

Guide to Advancement



NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM COUNCIL

Objectives

- **New Approach to Active Requirement**
- **New Approach to Position of Responsibility Requirement**
- **Merit Badge Program Reorganized and Expanded**
- **Board of Review Practiced Clarified**
- **New Process to ask for Extensions to complete Eagle Rank**
- **Scouts with Special Needs rules**

3 Applicable Documents

www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resources.aspx

Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook (#512-927)

Eagle Scout Rank Application (#512-728)

Guide To Advancement 2011 (#33088)



Eagle Scout candidate's name _____



EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION

FOR COUNCIL USE ONLY

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| COUNCIL NO. | TYPE OF UNIT |
| REGION | NATIONAL NO. |
| NAME ON OFFICIAL REGISTRATION | |
| PID NO. (REQUIRED) | |

TO THE EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICANT: This application is to be completed after you have completed all requirements for the Eagle Scout rank. Print in ink or type all information. List the month, day, and year for all dates. When using computer date blocks list the date July 8, 1999, as 07 for July 08 for day 99 for year. When you have completed this application, sign it and submit it to your unit leader.

LIST YOUR FULL LEGAL NAME (UP TO 30 CHARACTERS ON _____)

Street or R.F.D. Address _____

City, state, zip _____

Telephone (including area code) _____ Email _____

Troop, Team, Crew, or Ship _____ Local No. _____

City, state, zip _____

AGE REQUIREMENT ELIGIBILITY: Merit badges, badges of rank, & may earn these awards until his 18th birthday. Any Venture or S continue working for the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks and Eagle Scouts who have completed all requirements prior to their 18th birthday must be attached to the Eagle Scout Rank Application when it is conducted between three and six months after the candidate's 18th birthday. For awards of review to be held more than six months after the A Scout, Venture, or Sea Scout with a disability may work toward and meet the criteria for registration beyond the age of eligibility. See the Guide to Advancement.

REQUIREMENT 1: Be active in your troop, crew, or ship for a after you have achieved the rank of Life Scout.

REQUIREMENT 2: Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Name _____ Address _____

Parents/guardians _____

Religious _____

Educational _____

Employer (if any) _____

Two other references _____

REQUIREMENT 3: Earn a total of 21 merit badges (required badges & optional badges)

| MERIT BADGE | DATE EARNED | UNIT NO. | ME |
|---|-------------|----------|----------------|
| 1. CAMPING | | | 8 FIRST |
| 2. CITIZENSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY | | | 9 CYCLE OF SA |
| 3. CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION | | | 10 PERISC MANA |
| 4. CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD | | | 11 PERISC |
| 5. COMMUNICATIONS | | | 12 FAMIL |
| 6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OR LIFESAVING | | | 13 |
| 7. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE | | | 14 |

*Choose out badges not earned. If a crossed-out badge was earned, Four of these required merit badges were earned for the Star Scout.



GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT 2011

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

New Active Requirement

- 1. The Scout is registered.**
- 2. The Scout is in good standing.**
- 3. The Scout meets the unit's reasonable expectations; or, if not, a lesser level of activity is explained.**

Alternative to the third test if expectations are not met.

In considering the third test, it is appropriate for units to set reasonable expectations for attendance and participation.

WHAT IS REASONABLE?

New Position of Responsibility Requirement

4.2.3.4.3 Meeting Unit Expectations. If a unit has established expectations for positions of responsibility, and if, within reason based on his personal skill set, the Scout meets them, he fulfills the requirement. When a Scout assumes a position, something related to the desired results must happen. It is a disservice to the Scout and to the unit to reward work that has not been done. Holding a position and doing nothing, producing no results, is unacceptable. Some degree of responsibility must be practiced, taken, or accepted.

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM NOTES

7.0.0.2 Unit Leader Signs Application for Merit Badge (“Blue Card”)

Though a few merit badges may have certain restrictions; short of them, any registered Scout may work on any of them at any time, as long as he has the approval of his unit leader.

All merit badge requirements must be met while a registered Boy Scout or Varsity Scout, or a qualified Venturer or Sea Scout. Accomplishments before joining, or while a Cub Scout, do not apply.

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM NOTES

7.0.1.1 Qualifications of Counselors

People serving must maintain registration with the BSA as MBCs and be approved by the local council for each of their badges. There are no exceptions. For example, Scoutmasters must be approved for any badge they wish to counsel or sign off in their troop. Before working with Scouts, counselors must have completed Youth Protection training within the last two years. PG 37-38 list MBs that have specific counselor qualifications

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM NOTES

7.0.4.6 Once It Is Earned, It's Earned. Once a registered and approved counselor has passed a Scout on requirements for a merit badge, it cannot be taken away. Nor does unit leadership have the authority to retract approval, or take the badge away. Even if a merit badge counselor were found to be improperly documented, it would be a rare occasion when a Scout would be penalized for the mistake of an adult volunteer. Unsuitable counselors or those who do not follow BSA procedures should be reported to the local council.

Board of Review Notes

8.0.0.2 Boards of Review Must Be Granted When Requirements Are Met

A Scout cannot be denied this opportunity. When he believes he has completed all the requirements, including a Scoutmaster conference, it is up to the unit leader and committee to assure a board of review is held. Scoutmasters, for example, do not have authority to expect a boy to request one, or to “defer” him, or to ask him to perform beyond the requirements in order to be granted one

Board of Review Notes

8.0.2.0 Membership. The board is made up of three to six unit committee members—no more and no less. In units with fewer than three registered committee members available to serve, it is permissible to use knowledgeable parents (not those of the candidate) or other adults (registered or not) who understand Boy Scouting’s aims.

8.0.0.4 Wearing the Uniform—or Neat in Appearance

It is preferred a Scout be in full field uniform for any board of review. He should wear as much of it as he owns, and it should be as correct as possible, with the badges worn properly

8.0.1.1 Not a Retest or “Examination”

Board of Review Notes

8.0.1.4 Board Members Must Agree Unanimously on Decisions to Approve

If a board decides not to approve, the candidate must be so informed and told what he can do to improve. Most Scouts accept responsibility for their behavior or for not completing requirements properly. If it is thought that a Scout, before his 18th birthday, can benefit from an opportunity to properly complete the requirements, the board may adjourn and reconvene at a later date. If the candidate agrees to this, then if possible, the same members should reassemble. If he does not agree, then the board must make its decision at that point.

Appeals for Star and Life BORs are heard at the council level

EAGLE BORs

8.0.3.2 Initiating Eagle Scout Board of Review Under Disputed Circumstances

An Eagle Scout board of review under disputed circumstances is held at the district or council level. Volunteers from the candidate's unit are not involved. It is indicated when a unit leader or committee chair does not sign the application, if a Scoutmaster conference is denied, if it is thought a unit will not provide a fair hearing, or if the unit leader or project beneficiary refuses to sign final approval for what might be considered a satisfactory service project.

EAGLE Extension Requests

9.0.4.0 Time Extensions

If a youth foresees that, due to no fault or choice of his own, he will be unable to complete the Eagle Scout rank requirements before age 18, he may apply for a limited time extension. These are rarely granted and reserved only for work on Eagle.

The Boy Scouts of America assumes anyone working on Boy Scout ranks has a Boy Scout Handbook and has read the requirements.

Cause for an extension normally requires an extraordinary circumstance uncommon to the youth. For example, known circumstances such as moderate learning disabilities or ADD/ADHD that the Scout has faced over many years and which he has coped with in the past, should not suddenly become an issue shortly before his 18th birthday.

Scouts With Special Needs

•Scouts can be registered and advance past the normal age limitations but must be medically documented and registered with the appropriate disability code

Examples of conditions that, if severe, *may* be criteria for registration beyond the age of eligibility include these:

1. Autism spectrum disorders
2. Blind or sight-impaired
3. Deaf or hard of hearing
4. Developmental cognitive disability
5. Developmental delay
6. Down syndrome
7. Emotional or behavioral disorder
8. Physically impaired
9. Severely multiple impaired
10. Traumatic brain injury

•Scouts may be allowed to work on alternative rank and merit badge requirements