

# CADET ADVENTURE

**NEW IDEA  
UNDER  
CONSTRUCTION**

## Introducing CAP's New Adventure-Based Learning Program

After two years of COVID, cadets are ready to go outside, get their hands dirty, and challenge themselves.

Adventure-based learning (ABL) consists of highly-structured physical activity with periods of reflection to promote personal and social development.\* They're empowering and build physical and mental grit.

Our vision for Cadet Adventure takes inspiration from the *CAP Strategic Plan*, which calls us to increase cadet earning outcomes in character and fitness through a new emphasis on challenging, hands-on activities.

Cadet Adventure would provide recipe-like solutions for three, half-day activities: climbing, marksmanship, and indoor skydiving. Cadets could continue to participate in other High Adventure and Challenge Activities using local resources, but only these three activities would be eligible to receive national-level support.

Here's how Cadet Adventure might work. Please note details are subject to change.

- ★ NHQ develops partnerships with outside agencies (photos, right).
- ★ Squadrons would coordinate with the partners' local chapters to conduct activities
- ★ Partner agencies would provide equipment, instructors, & safety protocols
- ★ Cadets would participate in a standardized curriculum at the activity

**We want to increase outcomes in fitness & character through challenging, hands-on activities**

- ★ Activities would be funded through cost-sharing with NHQ covering a portion of the tuition; cadet fees would be \$30 or under for a half-day experience
- ★ Certificates of Accomplishment recognize participating cadets; additional awards such as a Marksmanship Badge

would also be available

- ★ Squadrons would earn Quality Cadet Unit Award points for participating

To make the financial side of the program

manageable, funding would be available only for activities and vendors approved under Cadet Adventure, and funding request windows would be open quarterly.

Programs like Cadet Adventure are sustainable only if they produce meaningful outcomes. The key metric would assess learning using the Youth Experiences Survey, a tool developed by researchers.

Cadets want to prove their worth. Cadet Adventure affords them that opportunity.

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[GoCivilAirPatrol.com/ProvingGrounds](http://GoCivilAirPatrol.com/ProvingGrounds)



**Climbing**  
USA Climbing



**Indoor Skydiving**  
iFly



**Marksmanship**  
Civilian Marksmanship Program

### Learning Outcomes

- Increased self-efficacy
- ✓ I am stronger and braver than I had imagined
  - ✓ If I can succeed in this challenge activity, I can do anything

- Physical and mental wellness
- ✓ I am supported by friends & leaders who care
  - ✓ My experience of being cared for makes me want to care for others

- Proactive risk management
- ✓ I am developing the life skills and process habits needed to keep myself safe

\* Stuhr, P.T. et al. (2016). The ABC's of adventure-based learning. *Strategies: A Journal for Physical and Sport Educators*, 29(1), 3-9.