



Life to Eagle

Middle Tennessee Council



- The Life to Eagle Process
- The Eagle Service Project
- Eagle Board of Review
- Tips for Success

THE BIG PICTURE

FOR THE SCOUT



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Successful
Eagle
Board of
Review

=



18th Birthday

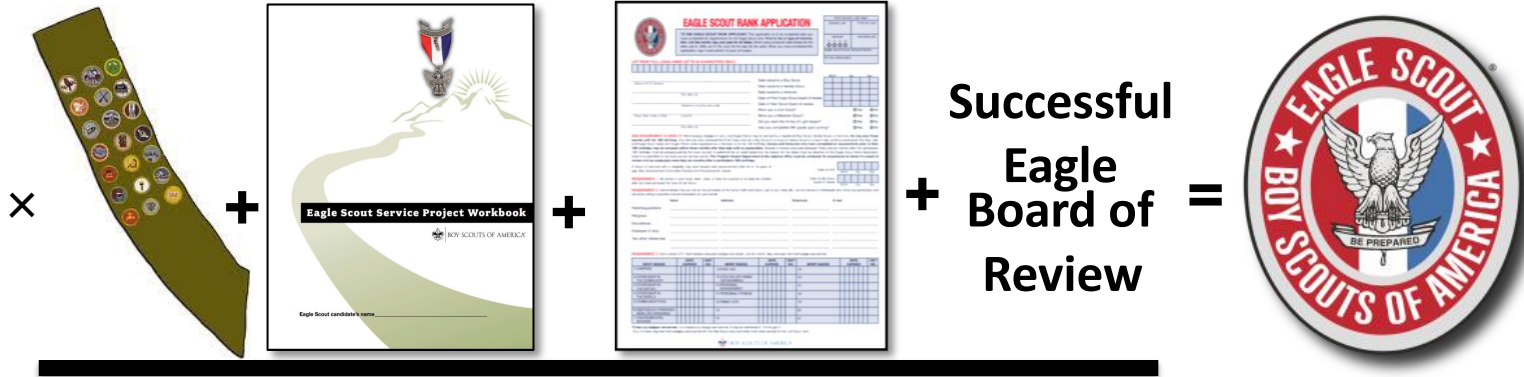


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THE BIG PICTURE ...FOR UNIT LEADERS

Outside Life

College prep
Family
Sports
Band
The Fumes
Jobs



18th Birthday

....where do Adult Leaders fit in?



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THE EAGLE APPLICATION

- 1 Be active in your Troop for six months after attaining Life Rank
2. Demonstrate that the Scout lives according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law;
provide recommendations / guide and mentor
2. Earn 21 Merit Badges (13 Eagle required as of 1/1/2014)
 - (a) First Aid, (b) Citizenship in the Community, (c) Citizenship in the Nation, (d) Citizenship in the World, (e) Communication, (f) Cooking, (g) Personal Fitness, (h) Emergency Preparedness **OR** Lifesaving, (i) Environmental Science **OR** Sustainability, (j) Personal Management, (k) Swimming **OR** Hiking **OR** Cycling, (l) Camping, (m) Family Life
4. Serve actively for six months in a position of responsibility

Service time must begin after the Life Board of Review, and be a complete six month term. Scoutnet will not accept time before the Life Board of Review or projected dates.

IE: If Scout serves 5 months + 29 days, Scoutnet only accepts 5 months
5. Plan, develop, and give service to others in a Service Project
(consult with Project Coach and Unit Advancement Chair, if possible)





THE EAGLE APPLICATION

6. Scoutmaster conference and Life Statement, and then...
7. Certifications/Approvals:
 - Eagle Candidate
 - Unit Leader
 - Unit Committee Chair
 - Council Eagle Registrar
 - Eagle Board of Review Chair (other board members optional)
 - Council Executive



MTC: Eagle Scout applications:

Prefer to verify and certify applications by appointment:

Leah Jordan, Eagle Registrar, leah.Jordan@scouting.org

Middle Tennessee Council, Boy Scouts of America

3414 Hillsboro Pike, PO Box 150409, Nashville, TN 37215 (615) 383-9724





TIME LINE... WHEN CAN THINGS HAPPEN

18th Birthday



Prior to 18th Birthday:



- Complete all requirements (21 Merit Badges and Eagle Project, Position of Responsibility, Scout Spirit)
- Complete Eagle Application, with all Unit signatures
- Eagle Registrar verifies Eagle Application
- Letters of Reference & Life Statement
- Board of Review

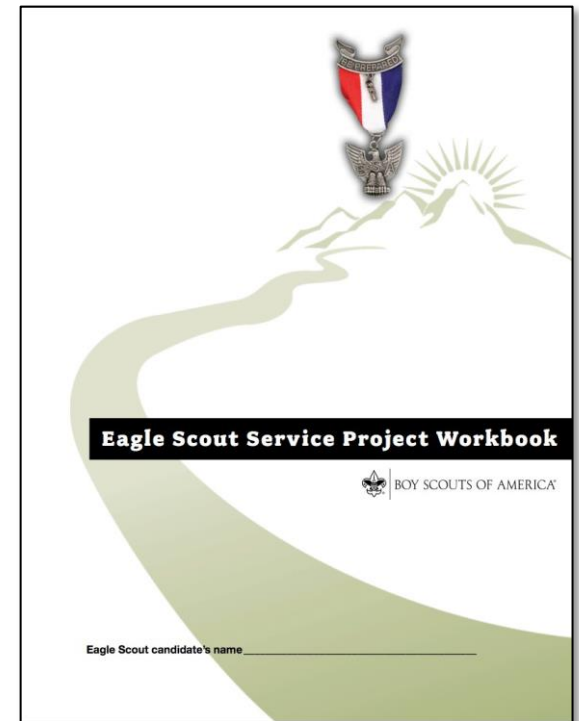
After 18th Birthday:

- Receipt of Letters of Reference
- Board of Review:
 - Can occur within three months
 - Three to six months afterward, requires Council to authorize the Board
 - Beyond six months, National must authorize



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THE EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECT



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THE PROJECT WORKBOOK...

THINK OF THE
WORKBOOK IN
THESE FOUR
PHASES....



1) IDEA !

2) The Project Proposal

- A Vision ..with enough detail to convey concept and preliminary planning efforts

District
Advancement
Committee
Approves

4) The Project Report

- After Action Summary

1

2

3

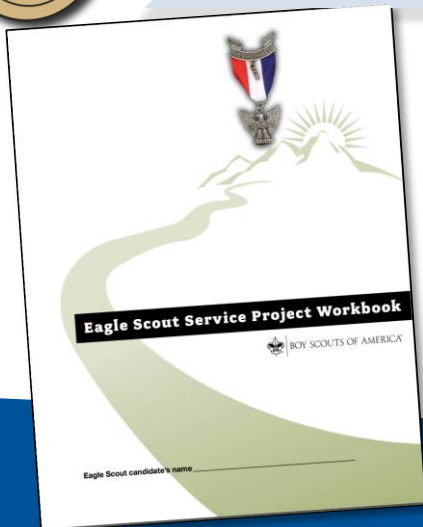
**Complete
Project**

4

3) The Final Plan

- Detailed Planning
- Fundraiser Appl. Can be submitted with proposal. Approvals required = Unit + Beneficiary + Eagle Registrar

The Board of
Review sees
the entire
Workbook



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THE FINAL PLAN PHASE

IDEA !

The Project
Proposal

The Project
Report

The Final Plan

Candidate: Leadership

Coach: Monitor & mentor



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TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- The first project the Candidate takes on, should not be their Eagle Project; have the Scout do a Troop Project using the Eagle Workbook as a guide
- Leadership positions (SPL, PL) are outstanding learning experiences
- The scope of the project is often the most contentious aspect of a project, too big or not enough – fit the project to the candidate and meet the requirements
- Consider available time to complete and other obligations
- Avoid projects that require the use of many adults; this decreases the opportunity of the Candidate to exercise leadership
- Guide them, but they must be responsible for the project





EAGLE BOARD OF REVIEW

Board (3-6 people):

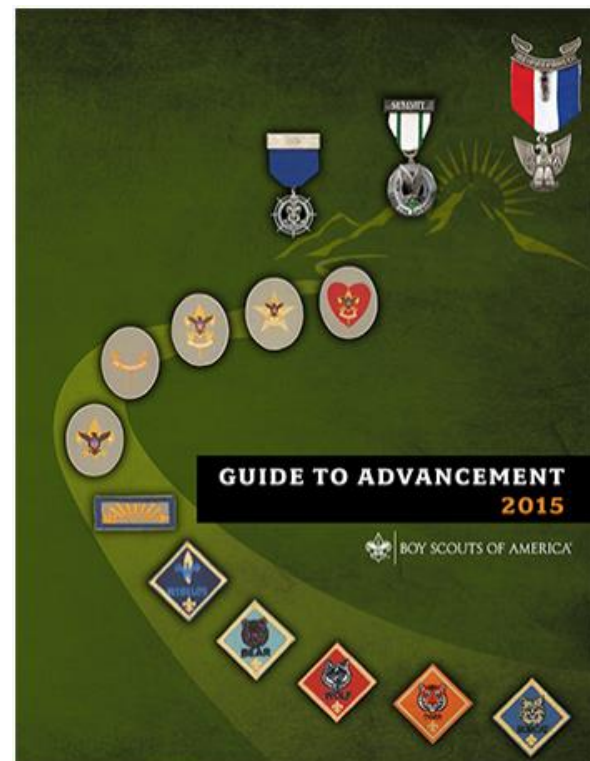
Committee members + Outside members + District Rep.



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EAGLE BOARDS OF REVIEW

- **Purpose –**
 - “to determine the quality of the Scout’s experience, decide whether they are qualified to advance and, if so, encourage them to continue the quest for Eagle or the next Palm,”
 - “a discussion of his successes, experiences, and future plans..”
- **Not a retest or examination**
 - Not a challenge of the Scout's knowledge, that’s the Scoutmaster’s responsibility
- **When –**
 - Granted when all requirements are met; a Scout cannot be denied this opportunity
 - After Council has verified the Application
 - Unit Leader assures the Board is held
 - Not lengthy...about 30-45 minutes



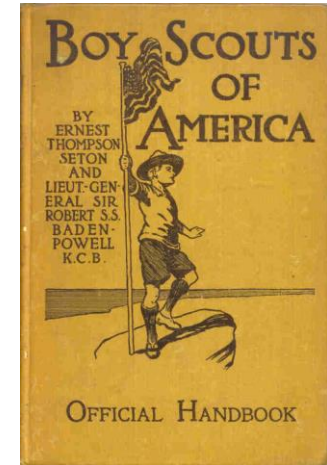
EAGLE BOARDS OF REVIEW

- **So, what does the Board discuss - Up to each Board, but topics generally include:**
 - **Detailed Project Review** - focus discussion on Leadership
 - **What it means to be an Eagle Scout**
 - Candidate's perspective on Scouting and being an Eagle Scout
 - **Future plans**
 - Candidate's plans for Scouting after the Board of Review
 - Give back to Scouting...not the end, but a beginning...
 - **Scout experiences**
 - Why did they join Scouting?
 - Best experience, worst experience, and differences
 - Application to life – challenges overcome – lessons learned
 - How have they grown in Scouting?



RESOURCES

- Unit Advancement Coordinators
- District Advancement Committee
- Unit Commissioners
- Other Scout Leaders
- District Executive
- Eagle Scouts
- MTC NESA Group




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WHERE UNIT LEADERS FIT IN?

- Know their 18th Birthdate
- Use the BSA method of positive adult association, logic, and common sense to make the right decisions. Celebrate success to set an example for others.
- Hold the Eagle Candidate to a high standard – they represent your unit
 - Project
 - *Unit Leader review*...conform to BSA guidelines, all approvals, neat, good grammar, spelling, pay attention to quality, lots of pictures
 - Unit Leader conference
 - Your review of the Candidate, References
 - Life Statement – goals, thoughtful, insightful, personal, long term
- Encourage the Scout to do their best.



RED FLAGS & BAD INDICATORS

- **Timing:**
 - Did not start and then finish Merit Badges on time
 - Did not plan, start or finish an appropriate Eagle Project on time; often seen as a clearly inadequate project close to the 18th birthday
 - Not enough time in rank to earn Merit Badges or Leadership experience for earlier ranks
 - Did not turn in the Eagle Application prior to their 18th birthday
- **Leadership:** Never held a leadership position
- **Eagle Project:**
 - Did not demonstrate the ability to **lead**
 - Family fully funded their Eagle Project; calls into question the leadership of the project
 - Poor documentation, lack of pictures and data
- **Letters of Recommendation:** filled with glittering generalities, no specific examples of leadership, no recommendations for advancement
- **BSA records / Merit Badges** incomplete or missing. Confirm MTC records are complete and current before it's too late. Scoutmasters, as your Scout starts on this path consider requesting Scout's profile from MTC - confirms records on file and identifies missing documentation.
- **Life Statement** is inadequate – should detail life ambitions, other leadership roles, goals, awards



TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- **Time....**sooner than later
- **Leadership**
 - Is the Scout recognized as a leader in the unit?
 - Demonstrated leadership in the unit and in the Eagle project
- **Letters of Recommendation**
 - Use the form on MTC website
 - Send many requests, give writers **plenty of time**
 - Writers return letters to the Scoutmaster or Committee Chair in sealed envelope
- **Scoutmaster's Certification**
 - Scoutmaster makes the final determination on Candidate's readiness for Eagle



MAKE THE LIFE TO EAGLE PROCESS A GREAT EXPERIENCE BY ...

- Pay attention to BSA forms
- Be diligent
- Schedule time & Consider others
- Use available resources
- Do your best: leadership
- Celebrate success

