



Who's eligible?

Boys & Girls Clubs of America programs are available to all children and youth ages 6-18 of active-duty, National Guard and reserve members. All military youth centers are affiliated with BGCA clubs.

Additional information

Find a BGCA club near you and check out the wide variety of programs — including online options.

Visit: <https://www.bgca.org/programs>.

Learn more about military youth and teen programs on the Military OneSource website at: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/benefits/military-youth-teen-programs/>.



Discover more information about the BGCA's Mission: Youth Outreach and access the free annual membership application at: <https://www.bgca.org/about-us/military>.

Date as of Aug. 30, 2023

Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Background

Help your children make new friends, try different activities and have fun with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Since 1991, the military services have worked with BGCA to provide children ages 6-18 with access to high quality, character-building programs and caring mentors.

Highlights

Boys & Girls Clubs of America are available in all 50 states and in 16 countries worldwide. They offer a wide variety of programming in sports and recreation, education, the arts, leadership development, workforce readiness and more. Programs include:

- **Mission: Youth Outreach** — This program provides free membership to local Boys & Girls Clubs for military youth ages 6-18 who do not live near or have access to a military youth center. Through this partnership, dependent youth of active-duty, National Guard and reserve families are eligible for free annual memberships or summer camp experiences.
- **Military Youth of the Year** — This premiere recognition program honors military youth ages 14-18 who have overcome setbacks, demonstrated exceptional character and accomplishments, and are prepared to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood. It fosters a new generation of leaders prepared for a diverse, global and integrated world economy.
- **Keystone Club** — This teen program provides leadership development and character building opportunities for youth ages 14-18 and focuses on academic success, career preparation and community service.
- **Torch Club** — This small-group, chartered club supports boys and girls ages 11 to 13 in areas of service, education, health and fitness, and social recreation. A Torch Club is a powerful vehicle that helps Club staff meet the special character development needs of younger adolescents at a critical stage in their life.



U.S. Department of Defense