

Gulf Coast Council Eagle Scout Advancement Procedures

Background

A boy's personal growth is the prime consideration in the advancement program.

The Gulf Coast Council abides by the advancement policies and procedures set forth by the Boy Scouts of America and assigns responsibility for Eagle Boards to the District Advancement Committee.

The Gulf Coast Council will follow the policies and procedures for advancement as outlined in *Advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide*, BSA publication 33088D. The Council will interpret policies other than *Advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide*, as best benefits the total council, suits the geographic area served and the consideration of the availability of volunteer personnel.

The only Rank advancement in Boy Scouting that is assessed and confirmed outside the individual unit is the Eagle Award. Certification as an Eagle Scout is obtained from the National Court of Honor, Boy Scouts of America, and must meet their standards.

Administrative Procedures

1. When the council receives notification that a boy has been advanced to Life Scout, he may pick up a "Life to Eagle" packet from the Council Office or download from the web page. The packet contains an Eagle Scout Award Application (#58-728) and an Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook (#18-927C).
2. The project must be approved by the Unit Leader and Unit Committee Chairman.
3. Sometime after becoming a Life Scout the candidate starts his Eagle Service Project. (He need not have earned all his required Merit Badges before starting.)
4. The project must be reviewed and approved by a member of the district advancement committee. Approval at this point is to insure the project is worthy of an Eagle Project. Final approval is at the Eagle Board of Review. The board will then determine if Leadership and Communications skills were demonstrated, and if the project has met its intended goals and objectives.

5. Before arranging for an Eagle Board of Review, a clerical check of the application is necessary. This is accomplished by forwarding the following to the Gulf Coast Council Office.

- a. The completed project plan – Eagle Scout Service Project.
- b. The completed Eagle Scout Award Application signed by the unit leader.
- c. It is also suggested that photocopies of all rank and merit badge cards be included; this is especially important for boys who earned badges in other councils.
- d. Bring application and project to the council office for certification.

Following the clerical check and certification of the application for Eagle, all materials will be returned to the Unit Leader. The Council will mail letters to References asking them to complete a Reference Form and to mail directly back to the unit leader. When the unit leader has received not less than three of the reference forms, he should contact the district advancement committee representative. A date and time for the Eagle Board of Review will then be determined.

Board of Review

The Eagle Board of Review shall have at least three members and not more than six members. One member must be a representative from the district advancement committee. It is also desirable that at least one member of the board be an adult Eagle Scout.

The following materials should be made available to the Board: (a) the completed project plan (Eagle Scout Service Project), (b) All the reference forms, (c) Completed and verified Eagle Scout Rank Application.

Upon successful completion of the Board of Review, the Board Chairperson and the District Representative must sign the Application. The signed Application is then forwarded to the Council Service Center for the approval of the Council Scout Executive. The application is then forwarded to National Headquarters for final action (approximately 4 weeks later it will be returned to the Council Office).

In the event the candidate is not successful, the candidate should be counseled by the board in the specifics of why he did not pass. The candidate must be informed as to the specific actions needed to meet the requirements of the

Board. The candidate and Board must have an agreed time for completion of those corrective actions.