



Boy Scout Joining Requirements

(Scout Badge)

1. Meet age requirements: Be a boy who has completed the fifth grade, or is 11 years old, or has earned the Arrow of Light Award, but is under 18 years old.
Meet age requirements: Be a boy who has completed the fifth grade and be at least 10 years old, or be 11 years old, or have earned the Arrow of Light Award and be at least 10 years old, and be under 18 years old.
2. Complete a Boy Scout application and health history signed by your parent or guardian.
3. Find a Scout troop near your home. **(To find a troop, contact your local Boy Scout Council. The Council name, address and phone number can be found on [BSA's Council Locator Page](#).)**
4. Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Demonstrate the Scout sign, salute, and handshake.
6. Demonstrate tying the square knot (a joining knot).
7. Understand and agree to live by the [Scout Oath or Promise](#), [Law](#), [motto](#), and [slogan](#), and the [Outdoor Code](#).
8. Describe the Scout badge.
9. Complete the Pamphlet Exercises. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet "*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*".
10. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference. Turn in your Boy Scout application and health history form signed by your parent or guardian, then participate in a Scoutmaster conference.



Tenderfoot Rank Requirements

1. Present yourself to your leader, properly dressed, before going on an overnight camping trip. Show the camping gear you will use. Show the right way to pack and carry it.
2. Spend at least one night on a patrol or troop campout. Sleep in a tent you have helped pitch.
3. On the campout, assist in preparing and cooking one of your patrol's meals. Tell why it is important for each patrol member to share in meal preparation and cleanup, and explain the importance of eating together.
4. a. Demonstrate how to whip and fuse the ends of a rope.
4. b. Demonstrate you know how to tie the following knots and tell what their uses are: two half hitches and the taut-line hitch.
5. Explain the rules of safe hiking, both on the highway and cross-country, during the day and at night. Explain what to do if you are lost.
6. Demonstrate how to display, raise, lower, and fold the American flag.
7. Repeat from memory and explain in your own words the [Scout Oath](#), [Law](#), [motto](#), and [slogan](#).
8. Know your patrol name, give the patrol yell, and describe your patrol flag.
9. Explain why we use the buddy system in Scouting.
10. a. Record your best in the following tests:
 - Push-ups - Pull-ups - Sit-ups - Standing long jump - 1/4 mile walk/run
10. b. Show improvement in the activities listed in requirement 10a after practicing for 30 days.
11. Identify local poisonous plants; tell how to treat for exposure to them.
12. a. Demonstrate the Heimlich maneuver and tell when it is used.
12. b. Show first aid for the following:
 - Simple cuts and scratches
 - Blisters on the hand and foot
 - Minor burns or scalds (first degree)
 - Bites and stings of insects and ticks
 - Poisonous snakebite
 - Nosebleed
 - Frostbite and sunburn
13. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
14. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
15. Complete your board of review



Second Class Rank Requirements

1. a. Demonstrate how a compass works and how to orient a map. Explain what map symbols mean.
1. b. Using a compass and a map together, take a 5-mile hike (or 10 miles by bike) approved by your adult leader and your parent or guardian.*
2. a. Since joining, have participated in five separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), two of which included camping overnight.
2. b. On one of these campouts, select your patrol site and sleep in a tent that you pitched.
2. c. On one campout, demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of the knife, saw, and ax, and describe when they should be used.
2. d. Use the tools listed in requirement 2c to prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel for a cooking fire.
2. e. Discuss when it is appropriate to use a cooking fire and a lightweight stove. Discuss the safety procedures for using both..
2. f. Demonstrate how to light a fire and a lightweight stove.
2. g. On one campout, plan and cook over an open fire one hot breakfast or lunch for yourself, selecting foods from the food pyramid. Explain the importance of good nutrition. Tell how to transport, store, and prepare the foods you selected.
3. Participate in a flag ceremony for your school, religious institution, chartered organization, community, or troop activity.
4. Participate in an approved (minimum of one hour) [service project](#).
5. Identify or show evidence of at least ten kinds of wild animals (birds, mammals, reptiles, fish, mollusks) found in your community.
6. a. Show what to do for "hurry" cases of stopped breathing, serious bleeding, and internal poisoning.
6. b. Prepare a personal first aid kit to take with you on a hike.
6. c. Demonstrate first aid for the following:
 - Object in the eye
 - Bite of a suspected rabid animal
 - Puncture wounds from a splinter, nail, and fishhook
 - Serious burns (second degree)

- Heat exhaustion
- Shock
- Heatstroke, dehydration, hypothermia, and hyperventilation

7. a. Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe swim.
7. b. Demonstrate your ability to jump feetfirst into water over your head in depth, level off and swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming, then return to your starting place.
7. c. Demonstrate water rescue methods by reaching with your arm or leg, by reaching with a suitable object, and by throwing lines and objects. Explain why swimming rescues should not be attempted when a reaching or throwing rescue is possible, and explain why and how a rescue swimmer should avoid contact with the victim.
8. Participate in a school, community, or troop program on the dangers of using drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, and other practices that could be harmful to your health. Discuss your participation in the program with your family.
9. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
10. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
11. Complete your board of review.



First Class Rank Requirements

1. Demonstrate how to find directions during the day and at night without using a compass.
2. Using a compass, complete an orienteering course that covers at least one mile and requires measuring the height and/or width of designated items (tree, tower, canyon, ditch, etc.)
3. Since joining, have participated in ten separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), three of which included camping overnight.
4. a. Help plan a patrol menu for one campout that includes at least one breakfast, one lunch, and one dinner and that requires cooking at least two meals. Tell how the menu includes the foods from the food pyramid and meets nutritional needs.
4. b. Using the menu planned in requirement 4a, make a list showing the cost and food amounts needed to feed three or more boys and secure the ingredients.
4. c. Tell which pans, utensils, and other gear will be needed to cook and serve these meals.
4. d. Explain the procedures to follow in the safe handling and storage of fresh meats, dairy products, eggs, vegetables, and other perishable food products. Tell how to properly dispose of camp garbage, cans, plastic containers, and other rubbish.
4. e. On one campout, serve as your patrol's cook. Supervise your assistant(s) in using a stove or building a cooking fire. Prepare the breakfast, lunch, and dinner planned in requirement 4a. Lead your patrol in saying grace at the meals and supervise cleanup.
5. Visit and discuss with a selected individual approved by your leader (elected official, judge, attorney, civil servant, principal, teacher) your constitutional rights and obligations as a U.S. citizen.
6. Identify or show evidence of at least ten kinds of native plants found in your community.
7. a. Discuss when you should and should not use lashings
7. b. Demonstrate tying the timber hitch and clove hitch and their use in square, shear, and diagonal lashings by joining two or more poles or staves together.
7. c. Use lashing to make a useful camp gadget.
8. a. Demonstrate tying the bowline knot and describe several ways it can be used.
8. b. Demonstrate bandages for a sprained ankle. and for injuries on the head, the upper arm, and the collarbone.
8. c. Show how to transport by yourself, and with one other person, a person:

- from a smoke-filled room
 - with a sprained ankle, for at least 25 yards.
8. d. Tell the five most common signs of a heart attack. Explain the steps (procedures) in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
 9. a. Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe trip afloat.
 9. b. Successfully complete the [BSA swimmer test](#).
 9. c. With a helper and a practice victim, show a line rescue both as tender and rescuer. (The practice victim should be approximately 30 feet from shore in deep water.)
 10. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
 11. Tell someone who is eligible to join Boy Scouts, or an inactive Boy Scout, about your troop's activities. Invite him to a troop outing, activity, service project or meeting. Tell him how to join, or encourage the inactive Boy Scout to become active.
 12. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
 13. Complete your board of review.



Star Rank Requirements

1. Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 4 months as a First Class Scout.
2. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Earn 6 merit badges, including 4 from [the required list for Eagle](#).*
_____(required for Eagle)*
_____(required for Eagle)*
_____(required for Eagle)*
_____(required for Eagle)*

4. While a First Class Scout, take part in [service projects](#) totaling at least 6 hours of work. These projects must be approved by your Scoutmaster.
5. While a First Class Scout, serve actively 4 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a Scoutmaster-assigned leadership project to help the troop):

Boy Scout troop.

- Patrol leader, Assistant senior patrol leader, Senior patrol leader, Troop guide, Den chief, Scribe,
 - Order of the Arrow troop representative, Librarian, Historian, Quartermaster, Bugler, Instructor.
 - Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Chaplain aide
6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference
 7. Complete your board of review.

Troop 121 Scheduled Merit Badges:

- Eagle Required – At Home – **1) Family Life**
- Eagle Required – Summer Camp – **2) First Aid 3) Swimming**
- Eagle required - Troop Meetings – **4) Citizenship in the Community**
- Electives – Summer Camp – **1) Leather 2) Wood Carving**



Life Rank Requirements

1. Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Star Scout.
2. Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Earn 5 more merit badges (so that you have 11 in all), including any 3 more from the [required list for Eagle](#).
_____ (required for Eagle)*
_____ (required for Eagle)*
_____ (required for Eagle)*

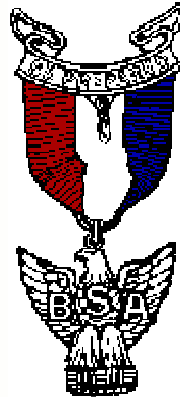
4. While a Star Scout, take part in [service projects](#) totaling at least 6 hours of work. These projects must be approved by your Scoutmaster.
5. While a Star Scout, serve actively 6 months in one or more of the positions of responsibility listed below

Boy Scout troop.

- Patrol leader, Assistant senior patrol leader, Senior patrol leader, Troop guide, Den chief, Scribe,
 - Order of the Arrow troop representative, Librarian, Historian, Quartermaster, Bugler, Instructor.
 - Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Chaplain aide
6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference
 7. Complete your board of review.

Troop 121 Scheduled Merit Badges:

- Eagle required - Troop Meetings – **5) Citizenship in Nation 6) Personal Fitness 7) Communications**
- Electives – Open – There will be plenty of opportunities to work this area



Eagle Rank Requirements

1. Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Life Scout.
2. Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Earn a total of 21 merit badges (10 more than you already have), including the following:
 - 1) [First Aid](#) 2) [Citizenship in the Community](#) 3) [Citizenship in the Nation](#) 4) [Citizenship in the World](#)
 - 5) [Communications](#) 6) [Personal Fitness](#) 7) [Emergency Preparedness](#) OR [Lifesaving](#)
 - 8) [Environmental Science](#) 9) [Personal Management](#) 10) [Swimming](#) OR [Hiking](#) OR [Cycling](#)
 - 11) [Camping](#) 12) [Family Life](#) *
4. While a Life Scout, serve actively for a period of 6 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility:

Boy Scout troop.

- Patrol leader, Assistant senior patrol leader, Senior patrol leader, Troop guide, Den chief, Scribe,
- Order of the Arrow troop representative, Librarian, Historian, Quartermaster, Bugler, Instructor.
- Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Chaplain aide

Troop 121 Scheduled Merit Badges:

- Eagle required - Troop Meetings – **8) Citizenship in World 9) Personal Management 10) Camping**
 - Eagle required – Summer Camp – **11) Environmental Science 12) Life Saving**
 - Electives – Open – There will be plenty of opportunities to work this area
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 should benefit an organization other than Boy Scouting.) The project idea must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your Scoutmaster and troop committee and the council or district before you start. You must use the [Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook](#), BSA publication No. 18-927D, in meeting this requirement.
 6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference.
 7. Successfully complete an Eagle Scout board of review.

Note: All requirements must be completed before a candidate's 18th birthday. The Eagle Scout board of review can be held after the candidate's 18th birthday.

Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook



The 12 Steps from Life to Eagle

The following 12 steps have been outlined to ensure a smooth procedure for the Scout, the unit leadership, the local council, and the volunteers who are to conduct the board of review. Eagle candidates should share these steps with their unit leader so that they can fully understand the procedures that must be followed.

1. In order to advance to the rank of Eagle, a candidate must complete all requirements of tenure; Scout spirit; merit badges; positions of responsibility; while a Life Scout, plan, develop, and provide leadership to others in a service project; and the Scoutmaster conference.
2. Using the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, the candidate must select his Eagle service project and have the project concept approved by his unit leader, his unit committee, and the benefactor of the project, and reviewed and approved by the council or district advancement committee. The workbook must be used in meeting this requirement.
3. It is imperative that all requirements for the Eagle Scout rank except the board of review be completed prior to the candidate's 18th birthday. When all requirements except the board of review for the rank of Eagle, including the leadership service project, have been completed, the [Eagle Scout Rank Application](#) must be completed and sent to the council service center promptly. (Youth members with disabilities should meet with their unit leader regarding time extensions.)
4. The application should be signed by the unit leader at the proper place. The unit committee reviews and approves the record of the Eagle candidate before the application is submitted to the local council. If a unit leader or unit committee fails to sign or otherwise approve an application, the Eagle candidate may still be granted a board of review. The failure of a unit leader or unit committee to sign an application may be considered by the board of review in determining the qualification of the Eagle candidate.
5. When the completed application is received at the council service center, its contents will be verified and the references contacted. The council advancement committee or its designee contacts the person listed as a reference on the Eagle Scout Rank Application either by letter, form, or telephone checklist. The council determines the method or methods to be used. The candidate should have contacted those individuals listed as references before including their names on the application. The candidates should not be involved personally in transmitting any correspondence between persons listed as references and the council service center.
6. The Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, properly filled out, must be submitted with the application.
7. After the contents of an application have been verified and appropriately signed, the application, Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, and references will be returned from the council service center to the chairman of the Eagle board of review so that a board of review may be scheduled. Under no circumstances should a board of review be scheduled until the application is returned to the chairman of the Eagle board of review. Reference checks that are forwarded with the application are confidential, and their contents are not to be disclosed to any person who is not a member of the board of review.
8. The board of review for an Eagle candidate is composed of at least three but not more than six members. One member serves as chairman. Unit leaders, assistant unit leaders, relatives, or guardians may not serve as members of a Scout's board of review. The board of review members

should convene at least 30 minutes before the candidate appears in order to review the application, reference checks, and leadership service project report. At least one district or council advancement representative must be a member of the Eagle board of review if the board of review is conducted on a unit level. A council or district may designate more than one person to serve as a member of Eagle boards of review when requested to do so by the unit. It is not required that these persons be members of the advancement committee; however, they must have an understanding of the importance of the Eagle board of review.

9. The candidate's unit leader introduces him to the members of the board of review. The unit leader may remain in the room, but does not participate in the board of review. The unit leader may be called on to clarify a point in question. In no case should a relative or guardian of the candidate attend the review, even as a unit leader. There is no set of questions that an Eagle candidate should be asked. However, the board should be assured of the candidate's participation in the program. This is the highest award that a Scout may achieve and, consequently, a thorough discussion of his successes and experiences in Scouting should be considered. After the review, the candidate and his unit leader leave the room while the board members discuss the acceptability of the candidate as an Eagle Scout.

The decision must be unanimous. If the candidate meets the requirements, he is asked to return and is informed that he will receive the board's recommendation for the Eagle Scout rank. If the candidate does not meet the requirements, he is asked to return and told the reasons for his failure to qualify. A discussion should be held with him as to how he may meet the requirements within a given period.

Should the applicant disagree with the decision, the appeal procedures should be explained to him. A follow-up letter must be sent to the Scout confirming the agreements reached on the action(s) necessary for the advancement. If the Scout chooses to appeal, the board should provide the name and address of the person he is to contact. (See "Appealing a Decision" in the *National BSA Policies and Procedures*, No. 33088A.)

10. Immediately after the board of review and after the application has been appropriately signed, the application, the service project report, references, and a properly completed Advancement Report are returned to the council service center.
11. When the application arrives at the council service center, the Scout executive signs it to certify that the proper procedure has been followed and that the board of review has recommended the candidate for the Eagle Scout rank. This workbook and references are retained by the council. The workbook may be returned to the Scout after council approval.

Only the Eagle Scout Rank Application is forwarded to the national Eagle Scout Service.

12. The Eagle Scout Service screens the application to ascertain information such as proper signature, positions of responsibility, tenure between ranks, and age of the candidate. Any item not meeting national standards will cause the application to be returned for more information. If the application is in order, the Scout is then certified as an Eagle Scout by the Eagle Scout Service on behalf of the National Council. Notice of approval is given by sending the Eagle Scout certificate to the local council. The date used on the certificate will be the date of the board of review. The Eagle Award must not be sold or given to any unit until after the certificate is received by the council service center. The Eagle Scout court of honor should not be scheduled until the local council receives the Eagle Scout rank credentials.
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Selecting Leadership Service Projects

Leadership service projects shall be meaningful service not normally expected of a Scout as a part of his school, religious, or community activities.

Second Class

For the Second Class rank, a Scout must participate in a service project or projects approved by his Scoutmaster. The time of service must be a minimum of one hour. This project prepares a Scout for the more involved service projects he must perform for the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks. (*Source: 33088D - page 26*)

Star and Life Ranks

For Star and Life ranks, a Scout must perform 6 hours of service to others. This may be done as an individual project or as a member of a patrol or troop project. Star and Life service projects may be approved for Scouts assisting on Eagle service projects. The Scoutmaster approves the project before it is started. (*Source: 33215F - page 20*)

Eagle Rank

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

As a demonstration of leadership, the Scout must plan the work, organize the personnel needed, and direct the project to its completion.

The Eagle service project is an individual matter; therefore, two Eagle candidates may not receive credit for the same project.

Eagle Scout leadership service projects involving council property or other BSA activities are not acceptable for an Eagle service project. The service project also may not be performed for a business, be of a commercial nature, or be a fund-raiser.

Routine labor, or a job or service normally rendered, should not be considered. An Eagle service project should be of significant magnitude to be special and should represent the candidate's best possible effort.

The scout must submit his proposed project idea and secure the prior approval of his unit leader, unit committee, and district or council advancement committee, or their designee, to make sure that it meets the stated standards for Eagle Scout leadership service projects *before* the project is started. This preapproval of the project does not mean that the board of review will accept the way the project was carried out.

Upon completion of the project, a detailed report must be submitted with the Scout's Eagle application to include the following information:

- What was the project?
- How did it benefit others?
- Who from the group benefiting from the project gave guidance?
- Who helped carry out the project?

- What materials were used and how were they acquired?

Although the project must be approved before work is begun, the board of review must determine if the project was successfully carried out. Questions that must be answered are:

- Did the candidate demonstrate leadership of others?
- Did he indeed direct the project rather than do all of the work himself?
- Was the project of real value to the religious institution, school or community group?
- Who from the group benefiting from the project may be contacted to verify the value of the project?
- Did the project follow the plan, or were modifications needed to bring it to its completion?

All the work on the project must be done while the candidate is a Life Scout and before the candidate's 18th birthday.

The variety of projects performed throughout the nation by Scouts earning their Eagle Scout Award is staggering. Only those living in an area can determine the greatest value and need for that area. Determine, therefore, whether the project is big enough, appropriate, and worth doing. For ideas and opportunities, the Scout can consult people such as school administrators, religious leaders, local government department directors, or a United Way agency's personnel. (*Source: 33215F - pages 20-21*)