

BE PREPARED

GREENWICH SCOUTING



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LIFE TO EAGLE TRAIL GUIDE

www.GreenwichScouting.org/Eagle

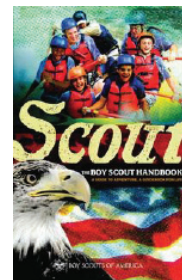
October 2010

Requirements

1. Be active in your troop, team, crew, or ship for a period of at least six months **after** you have achieved the rank of Life Scout. (Pages 34-35, 58 - *BSA Handbook, 12th Edition*)

2. Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life.

List the names of individuals who know you personally and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf, including parents/guardians, religious, educational, and employer references. (Page 30)



3. Earn a total of 21 merit badges (10 more than you already have), including the following: (Pages 48-49)

- a. First Aid
- b. Citizenship in the Community
- c. Citizenship in the Nation
- d. Citizenship in the World
- e. Communications
- f. Personal Fitness
- g. Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving*
- h. Environmental Science
- i. Personal Management
- j. Swimming OR Hiking OR Cycling*
- k. Camping
- l. Family Life



** You must choose only one merit badge listed in items g and j. If you have earned more than one of the badges listed in items g and j, choose one and list the remaining badges to make your total of 21.*

4. While a Life Scout, serve actively for a period of **six months** in one or more of the following positions of responsibility. List only those positions served *after Life board of review date*. (Page 58)

Boy Scout Troop: Patrol leader, Venture patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, troop guide, Order of the Arrow troop representative, den chief, scribe, librarian, historian, quartermaster, junior assistant Scoutmaster, chaplain aide, instructor; (effective Jan. 1, 2010) Webmaster and Leave No Trace trainer



Varsity Scout team: Captain, cocaptain, program manager, squad leader, team secretary, Order of the Arrow team representative, librarian, historian, quartermaster, chaplain aide, instructor, den chief

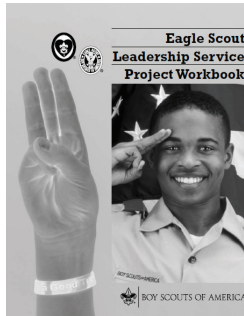
Venturing crew/ship: President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, den chief, quartermaster, historian, guide, boatswain, boatswain's mate, yeoman, purser, storekeeper

Lone Scout: Leadership responsibility in his school, religious organization, club, or elsewhere in his community

5. *While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.*

The project plan must be approved by your Scoutmaster and troop committee, by the council [or district], and by the organization benefiting from the effort before you start.

You must use the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement. (Pages 84-85)



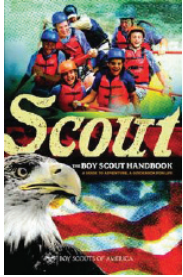
6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference (with Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor). **Attach to this application a statement of your ambitions and life purpose and a listing of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community, or other organizations** during which you demonstrated leadership skills. Include honors and awards received during this service. (Page 34)

7. Successfully complete an Eagle Scout board of review. (Page 55)

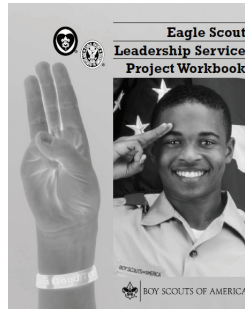


Essential Materials

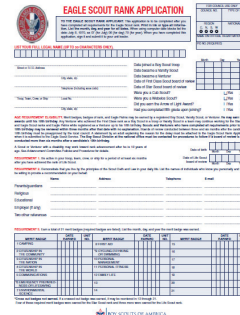
Before setting out on the trail towards the rank of Eagle Scout there are several items you will certainly need along the way: a Boy Scout Handbook, the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook and the Eagle Scout Rank Application.



The Boy Scout Handbook



Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook



Eagle Scout Application

Use these materials along your way to ensure you're doing everything you need to do, and doing it all correctly. It's also important that you understand what the requirements are. Do not wait until just a few months before your 18th birthday to read the requirements.

Remember your Scoutmaster!

Along this trail you have a "tour guide". Your Scoutmaster is an essential player in this process. You need your Scoutmaster for more than just an approval signature on the application. Be sure to seek out your Scoutmaster for advice before embarking on this journey. Do not wait for your Scoutmaster to contact you - it's your rank advancement. He may have ideas on what Leadership Service Project you could work on and he may have hints and tips for completing this rank you won't find written down anywhere.

Age Requirement Eligibility

From the Eagle Scout Rank Application *"Merit badges, badges of rank, and Eagle Palms may be earned by a registered Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer. He may earn these awards until his 18th birthday. Any Venturer who achieved the First Class rank as a Boy Scout in a troop or Varsity Scout in a team may continue working for the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks and Eagle Palms while registered as a Venturer up to his 18th birthday. Scouts and Venturers who have completed all requirements prior to their 18th birthday may be reviewed within three months after that date with no explanation. Boards of review conducted between three and six months after the candidate's 18th birthday must be preapproved by the local council. A statement by an adult explaining the reason for the delay must be attached to the Eagle Scout Rank Application when it is submitted to the Eagle Scout Service. The Boy Scout Division at the national office must be contacted for procedures to follow if a board of review is to be conducted more than six months after a candidate's 18th birthday.*

Bottom line - do not wait until the last minute to start.

Recommendations

Requirement #2 Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life...

“The Scout Oath and Scout Law are not meant just to be recited at troop meetings, and they are not to be obeyed just while you are wearing a Scout uniform. The spirit of Scouting is always important—at home, at school and in your community”. (Page 30, BSA Handbook 12th Edition)

Requirement #2 should be one of the easiest requirements an Eagle Scout candidate completes.

When listing references, keep in mind it must be read by another individual. Also, remember each person you include will be contacted and asked to provide a recommendation. What does that all mean: print legibly and use complete addresses (full name, mailing address, city, state and zip code). That’s it!

It is a good idea to let the individuals you will be using as references know you’d like to include their name and that they will be contacted. Think of your Eagle Application as an employment application. Is it better for your references to be contacted out of the blue, or with a heads up from the Life Scout?

REQUIREMENT 1. Be active in your troop, team, crew, or ship for a period of at least six months after you have achieved the rank of Life Scout.

REQUIREMENT 2. Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life. List the names of individuals who know you personally and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf.

Name	Address	Telephone	E-mail
Parents/guardians			
Religious			
Educational			
Employer (if any)			
Two other references			

REQUIREMENT 3. Earn a total of 21 merit badges (required badges are listed). List the month, day, and year the merit badge was earned.

MERIT BADGE	DATE EARNED	UNIT NO.	MERIT BADGE	DATE EARNED	UNIT NO.	MERIT BADGE	DATE EARNED	UNIT NO.
1. CAMPING			8. FIRST AID			15.		

Leadership Service Project

Requirement #5 While a Life Scout, plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community..

When you think about working towards the rank of Eagle Scout you probably think of Requirement #5. The Leadership Service Project is where you are able to demonstrate to not just your Troop, but to the entire community, what the Rank of Eagle Scout means. Here’s a breakdown of what the first part of the requirement is asking:

1. “While a Life Scout...” The project MUST be started after you have become a Life Scout, therefore no project should be conducted before prior to that time (although a little thinking ahead will not hurt!).

Leadership Service Project cont...

2. “. . . *Plan*. . . “ This requirement of a comprehensive, written advance plan is taken very seriously, and the best executed project in the world is not acceptable if it is done before the careful writing and approval of that plan. The Project Workbook is essential to this planning process.

3. “. . . *Develop*. . .” Another important one! As you draft and redraft your written plan, you must also be “pounding the sidewalk” making the preparations, getting permission, arranging for unlocking and later locking of doors or gates, setting up transportation for your helpers and materials, borrowing needed tools, purchasing supplies. **You must accomplish all of those things (not your parents, Scoutmaster or friends).**

4. “. . . *Give Leadership to others*. . . “ This puts your years in Scouting and those leadership positions you’ve held to the really practical test: This is an Eagle Project, not a “Lone Wolf” project. You may not do a project, however worthy, alone or with fewer than two helpers. It’s preferable to have more than two, and always plan for extras because, as you know by now, things “come up” no matter how well you plan or how sure someone is that he’ll “be there”.

5. “. . . *Helpful to your religious institution, school, or community*. . . “ Were you surprised when you first heard this requirement, that your not allowed to do a project for the good ol’ Scout Troop? The Eagle Scout rank marks a passage into the adult world and a recognition that skills which stay within the Scout or even within the Troop, are not being fully used.

The project plan must be approved by your Scoutmaster and troop committee, by the council or district, and by the organization benefiting from the effort before you start.

You must use the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement

You can fill out the Leadership Service Project Workbook on a computer using the PDF available at www.Scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-927.pdf. Remember to save the file so you don’t lose what your working on.



Statement Of Your Ambitions & Life Purpose

Requirement #6 Take part in a Scoutmaster conference (with Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor). Attach to this application a statement of your ambitions and life purpose and a listing of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community, or other organizations during which you demonstrated leadership skills. Include honors and awards received during this service.

Perhaps the most commonly neglected requirement on the application is Requirement #6. Scouts usually complete the first part (the Scoutmaster conference) easily, but many fail to completely read the requirement and do not include the personal statement. It doesn't have to be a book, but you should fulfill the requirement. Here's some questions to help you write:

Where do you see yourself in the future?

What makes you, You?

You've been a Scout for a while now, how does it affect your life?

The Eagle Scout Rank Application Process

1. Select your project, get your unit leader and committee chair's approval, and the Council Eagle Scout Board approval before starting you project. Complete the Leadership Project Workbook. You must use the the workbook, a PDF is available here:

www.Scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-927.pdf

Remember to save the PDF to your computer so you don't lose any information.

2. Complete all other requirements for the Eagle Scout Rank.

Fill out the Eagle Scout Rank Application completely. This document must be neat.

We recommend using the interactive PDF available here:

www.Scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-728_web.pdf

Remember to save the PDF to your computer so you don't lose any information.

3. When your project is completed and you have earned all the merit badges and have completed the required tenure in a troop leadership position, have your Unit leader's conference.

4. Deliver all the paperwork to the Council Service Center. Letters will be sent to those individuals you've provided as references, requesting them to respond as a reference to your Scout Spirit.

5. The application will be reviewed and you will be contacted (to correct any outstanding issues that may come up) and to set your board of review date.

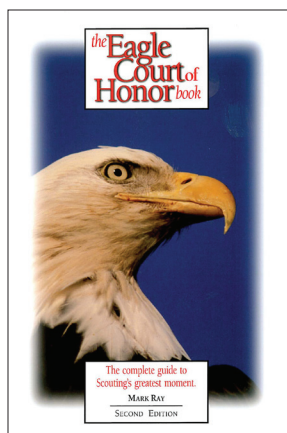
Application Process cont.

6. You, and your unit leader must appear at your Eagle Board of Review. Wear full field uniform—dress like an Eagle Scout!
7. Upon passing your Board, it will take 6-8 weeks for the completed paperwork to be sent to and returned from the National Council. Plan for your Court of Honor accordingly.
8. Write invitations and requests for recognition at your Court of Honor. Give them plenty of time to respond. Have the letters ready as soon as you pass your board!

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Sometimes planning an Eagle Court of Honor can be the most daunting task in the entire Eagle Scout process but there are resources. Again, always remember your Scoutmaster! They will help guide you through this. Every Eagle Scout Court of Honor is a little different, no two Eagle Scouts are alike either. Some Troops have a traditional ceremony, some Scouts pick their own unique program.

The most important considerations, make it special and make it yours. There is no higher pinnacle in your Scouting career. You can find tons of great ideas online with just a little searching around and you can find helpful materials in the local Scout Shop and online at www.ScoutStuff.org



*The Eagle Court of Honor book by Mark Ray,
Available at the Greenwich Council Scout Shop*

Remember there is help out there you just need to ask and remember your Scoutmaster!

Good Luck on **your** trail!

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