



Life to Eagle

A Guide for Scouts in Gamehaven Council

The rank of Eagle Scout is a tremendous accomplishment and one that for which you will be recognized for the rest of your life. It will help open doors in employment and school and can help you advance in your career. The work you are about to do may be reviewed by future employers or schools, so **DO YOUR BEST** work.

Scouts should be encouraged to review this document with their Scoutmaster upon earning Life. Many of the tasks you must undertake will require significant effort and reasonable time should be provided to accomplish them.

There are four components to moving from Life to Eagle;

1. Completing the Position Leadership and Merit Badge requirements,
2. Completing the Leadership Service Project (including a well written Project Workbook and a highly recommended, but optional, 2-3 page Summary Report of your project),
3. Providing a complete Eagle Scout Rank application (including Letters of Recommendation from character references and a well written statement of your ambitions and life purpose, part of requirement #7), and
4. Successfully completing an Eagle Scout Board of Review.

****Important Note:** An Eagle Board of Review needs to occur no later than within three (3) months of a scout's 18th birthday. A scout's Eagle Board of Review will not be scheduled until a complete application with all documents has been received and validated. Scouts should plan to provide their complete submission no later than 30 days after their 18th birthday. Otherwise, it may not be possible to schedule and conduct an Eagle Board of Review.

Complete all the current Eagle Scout Rank Requirements (link below)

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/eagle.aspx>

- Be active in the unit for six (6) months after achieving the rank of a Life Scout. This means that the Scout must be registered in his unit with registration fees current, has not been dismissed from his unit for disciplinary reasons, and is engaged by his unit leadership on a regular basis, including scoutmaster conference, participation in unit activities, through personal contact, and so on.
- Demonstrate that you live the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life. Provide Letters of Recommendation (a minimum of 3 in addition to a 4th letter from your Scoutmaster which attests to your character and actions in living out the Scout Oath & Law as your guiding principles.)
- Earn twenty-one (21) merit badges, including all the required merit badges. (Consider obtaining a “working copy” of your Eagle Scout application from the Council Office. This may be obtained at any time and you will definitely receive one when your Eagle Project Proposal is approved. This report will tell you any requirements which you are missing, or that might not have properly recorded.)
- While a Life Scout, serve actively in an approved leadership position with your Troop for at least six (6) months.
- Take part in a Scoutmaster Conference
- Prepare a 1-2 page statement of your ambitions and life purpose. Include a listing of positions, outside of Scouting, where you have demonstrated leadership skills. (Include honors and awards you may have received during these activities.)
- Successfully complete an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project approved by the District Advancement Committee.
- Successfully complete an Eagle Scout Board of Review.

The Eagle Scout Service Project

Remember, you cannot start on your project until you are a Life Scout and your project has been approved by the District Advancement Committee. Please allow ample time between your submission and when you plan to work on your project to allow for any necessary changes.

Download a copy of the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook to your local computer. (<https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/eagle-scout-workbook/>)

Read the entire workbook. This will help you to compose your thoughts.

Be sure to type into the form. It is a fillable PDF and will expand as needed. You are expected to provide complete information and elaborate as appropriate to adequately describe your Leadership Project experience. Also be sure to insert pictures into your form as they help to explain the project. Also note that if there is a blank spot on the form, you should expect to provide some information in it.

Eagle Project - District Approval:

Submit the completed Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal section (cover page & pages A through H) as well as Fundraising Application page A & B (from Final Plan section, if you intend to raise funds outside your chartered organization) to the Council Office. There are several places where you, your beneficiary, and your troop leadership must sign and date. You will be contacted by a member of the District Advancement Committee typically within a few days to discuss your project. The committee member will inform you of the approval and the next steps. ****Please note: The Scout's e-mail address and contact phone number(s) provided on the Contact Information Page (Proposal page B) must be actively monitored by the scout. These are the methods the District Advancement Committee will use to attempt contact with the scout.**

Once your project has been approved, your Workbook will be signed by the Advancement Committee and returned to your Troop. You will need to retain this section as it will be resubmitted as part of your COMPLETE Workbook.

****Note:**

Scouts are expected to provide a copy of "Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project, Information for Beneficiaries" (last two page of the workbook) to their beneficiary representative, prior to receiving their beneficiary's approval signature.

You are now ready to plan and execute on your project!

Some great tips from experience –

- Invite people to help directly or ask them face to face for the assistance. E-mails, texts, and social media blasts are often ignored.
- Food makes for happy workers (but it might help if ‘feeding time’ is provided after the work is completed).
- Take a lot of pictures. This is a great job for Mom or Dad. Pictures help document your project.
- Keep a log. All time spent planning or executing counts toward your project. It is common to have much more time planning your project than executing it.

Complete your project workbook and type a (highly recommended, but optional) summary of your project. The summary is typically 2-3 pages and gives a better opportunity to describe your project, leadership, and lessons learned in a free flowing form. (HINT: This will help to better prepare you for your Eagle Board of Review.)

Have your completed workbook signed by yourself, your Project Beneficiary, and your Troop Representatives.

Checklist of What to Submit:

Many scouts like to prepare a very formal book with the following contents. While it is appreciated, it is not required. We will need to digitally scan parts of your submission, provide **ALL** your paperwork (**except the Eagle Rank Application**) printed **SINGLE SIDED ONLY** and **NOT STAPLED, TAPED, etc.** It is recommended you submit your paperwork in a folder or large envelope that does not require folding and will keep your papers from being damaged.

Two (2) copies of your Eagle Application

- Use only the current application form. https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-728_wb_fillable.pdf
- Ensure six (6) people are entered as references. **If a scout does not have a religious or employee reference, submitting additional educational references should be considered.

NOTE: One copy will be retained by the Council office, the other copy will be returned to the Scout (for your personal records) after successful completion of his Board of Review. Please make sure both copies are signed by the Scout and Scoutmaster.

Your completed Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook. This should include all sections, as well as the original signature page from your project approval.

A well-written summary of your Leadership Project (typically 2-3 pages). This includes how the Scout demonstrated planning, leadership, changes to the project plan, why they were needed, and what the Scout learned. You may also include other pictures which are not in your workbook. (Note: Highly recommended but optional.)

A Written Statement of the Scout's Ambitions and Life Purpose (typically 1-2 pages). This is often the most overlooked requirement as it is somewhat hidden within Requirement #7 of the Eagle Scout Rank application. This includes a Scout's statements pertaining to goals after obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. A listing of positions outside of Scouting where your leadership skills have been demonstrated is to be provided, including awards, honors, or other recognitions. (A bulleted list of the leadership activities and awards is often the best format for this part of the requirement.) An example (from Timmy the Eagle Scout Candidate) is provided at the end of this guide as a reference.

- **Letters of Recommendation.** Use the process and form templates found on the Gamehaven website:
https://a9333af2-70ea-4b22-b88c-0e086df37f72.filesusr.com/ugd/7c3060_ae37830f1fb541a6bf63d283b8af1c62.pdf

A minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation (not including a Scoutmaster, or parent letter) are expected. Letters should describe how a Scout's character daily demonstrates how he lives by the Scout Oath and Law. *****It is highly recommended that a scout's Scoutmaster provide all the letters to the District Committee rather than having letters arrive at the Scout Council Office location. Scoutmasters can scan and e-mail letters to the District Advancement Committee members. Scouts should never receive these letters directly.***

- **Project Synopsis & Scout Photo.** This is for use in the annual Council Eagle Yearbook. Please include a photo of the Scout in his Class A uniform. This form is found on the Gamehaven website at:
<http://www.gamehavenbsa.org/documents/EagleScoutProjectSheet.pdf>

- **Submit the Complete Printed/Signed Eagle Package to the Council Office. Do Not submit partial Eagle Packages. All documents, except for Letters of Recommendation from the Scoutmaster, should be submitted together.**

**** NOTE:** Once a submission has been received, and confirmed, the District Advancement Committee will attempt to reach the scout to schedule his Eagle Board of Review (from the phone and e-mail contact information on the Eagle Scout Rank Application). The District Advancement Committee **WILL NOT** chase a scout once both methods have been exhausted to reach a scout. It is the scout's obligation to follow up with a member of the District Advancement Committee if he feels he has not received feedback about his application within a reasonable period of time.

Statement of Life Ambition (Example)

Timmy the Eagle Scout Candidate

Scouting has been a good mix to a full and rewarding life. Through scouting I learned many leadership skills both through attending National Youth Leader Training and by serving as a Patrol Leader, Scribe and Senior Patrol Leader. Most recently I have served as an Instructor in our troop and assist with teaching various scout-craft and other skills to younger scouts. The skills I have learned in my years in scouting have translated well into many other aspects of my life.

At church I have served as a volunteer audio engineer recording and editing the service for a local radio station. I also have been very active in our church youth group and have taken several mission trips to the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky to assist in the repair of homes. It is amazing to see the poverty that exists in parts of America and it is great to know that we can do things to help.

I've served three years in the school TV studio. In my Junior year, I directed the school TV news show. During my Senior year, I produced the show and did many special projects for it too. I also spend much of my time after school recording game films for various sports.

When I'm not doing something in the TV studio you can usually find me in the school's auditorium running the light and sound boards. Since the school has a large facility I often get asked to help out with outside usage of the facility as well. I've been active in all of the schools (3x/year) productions each of my high school years.

I also start my day, each day, by delivering newspapers. I actually have four daily routes, and six Sunday routes, which are all adjacent to each other. I like to keep my routes health as they are more profitable for me, so I spend a lot of my spare time sell subscriptions. I've been fortunate to win many sales contests with the Star Tribune and was even Salesman of the Year.

Junior Achievement has also been a lot of fun. It's neat to start and run and company with others. I've been elected an officer in the company each year and earned many sales awards.

After I graduate I plan on attending the University of Minnesota to study Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (double major). I'm very interested in robotics and also in the creation of advanced prosthetics. It would be very cool to create something that can aid people who have lost a limb. I'm also interested in the space program and have some connections that I'm hoping might help me find a position there. I love science fiction and space exploration has always fascinated me. It would be really cool to join the ranks of the Eagle Scouts who have been involved in the space program.

Hopefully as I finish college and settle into my career I'll also find myself back in Scouting and able to give back as a leader or some other type of volunteer. Scouting has been good to me and I would like to be good for Scouting.

Listing of Positions & Awards (outside of Scouting) demonstrating Leadership

Timmy the Eagle Scout Candidate

1. Century HS – Media team (Daily TV show, Drama Productions, Sports recording, & Community productions)
2. Star Tribune – Newspaper Carrier. (Salesman of the Year – 2012)
3. Rochester Community Church – Youth Group, Mission Trips, Audio/Video Productions
4. Jr. Achievement, 2011 (Treasurer), 2012 (Vice President), Outstanding Sales Award (2012, 2013, 2014)
5. Century HS – National Honor Society