Mississippi Valley	Vacant+++	—	_____@Scouting.org
Northeast Iowa	Carl Bobis	563-556-4343	Carl.Bobis@scouting.org
Winnebago	Whitney Jensen	641-750-3132	Whitney.Jensen@scouting.org
<u>Questions on Registration</u>	Amanda Speidel	319-200-2244	Amanda.speidel@scouting.org

¹ Winnebago Commissioner

² Past Hawkeye Area Council Commissioner

³ Past Illowa Council Commissioner

⁴ Mississippi Council Commissioner

⁵ Past NE Iowa Council Commissioner

Registration Information

- **Date:** April 11, 2026
- **Location:** Marion Methodist Church, 5050 REC Drive, Marion, Iowa 52302

Registration: <https://mycouncil.hawkeyescouting.org/Event/5521>

- Tuition if paid by March 23, 2026: **\$30.00** for students **\$25.00** for instructors
- Tuition if paid **after March 23, 2026:** **\$35.00** for students **\$35.00** for instructors
 - Registration Closes Monday, March 30, 2026
- Tuition includes training, handouts, refreshments, lunch, patch, and recognition certificate.
- Gather your Training History and the Information Form (last two pages) before logging into the system. You should have this information available when you register online.
- Payment is available with a credit card or debit card online.
- Detailed Registration Steps:
 - Select “Register Online,” Add 1 participant; Select “Register Individuals”.
 - Select “Add Information,” Enter Participant Information; Select “SAVE”.
 - Select "Select Activities", Classes ordered by period, Click on Class; Select “select”.
 - As you register for class, the remaining classes in that period are removed from the list.
 - Select “Return” from top-right.
 - Review data (nothing is etched in stone); Select “Proceed To Checkout”.
- You will receive printable confirmation at the end of your registration. You contact the Registrar with any questions or changes.
- You will receive a schedule upon check-in and a transcript at the end of the program.
- If you have historical data or award information you would like to be added to your transcript, contact Jim Fenske, Registrar, at fenske4 scouts@gmail.com .

Special Guest at our Daniel Carter Beard College of Commissioner Science

Commissioner Town Hall “Question and Answer”

Coming to the College

- Wearing your Official Scout uniform is recommended.
- Bring something to take notes.
- Bring your Scouting America (SA) Health Form A-B if you have a potential health issue. You will not be required to turn it in.
- You do not need to be registered as a commissioner to attend and participate, only to receive degrees.

Earning a Commissioner Science Degree at this 2026 Daniel Carter Beard Commissioner College

- **Bachelor's and Master's Degrees** – You may be able to earn either of these by taking the appropriate courses. However, all other requirements below must be completed, including any prerequisites and performance.
- **Doctorate** – If this is your first work toward this degree or you still need classes, you will receive a Continuing Education certificate for your class participation. You must complete all the requirements listed below to earn your degree.
- **Continuing Education** – You will not earn a degree. You will receive a Continuing Education certificate.

Suggested Statement of Course Work Reciprocity:

The College of Commissioner Science accepts a Commissioner's course work from any Scouting America College of Commissioner Science provided that an official transcript is made available.

The College of Commissioner Science will credit courses from another Council to be applied towards a College of Commissioner Science Degree if prior approval has been obtained from the current Dean of the College of Commissioner Science.

Classes taken at a University of Scouting that are not listed in the Scouting America National Curriculum (<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/commissioners/training.aspx>) will not be accepted for credit.

Award Recognition:

The College of Commissioner Science will honor all Commissioner Arrowhead, Commissioner Key, Distinguished Commissioner, and the Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service, and the Doctor of Commissioner Science Awards.

Degree Recognition:

The College of Commissioner Science will continue to recognize degrees earned from other Scouting America College of Commissioner Science and Philmont Training Center College of Commissioner Science degrees provided that an official transcript is made available.

College of Commissioner Science Degree Requirements



Bachelor Degree

Prerequisites:

- Current registration as a Commissioner.
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate.
- Completion of "Commissioner Basic Training"

Course Requirements:

- Completion of seven (7) courses of instruction, at least five (5) of the courses at the Bachelor's program level.

Roundtable

Prerequisite:

- Current registration as a Commissioner.
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate.
- Completion of "Roundtable Commissioner Basic Training"

Course Requirements:

- Completion of seven (7) courses of instruction, at least five (5) of the courses at the Roundtable Bachelor's program level.



Master Degree

Prerequisite:

- Current registration as a Commissioner.
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate.
- Earned Arrowhead Honor.
- Completion of Bachelor's Degree or have been awarded the Commissioner's Key

Course Requirements:

- Completion of seven (7) additional courses of instruction (total of 14), at least seven (7) of the courses at the Master's level.

Roundtable

Prerequisite:

- Current registration as a Commissioner.
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate.
- Earned Arrowhead Honor.
- Completion of Bachelor's Degree or have been awarded the Commissioner's Key

Course Requirements:

- Completion of seven (7) additional courses of instruction (total of 14), at least seven (7) of the courses at the Master's level.



Doctoral Degree

Note: Earning the Doctor of Commission Science Degree does not automatically qualify you to receive the Doctorate of Commissioner Service Knot Award.

Prerequisite:

- Current registration as a Commissioner.
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate.
- Completion of Master's Degree
- Have been awarded the Commissioner's Key

Course Requirements:

Completion of ten (10) additional courses of instruction (total of 24), at least five (5) of the courses at the Doctorate or Continuing Education program level. Courses may not have previously been counted toward other college degrees.

Thesis or Project:

It is recommended that the topic of a project or thesis be directly related to unit service. There may be specific circumstances under which a topic related to another area of Scouting would be appropriate. Local councils have the authority to approve topics related to another area of Scouting when selecting one directly related to unit service is not appropriate or practical. The council commissioner or designee may authorize an alternative topic. This can be on any topic related to Commissioner Service.

The topic must be pre-approved by the college of commissioner science committee. Complete the thesis/project using the approved format as determined by the college. The topic and final paper must be approved by the doctoral review committee.

All segments (proposal, proposal acceptance, thesis/project completion, thesis acceptance) of the degree must be approved by the college of commissioner science.

Commissioner Performance:

Serve for at least one year on the college of commissioner science staff (instructor or support staff), or work with training support for commissioners for at least one year.

The degree requirements and Doctorate and Knot Guidebook can be found at the following link:

<https://pdscouting.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Degree-Requirements.zip>



Doctor of Commissioner Science Knot Award

NOTE: The completion of the Doctor Degree of Commissioner Science does not automatically qualify a commissioner for this award knot. All requirements below for the knot must be met. There are only two additional unique requirements to earn this award: tenure and recruiting.

Prerequisites:

- Current registration as a commissioner
- Current SA Youth Protection Training Certificate
- Completion of Doctoral Degree

Tenure:

- Serve as a commissioner for a minimum of 5 years. (Years need not be consecutive).
- This service can be in one or more roles or positions of commissioner of service.

Recruiting:

- Recruit or assist in recruiting at least three new commissioners during tenure as a commissioner.

Final Approval:

- Approval of council or assigned assistant council commissioner.

Activity and Class Schedule for Daniel Carter Beard College of Commissioner Science

	8:00 am – 8:30 am	Coffee & check-in for Commissioner College
	8:30 am – 8:50 am	Opening of College, recognition of special
	8:50 am – 9:00 am	Transition to Morning classes
Common	12:00 am – 12:30 pm	Guest Speaker, MCS 401
Activities	12:30 pm - 1:10 pm	Lunch
	1:10 pm – 1:20 pm	Transition to Afternoon classes
	4:20 pm – 4:40 pm	Closing and recognition
	4:40 pm – 4:50 pm	Commissioning Ceremony

These course numbers are on the SA Commissioner website. Reference your personal training history, Chart of Revised Courses, and Course Descriptions to make selections.

Room schedules have been set up in tracks, but you can mix, and match classes not previously taken. See Degree requirements listed above.

Course offering/schedule.

Period	1	2	3	4	BREAK	5	6	7
Track	9:00-9:50	10:00-10:50	11:00-11:50	12:00-12:30	12:40-1:10	1:20-2:10	2:20-3:10	3:20-4:10
(BCS)	BCS 101 Core Concepts of Unit Service	BCS 103 Linking District Resources	BCS 104 Contacting Units	MCS 401 Commissioner Town Hall "Question and Answer"	L U N C H	BCS 114 Understanding Communication with Today's Leaders	BCS 119 Building Relationships	BCS 125 Commissioner Culture
(MCS)	MCS 304 Service to Units at Risk	MCS 306 Mentoring Skills	MCS 315 Effective Unit Service in Rural Communities			MCS 312 Recruiting Commissioners In The 21 st Century	MCS 313 Onboarding Commissioners	MCS 309 Good Commissioners Need Both Head & Heart
(DCS)	DCS 501 Selecting & Limiting Scope of Project/Thesis	DCS 503 Developing Your Project or Thesis	DCS 506 Coaching Commissioners			DCS 509 Legacy of Servant Leadership	DCS 512 Recruiting for Diversity	DCS 514 Building Meaningful Relationships
(RT) (CED)	BCS 150 Roundtables in Unit Service	BCS 152 RT Planning, Implementing, and Promotion	BCS 154 Roundtable Fundamentals			MCS 350 Unit & RT Commissioner Work Together	MCS 305 Resolving Critical Unit Issues	CED 716 Navigating Difficult Conversations
(CED)	MCS 314 The Commissioner & the Professional	CED 722 Supporting Mixed- Gender Scouting As a Commissioner	CED 801 Working With Units With Special Needs			CED 831 Commissioner Leadership Basics	CED 832 Commissioner Leadership Development	CED 833 Commissioner Leadership In Practice

Red – New courses added this year.

Course and Instructor Statements

- EVERYONE SHOULD REGISTER FOR SESSION MCS401 – Commissioner Town Hall!
- You may register for less than seven classes, but to receive the appropriate degree certificate, participants must register for seven classes AND attend all those classes.
- Participants must complete all additional requirements to complete a degree.
- If not pre-registered, classes available to attend and materials will be determined on availability.
- We reserve the right to drop a course on the day of the College, if there is no course instructor, or if there is less than a minimum of two students.
- **Instructors:** please register for the classes you are teaching, as well as other classes you are taking as a student, to receive proper credit for class attendance.

Each course is in a zip file that is self-contained with all materials – course outline, teaching notes, PowerPoint presentation, and handouts necessary to teach the course.

<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/training/college/>

Simply click on the link for the specific degree and then course and download the file or Ctrl + click on the level below to download courses.

[Bachelors](#)

[Masters](#)

[Doctorate](#)

[Continuing Education](#)

College of Commissioner Science Course Number Changes

There is a complete listing of the new course numbering system on the National Commissioner website, update as of 2025. Some courses were dropped or moved from one degree to another, and new ones were added.

NOTE: Unique courses taught at other programs are not listed, and would need to be added to your history, along with the title of that course, and email a course outline or description to contact Jim Fenske, Registrar, at fenske4scouts@gmail.com .

Additional Information

The 2026 DCBCCS being held on Saturday, April 11, 2026, is scheduled to begin with registration at 8:00 am. Refreshments will be available before classes begin. Lunch will be provided. This is a one-day format, finishing around 4:45 pm. The address is below with maps at the bottom of the page.

Marion Methodist Church

5050 REC Drive

Marion, Iowa 52302

Friday Night – 04/10/2026

There will be an optional non-uniform gathering for all those registered Friday evening, time and location TBD. You will be advised closer to the event of location and timing.

Trading Post

A Trading Post to purchase Commissioner items is available at the Scout Shop online:

<https://www.scoutshop.org/shop-by-scout/special-collections/commissioner-items.html>

Local Lodging suggestions:

Here is a Google Map link for hotel/motel options (ctrl + click) on the link below:

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/Hotels/@42.0458488,-91.6024821,13z/data=!4m8!2m7!3m6!1sHotels!2sCedar+Rapids,+IA!3s0x87e45f7aa02f4251:0x55ee60432ce6ddc0!4m2!1d-91.6656232!2d41.9778795?hl=en>

College of Commissioner Science Course Number Changes

There is a complete listing of the new course numbering system on the National Commissioner website, updated as of 2025. Some courses were dropped or moved from one degree to another and new ones were added. **NOTE:** Unique courses taught at other CCS programs are not listed, and would need to be added to your history, along with the title of that course, and email a course outline or description as indicated below.

PERSONAL COMMISSIONER TRAINING HISTORY

This form may be used to help you keep track of your Commissioner Training. Please keep it updated.

Name: _____ Council: _____

Position History, indicate number of years held in different commissioner positions:

Unit Commissioner _____ Asst District Commissioner _____ Other _____ Yrs. _____
 Roundtable Commissioner _____ Asst Council Commissioner _____ Other _____ Yrs. _____
 District Commissioner _____ Council Commissioner _____ Other _____ Yrs. _____

Commissioner Recognition and Awards – Include date as MM/DD/YY

Arrowhead _____ Comm. Key _____ Distinguished Comm. _____ Other _____ Date _____

Training Completed and/or earned – Include date as MM/DD/YY

Scouts SA Youth Protection _____ Venturing Youth Protection _____ Exploring Youth Protection _____

Basic Comm Trng _____ Bachelor Degree _____ Other _____
 RT Comm Basic Trng _____ Bachelor Degree (RT) _____ Doctorate Degree _____
 DC/ADC Basic Trng _____ Master Degree _____ Title of Thesis or Project: _____
 Master Degree (RT) _____

Commissioner College courses taken – Include year taken in the white space (if known).

This chart includes all SA courses since 2005. Use open spaces for council or older SA courses taken as part of a BCS, MCS, or DCS. Includes C (council) or B (SA) number on chart with year taken.

Bachelor	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
Bachelor	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
Bachelor	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
Bachelor RT	150	151	152	153	154	155	156			
Masters	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310
Masters	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320
Masters	321	322	323	324	325	401	401	401	401	401
Masters RT	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	
Doctorate	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510
Doctorate	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	550	551	
Continuing Ed	701	707	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716
Continuing Ed	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	751	752

Other courses (Include course # and short title, along with year)

Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____ Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____

Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____ Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____

Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____ Code: _____ Title: _____ Yr: _____

In order to receive credit for a unique council course, you will need to email either a course outline or a description of the course.

April 11, 2026, Daniel Carter Beard Commissioner College Online Registration Information Form

Online Registration MUST be used and is accessed through the HAC Council website. The following can be used to support your on-line registration. You will receive a system-generated email confirmation at the end of your registration.

<https://mycouncil.hawkeyescouting.org/Event/5521>

Contacts for Questions

General Questions: Mark Curran 319-529-0019 markymark@mchsi.com

Questions/Issues with Registration: Jim Fenske 319-310-7797 fenske4scouts@gmail.com

I am registering at this Commissioner College as a (select one): Participant Instructor

I am applying to the College of Commissioner Science for the following program:

Bachelor of Comm Science Masters of Comm Science Doctorate of Comm Science

Bachelor of Roundtable Science Masters of Roundtable Science Continuing Education

Name: _____ SA ID #: _____

Address: _____ Best Phone Number to reach you: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Council: _____

District: _____ Position in Scouting: _____

Are there any special dietary or medical concerns? Explain: _____

SA Health Forms A=B are not required

Course Selection (Both students and instructors must register for courses they are taking or teaching.)

Be prepared to choose your first and second choice of courses from schedule. There is a physical classroom size limit and may be placed in your alternate session if there is an issue with instructor availability for your first choice.

Registration for each class period is optional. However, you will need to register for the courses applying for your degree. If not pre-registered, class attendance and materials will be determined on availability. You will need to contact Registrar with any class change requests after online registration is completed.

Period	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Example	BCS 108	BCS 308	BCS 102	MCS 401	BCS 128	BCS 117	BCS 118
Desired				MCS 401			
Alternate				MCS 401			

Tuition (includes training, handouts, refreshments, lunch, patch, and recognition certificate).

- Tuition if paid by March 23, 2026: \$30.00 for students \$25.00 for instructors
- Tuition if paid **after March 23, 2026:** \$35.00 for students \$35.00 for instructors
 - Registration closes Monday, March 30, 2026.

Please pay online – HAC accepts credit or debit card or electronic checks as a form of payment, with svc charge added.

College of Commissioner Science

Period 1 (9:00 – 9:50)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 101	Core Concepts of Unit Service (09/15/2025)	The commissioner role is one of the oldest in Scouting. This course reviews and reinforces the core concepts of unit service, identifying the key skills needed for commissioners to effectively assist the units they serve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the unit service core concepts. Define and identify the types of commissioners and their roles. Understanding commissioner priorities Apply this new knowledge and understanding for exceptional unit service
MCS 304	Service to Units at Risk (04/15/2022)	<p>Early detection and systematic problem-solving is critical to support units when they encounter problems which may prevent them from functioning effectively.</p> <p>This class will provide the commissioner with ways to identify these units and to discuss the processes needed to support the unit's move toward performing as an effective scouting unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define units at risk. Explain the processes of support. Identify the responsibilities of commissioners
DCS 501	Selecting & Limiting Scope of Your Doctoral Project or Thesis (10/31/2022)	<p>Think of this as being similar to an Eagle Scout Project or Wood Badge Ticket. Our goal is to have commissioners meet with the successful completion of a thesis or project.</p> <p>"A Guidebook for Earning Your Doctorate of Commissioner Science and Doctorate of Commissioner Science Knot Award" - 2022 is available to assist with DSC 501 and DCS 503.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the requirements for the Doctorate Degree and the Doctorate of Commissioner Science Knot. Understand the difference between a project and a thesis. Identify a Project or Thesis topic and limit the focus to make it achievable.
BCS 150	Roundtables in Unit Service (09/15/2025)	An effective roundtable is vital to the success of all unit service. This course reviews and reinforces how roundtables fit into the unit service structure by providing roundtable services to units and unit leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the commissioner's core concepts List the functions of a roundtable in providing unit service. Discuss how roundtable fits into unit service. Illustrate how to facilitate unit service before, during, and after roundtables
MCS 314	The Commissioner and the Professional (08/01/2021)	In this course participants will learn more about the relationship between the commissioner and the professional and how they can work closely together to reach the common goal of providing quality service to units.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the elements of a positive and productive volunteer-professional relationship. Discover opportunities to work together to support unit success. Describe examples of a successful collaborative relationship.

Period 2 (10:00 – 10:50)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 103	Linking District Resources (12/31/2021)	Although commissioners are viewed as very knowledgeable and capable individuals, a key part of a commissioner's job is to link the unit to the district committee. Members of the district committee typically are individuals who can readily access further resources and wisdom to assist the unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain typical district structure and the functions of the district. • Know how to use the resources of the district to better support the units they serve. • Utilize the Unit Service Plan when assessing the unit needs by identifying district resources.
MCS 306	Mentoring Skills (08/31/2025)	Mentoring is a long-term relationship in which one individual supports and guides the personal or professional growth and development of another. Mentoring is an essential skill for a commissioner. This course will equip commissioners with the tools necessary to mentor others effectively. It will also explore the similarities and subtle differences between mentoring and coaching.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the role of a mentor. • Understand mentoring methods. • Discuss building the mentoring relationship
DCS 503	Developing Your Project or Thesis (10/31/2022)	It is strongly suggested that when teaching this session, you should recruit an additional commissioner who has already earned their doctorate – preferably one who has worked on a project and the other who has written a thesis – so they might share their experience and work with participants in the breakout group activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your project plan. • Develop your thesis. • Identify methods of gathering information
BCS 152	Planning, Implementing and Promoting Roundtables (07/15/2025)	In this course, the participants will learn how to plan and implement a roundtable to best serve the units in their districts and councils. They will also discuss how to promote roundtables to the units they serve and to new leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the roundtable planning and implementation process and how to utilize the Roundtable Resource Webpage tool. • Understand the importance of a well-planned roundtable in providing unit service to the district and council. • Demonstrate methods for promoting roundtables.
CED 722	Supporting Mixed Gender Scouting as a Commissioner (08/31/2025)	As commissioners, we respond to concerns from volunteers in various positions and help prepare them to address concerns from Scouts and parents. Today's Scouting America programs continue to support the aims and methods of scouting, while expanding our reach to a larger audience. This course familiarizes commissioners with the considerations related to the expanded inclusion of girls in Scouting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the history of mixed gender scouting domestically and internationally. • Recognize the importance of inclusivity to the mission and success of Scouting America. • Respond to common concerns about mixed-gender scouting and share facts that address those concerns

Period 3 (11:00 – 11:50)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 104	Connecting with Units (03/15/2025)	At the heart of unit service are visits commissioners make with their units. This course explores methods of connecting to develop a relationship between commissioners and their units and how to document Commissioner Tools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the importance of visiting and connecting with units. • Understand how Unit Metrics, Unit Connections, and Commissioner Tools support Commissioners. • Properly use the Unit Connection Guides to document unit connections in Commissioner Tools
MCS 315	Effective Unit Service in Rural Communities (09/15/2025)	In this course, participants will learn about the characteristics of a rural community and how to work with it to maintain an effective unit. While this course discusses rural and small towns in general, there are helpful tips for every commissioner when developing relationships in the community they serve, whether rural, urban, or suburban.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the opportunities and challenges of working with rural units. • Learn methods for recruiting leaders and Scouts in rural and distant communities. • Receive and share methods to reduce the cost of Scouting. • Capture methods for providing Scouting in small units.
DCS 506	Coaching Commissioners (03/31/2024)	Coaching is about relationships. It is the ability to listen, to observe, to share, to support and to engage in a way that will help others solve their own problems, grow as individuals, and attain their full potential. Coaching is the art of helping others arrive at conclusions through their own analysis of the situation and facts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the process of coaching. • Discuss the fundamental principles of coaching. • Develop effective coaching skills.
BCS 154	Roundtable Fundamentals (07/15/2025)	Roundtable is often the first district event that a new leader attends. It is focused on FUN and giving new and seasoned leaders “the skill to do, and the will to do.” Roundtable is important not only for the leaders but for the youth they bring the information back to. This course extends the learning material from Roundtable Commissioner Position-Specific Training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the purpose of a roundtable. • Discuss how to utilize the program information on the Commissioner Roundtable Support webpage to plan and execute a monthly roundtable. • Demonstrate how to use different formats to plan roundtables. • Know how to provide scout leaders with the Skill to do and the Will to Do
CED 801	Working With Units With Special Needs (New 2026)	With this course, you will be able to draw a distinction between special-purpose Scout Units, where all of the members have a special need or disability, and traditional Scout Units that have a diverse group of members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respecting differences and finding ways to include everyone in your program. • Getting a Scout with a special need, the family, and the unit leadership working as a team. • Sharing practical advice for situations you may encounter as a commissioner or a unit leader. • Using the Lone Scout program for special needs when traditional units do not work.

Period 4 (12:00 – 12:30)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
MCS 401	Commissioner's Town Hall Meeting (New 2026)	A panel of Commissioners will be gathered to host a town hall type of meeting. You are asked to place questions into a box in which the Commissioners will try to answer your questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bring questions with you to the conference to find answers.• If you think of questions during the conference, feel free to write them down so the panel can try to give you answers.• Try not to go home with unanswered questions.

Lunch (12:40 – 1:10)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
LUNCH TIME			

Period 5 (1:20 – 2:10)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 114	Understanding & Communicating with Today's Leaders (08/31/2025)	As commissioners, we need to understand the differences in relating to the generations involved in Scouting and inclusiveness. This course fosters understanding between different generations – particularly today's parents – to help commissioners communicate more effectively with their units.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the characteristics of generations within Scouting's leaders. Understand the differences in relating to multiple generations involved in scouting. Embrace the differences and similarities to make the scouting program stronger.
MCS 312	Recruiting Commissioners in the 21 st Century (08/31/2025)	All commissioners are responsible for recruiting other commissioners. This course familiarizes commissioners with the considerations and techniques that support recruiting volunteers who represent the diverse generations of the 21st century.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the importance of recruiting commissioners. Describe the motivations of volunteers. Identify the attributes of a 21st-century volunteer
DCS 509	A Legacy of Servant Leadership (05/01/2025)	In one of your first College of Commissioner Science experiences, you more than likely participated in a class called The Essential Element (A Servant's Heart). That Bachelor's level class introduced the concept of servant leadership and established the expectation that commissioners served units and other volunteers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore characteristics of servant leaders. Understand servant leadership in Scouting. Recognize the legacy of servant leadership
MCS 350	Unit and Roundtable Commissioners Working Together (09/15/2025)	While unit commissioners and roundtable commissioners wear distinct position patches, denoting their field of expertise, both patches feature the wreath of service, and for good reason! Unit commissioners and roundtable commissioners collaborate to ensure that unit leaders have the necessary support to succeed. Remember: "Roundtable is unit service." This course will demonstrate how all commissioners in a district assist units in identifying and addressing their needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how commissioners work collaboratively using the unit service core concepts. Summarize the role unit commissioners play at roundtables. Recognize the unique role roundtables have in identifying unit needs.
CED 831	Commissioner Leadership Basics (New 2026)	Part 1 of this series explores the basic principles of leadership by setting a foundation for what good leadership looks like. We will discuss the impact of positive leadership attributes and how leadership differs from management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore basic principles of leadership. Discuss examples of good leadership. Define what areas effective leadership should focus on How leadership differs from management

Period 6 (2:20 – 3:10)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 119	Building Relationships (04/25/2025)	Unit service is all about relationships. In this course, we will discuss how commissioners can build and maintain positive relationships with those they serve and explore possible pitfalls that can undermine them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the top ten characteristics people seek in positive relationships. • Explain one way to measure relationships. • Explore possible mistakes that can harm relationships. • Explain how to rebuild a damaged relationship
MCS 313	Onboarding Commissioners (12/15/2024)	In this session, we will explain why we onboard commissioners in their new position and discuss who is responsible for ensuring that onboarding happens. We will also discuss the onboarding process and how it is to be completed. This course benefits any commissioner, especially commissioners who serve as onboarding coaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why we onboard commissioners. • Know who is responsible for onboarding. • Discuss what is included in the onboarding process. • Verify and ensure training is entered and recorded
DCS 512	Recruiting for Diversity (08/31/2025)	Throughout this course, we will gain a deeper understanding of the importance of diversity in Scouting volunteers, as well as strategies for recruiting a more diverse commissioner corp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the need for diversity. • Understand the definition of diversity. • Identify the practices to be added to recruiting endeavors
MCS 305	Resolving Critical Unit Issues (10/01/2021)	The purpose of this course is to hone the commissioner's skills in assessing units, determining their strengths and weaknesses, and in developing plans to improve the functioning of the unit. When collaborating with the unit Key 3, the commissioner may be able to help identify critical issues and keep the unit from becoming an "At-Risk" unit (MCS 304 – Service to Units at Risk).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify when a unit has a critical issue. • Work through process to develop action. • Provide practical experience in solving issues.
CED 832	Commissioner Leadership Development (New 2026)	Part 2 of this series builds upon CED 831 by discussing effective methods for self-development of your leadership abilities. We will explore the opportunities for leadership we all have in work, family, Scouting, and everyday life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of accountability and ownership • Tasking vs. supporting. • Creating behaviors vs. rewarding accomplishments • Meeting people where they are

Period 7 (3:20 – 4:10)

Course	Title	Description/Objective	What the participant will learn
BCS 125	Commissioner Culture (05/01/2025)	Be the Heart, Build Relationships, Change Lives— is the Commissioner Culture Statement. This course will explore what this statement means and how to put our "culture" into action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe Commissioner Culture • Recognize how a culture can connect groups of people toward a common goal. • Explain the importance of Commissioner Connections • Discuss the role of roundtables in Commissioner Culture
MCS 309	Good Commissioners Need Both Head and Heart (08/01/2021)	<p>In BCS 109 - The Essential Element (A Servant’s Heart), you learned about the concept of servant leadership as explained by Robert Greenleaf in his essay titled “The Servant as Leader” that was later expanded into a book. That course gave you the basic concepts for Servant Leadership.</p> <p>In this course, we will discuss how the servant leadership concept is carried out in service to units using your head and heart.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the role of a commissioner relative to the unit’s leadership. • Learn how to engage units to identify unit needs. • Understand unit culture.
DCS 514	Building Meaningful Relationships (04/15/2022)	Commissioner service is all about relationships. In this course we will discuss how commissioners may go about building and maintaining positive relationships with those they serve. We’ll also explore possible pitfalls that can undermine relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the top ten characteristics people seek in positive relationships. • Explain one way to measure relationships. • Explore possible mistakes that can harm relationships. • Explain how to rebuild a damaged relationship
CED 716	Navigating Difficult Conversations (12/31/2021)	Scouting is full of conversations. Most are pleasant and productive- but at times, differences can arise. It occurs whenever people disagree over their values, motivations, perceptions, ideas, or desires. Sometimes these differences appear trivial, but they can trigger strong emotions. As commissioners, we need to be able to navigate these difficult conversations in a way that leaves everyone feeling heard, understood and valued.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze conflict from a commissioner/coaching point of view. • Identify tools to help navigate difficult conversations. • Learn to apply the tools to specific situations
CED 833	Commissioner Leadership in Practice (New 2026)	Part 3 of this series ties together the lessons from CED 831 & CED 832 by discussing how to apply leadership principles to commissioner service. Participants will leave with a plan to explore and practice their own leadership skills for the benefit of our Scouting units.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How commissioners can be leaders • How commissioners are teachers, coaches, and mentors • Why you should never stop learning. • Developing your own leadership plan