
Getting Started

Royal Ambassadors provides an opportunity for boys to develop biblical character in addition to growing spiritually, physically, mentally, and in relationships with others. Begin praying that God will prepare adult leaders to become sensitive to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and encourage others to develop an on-mission lifestyle. Use these steps to develop a successful Royal Ambassadors ministry.

Awareness/Enlistment/Organization

1. Gather Support

- Share your interest with the church. Enlist the support of the pastor, men's ministry leader, and children's minister.
- Gather a planning team.
- Determine how to do RAs in your church.
- Determine how many leaders will be needed (minimum of two leaders per group).

2. Invite Leaders

- Extend a call for an RA Ministry Leader. Seek someone with a heart for helping boys become on mission with God. That person may be you!
- Schedule a meeting with parents. Talk to them about the benefits of Royal Ambassadors for their boys and the church. Encourage parents to be involved in their boy's activities and advancement.
- Follow your church's process for selecting or electing RA leaders.
- Provide training for leaders. Have leaders attend an associational, state, or national training event. You may be able to enlist a trainer to come to your church by contacting the associational or state office. Training resources are also available online at www.royalambassadors.org/training.

Utilizing the Organization

1. Provide Resources

- Royal Ambassador leader resources are monthly *Lad Leader* (grades 1-3) and *Crusader Leader* (grades 4-6) magazines and the annual RA Resource Kit.
- Royal Ambassador resources are the monthly *Lad* (grades 1-3) and *Crusader* (grades 4-6) magazines.
- Additional resources are membership and achievement pins and patches.
- To order these Royal Ambassador materials, call 1 866 407-NAMB (6262) or order online at www.nambstore.com.

2. Meet Together

- Meeting together helps you maintain your commitments—both the boys' commitment to develop godly character and the men's commitment to mentor an on-mission lifestyle and help the boys learn character virtues.
- You can conduct your meetings using the *Lad* and *Crusader* magazines for both leaders and boys.
- Basic RA meeting guidelines are found in the RA Chapter Meeting section.
- Forms for planning and registering your group are provided in the RA Forms section.

3. Register Your Group

- Register your group online at www.royalambassadors.org or complete the form provided in the RA Forms section and send it to:

North American Mission Board, SBC
RA Registration
4200 North Point Parkway
Alpharetta, Georgia 30022-4176

Why Register Your RA Chapter

Every RA chapter should register annually. Benefits of RA chapter registration include the following:

- Lets the state RA leader know your church has a chapter.
- Your state RA leader can inform you about training sessions.
- You can learn of state or regional RA events.
- You will be able to include state RA events in your planning.
- Your chapter gets a registration certificate, suitable for framing.
- Some states may provide other pieces of helpful information in addition to the certificate.

Naming Your Royal Ambassador Chapter After a Missionary

Royal Ambassador chapters are encouraged to name their group after someone who has been involved in missions and exhibits an on-mission lifestyle. You can name your chapter after an associational, state, North American Mission Board (NAMB), or International Mission Board (IMB) missionary. Once your chapter has chosen a name, such as "The Steve & Tara Smith Lad Chapter," you can use it in promotional information. As your boys study about mission skills, they can correspond with the missionaries and inquire

about how the missionaries use those mission skills in their mission field. The boys are encouraged to pray for the missionaries, give to special missions offerings, and consider going one day as missions volunteers.

To select a name for your chapter, check with your church and associational leadership for recommendations. You can also go to www.namb.net and click on "Missionary Directory" under the *Popular Links* heading to find NAMB missionaries, and call the IMB at 1 800 999-3113 to request an international missionary's name. Or, you can choose missionaries found in *Lad* and *Crusader* magazines.

You are welcome to name all of your chapters after one missionary or each chapter may have a different name. Correspond with the missionary you name your chapter after, if possible. Missionaries feel honored and appreciated when their names are added to an RA chapter. Please note that some missionaries are in locations or positions where returning mail may be difficult or impossible. Please be patient and understanding. Be sure to inquire about any security concerns that you need to be aware of when corresponding with missionaries.

Once you name your chapter, be sure to include that name on your annual registration form. You can print a customized RA Certificate of Registration that is suitable for framing from the national Royal Ambassador Web site, www.royalambassadors.org. (Click on *Leader Helps, Tips and Ideas* to access the list of "Additional Resources.")