Training for Unit Eagle Advisors and Coaches



CHAIN BRIDGE DISTRICT 2024



CBD Guidance

- In the Chain Bridge District, we recommend that Eagle Advisors and Eagle Project Coaches be <u>combined</u> as a single unit level position.
- ★ District Eagle Board Representatives have important responsibilities, but day-to-day guidance for Eagle candidates should be provided at the unit level.
- ★ Check with your District Advancement Chairperson if you are registered with another District.

Unit Eagle Advisors must:

- ★ Be registered as Adult Leaders with BSA.
- Have current YPT status and follow BSA policies.
- Understand the BSA Eagle advancement process (See Guide to Advancement Sections 2, 8 and 9).
- Understand NCAC and CBD policies and procedures.
- Review Scouts' completed Eagle Packages.

Critical Advisor Tasks

- Provide positive adult association.
- Help Parents understand their role.
- Help Scouts understand the requirements and discuss how they plan to meet them.
- Discuss the Scout's planned schedule and monitor progress.
- Offer assistance and guidance as Scouts complete their Eagle Project Workbook and ESRA application.
- Coordinate steps leading to the Scout's Eagle Board of Review.

Steps on the Journey from Life to Eagle

- Active Participation (6 months)
- Demonstrate Scout Spirit
- Earn Required Merit Badges
- 6 Months Service in Leadership Position as a Life Scout
- Plan and Conduct an Eagle Service Project
- Participate in a Scoutmaster Conference
- Eagle Application & Scout Statements
- Eagle Board of Review

Eagle Scout Service Project

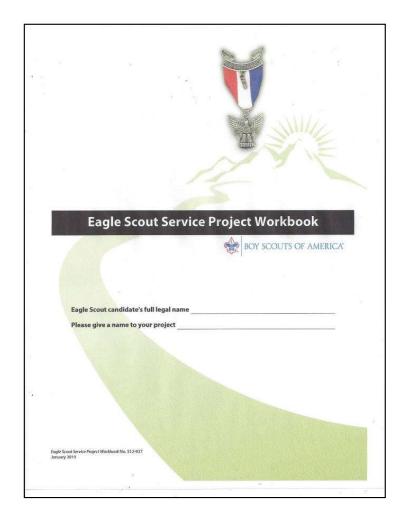
Scouts <u>must</u> use the official BSA Eagle Project Workbook

- Review the entire workbook with the Scout.
- Scouts should use the February 2023a version
- Scouts should use a computer if possible.

Become Familiar with the Workbook

The main sections include:

- Introductory Material (Message for Parents, Excerpts from the GTA, etc.)
- Proposal & Contact Info
- Project Plan
- Fundraising Application
- Project Report
- Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project (Info for Beneficiaries)



Project Proposal

The Scout should propose a project that will:

- 1. Produce real benefits for the sponsor.
- 2. Require planning.
- 3. Permit the Scout to demonstrate <u>leadership</u>.
- 4. Be appropriate not too small and not too big.
- Ask the Scout to prepare a draft Proposal and suggest improvements.
- The project Proposal must be approved by the beneficiary, the unit and the Dist. Eagle Rep.
- Additional project planning is necessary.

Service Project Fundraising

- ♣ Projects may not be <u>primarily</u> fundraisers.
- ★ Fundraising is permitted to support a project and should be described in the Project Proposal.
- ★ Contributions from the candidate, parents, relatives, unit, chartered organization, or beneficiary do <u>not</u> require a fundraising application.
- ◆ Other fundraising must be approved by the council if it exceeds \$500.

Project Plan

The **Project Plan** may (and should) be started before the Proposal is approved:

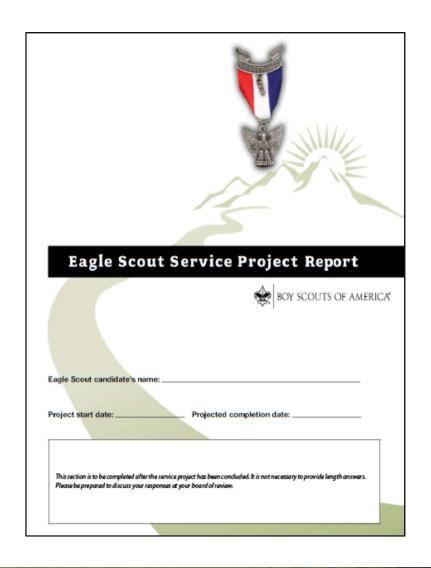
- ★ Learning how to plan a complex project is a valuable benefit of the Eagle process.
- ★ Help the Scout develop a Management Plan with "task leaders" who have assigned responsibilities.
- ★ Ask the Scout, how could this project fail? The plan should describe how potential problems will be avoided or resolved.

Reviewing the Project Plan

- Ask the Scout to prepare a <u>draft</u> Plan and suggest improvements.
- ★ Discuss leadership challenges the Scout may face (e.g., adults who are tempted to "take charge".)
- ★ The Project Plan is not "re-approved", but it MUST be shown to the beneficiary.
- ★ The Beneficiary can delay the project if the plan is not satisfactory.

The Project Report

- Emphasize <u>timely</u> completion of the Project Report.
- ★ Ask the Scout if you can review their Project Report before it is approved and suggest improvements if needed.
- Remind the Scout that their Report will be reviewed by the Scout's Eagle Board



Project Report Sections

- Project Description & **Planning**
- Observations (Positive Funding Summary) & Negative)
- Changes Made
- ★ Leadership Issues
- ★ Materials, Supplies, Tools used

- Project Data (Planning) and work hours)
- Project Photos
- Candidate's Promise
- Approval Signatures Beneficiary and Unit Leader

Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA)

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Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA)

- Current ESRA is dated June 2022.
- Encourage Scouts to use a computer, if possible.
- Requirements 1-6 must be completed before Scout's 18th birthday.
- Ask the Scout for the reference list (Requirement 2) early to request reference letters.
- Accurate, complete information is <u>essential</u>.
- ❖ Eagle Advisors are responsible for performing a quality review of the Scout's ESRA <u>before</u> it is submitted to the District Eagle Representative (DER) for review.

Req. #3 - Merit Badges

- 21 Total
- 14 Required Badges
 - Camping
 - Citizenship in the Community
 - Citizenship in the Nation
 - Citizenship in Society
 - Citizenship in the World
 - Communication
 - Cooking
 - Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving

- Environmental Science OR Sustainability
- First Aid
- Cycling OR Hiking OR Swimming
- Personal Management
- Personal Fitness
- Family Life
- Cross out badges not used
- List non-required badges in chronological order
- Date must agree with BSA Scoutnet information

Req. #4 - Leadership Positions

- Discuss with the Scout your unit's standards for successful performance. A failure to perform duties adequately can be catastrophic for Scouts nearing Age 18.
- Start date may not precede the Scout's Life Board of Review.
- End date must be before the Scout's 18th birthday.
- Troop positions are:

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, Webmaster, Outdoor Ethics Guide.

Two Attachments to Eagle Application:

Statement of Life Purpose and Ambitions (Forward-looking)

Statement of Leadership Positions and Accomplishments (Like a resume)

Normally, these statements should be prepared for discussion during the Scoutmaster Conference. However, BSA permits them to be prepared later. They must be prepared before the Scout's EBOR.

Eagle Package Review

Unit Eagle Advisors MUST conduct a quality review of the Scout's Eagle Package.

- Ensure the Scout's Project Workbook is complete.
- Review the Scout's draft ESRA <u>before</u> it is signed.
 - Check all dates against blue cards and unit advancement records.
 - Use NCAC Attachment C Eagle Scout Verification Checklist. (Handout)
- ❖ If Possible, review the Scout's Statements of Accomplishments and Life Purpose.
- This review should be <u>timely</u> and <u>may not delay</u> the Scout's Eagle Board of Review.

Eagle Package Review

Once the Unit Eagle Advisor's review is complete, the District Eagle Representative (DER) will verify the Eagle Package.

- If possible, the Scout's entire Eagle Package should be submitted to the DER for review. The <u>minimum</u> submittal must include:
 - The ESRA with original signatures.
 - The Scout's Advancement History Report from Scoutbook or Internet Advancement.
- ❖ If the ESRA is complete and consistent with BSA records, the District Eagle Representative will sign and date for "BSA LOCAL COUNCIL VERIFICATION".

Eagle Board of Review Preparation

The Unit Eagle Advisor should:

- Coordinate and confirm ESRA verification approval by the District Eagle Board Rep.
- ❖ Obtain confidential reference letters. Restrict access to Eagle Board of Review (EBOR) members.
- ❖ Coordinate with District Eagle Board Rep. to schedule the EBOR meeting time and place.
- If a Troop Committee member, the unit Eagle Advisor/Coach may participate on the EBOR.

Post Eagle Board of Review Procedures

Following a successful EBOR:

- The Unit Eagle Advisor (or other responsible adult) scans the approved ESRA and emails it to Council.
 - The message should be sent to 082NCAC_EagleCert@scouting.org.
 - Include documentation for approved extension request if applicable.
 - See additional instructions (Handout).
- Council will coordinate approval by BSA Headquarters and provide notification to the unit.

Eagle Extensions

- Scouts must complete requirements 1-6 <u>before</u> their 18th birtday, or a <u>time extension</u> must be approved.
- Scouts have 2 years after age 18 to get ESRA signatures and have their EBOR – No extension or BSA registration required.
- If an extension is required, the Unit Eagle Advisor should help and provide guidance.
 - Use Form 512-077 (Handout).
 - Life rank must be earned 6 months before age 18.
 - Extension must be due to unexpected circumstances beyond the Scout's control.

Eagle Court of Honor

Usually parents take the lead in planning this ceremony. Remember, the ECOH should not be scheduled before Council provides notification of approval.

The ceremony should:

- Recognize the Scout's accomplishments
- Deliver the Eagle Charge
- Recite the Eagle Promise
- Inspire other Scouts

Conclusion

- ★ The Path to Eagle is experiential learning. It educates and expands the Scout's horizons.
- ★ The goal is <u>personal growth</u>. Scouts learn new skills and gain confidence to succeed in life.

