The Unit Eagle Mentor

The Unit Eagle Mentor Coach is assigned by the Unit Leader to mentor the Life Scout, guide him in his advancement to the Eagle Rank, and assist him in developing and carrying out his Eagle Scout Service Project.
The Mission and Aims of the Boy Scouts of America

Mission of the BSA

“….prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.”

Aims of Scouting

❖ Character Development
❖ Citizenship Training
❖ Mental and Physical Fitness
The Scout Oath and Law

The Scout Oath
On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Scout Law
A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.
The Methods of Boy Scouting

- Ideals
- Patrol method
- Advancement
- Association with adults
- Outdoors
- Leadership development
- Uniform
- Personal growth
Qualifications of Eagle Mentors

✨ A Mentor must be a registered member of the BSA
  • In any Scouting position
  • Current in Youth Protection training
  • Approved and designated by the Unit Leader

✨ A Mentor must also have a thorough understanding of the official BSA resources, and especially these sections in the *2015 Guide to Advancement*.

  Section 2    “Advancement Defined”
  Section 4    “Mechanics of Advancement”
  Section 8    “Boards of Review”
  Section 9    “The Eagle Scout Rank”
Official Sources for Guidance

Current editions of:

- Guide to Advancement
- Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook
- Boy Scout Requirements
- Guide to Safe Scouting
- Age Guidelines for Tool Use and Work at Elevations or Excavations
- Council/District Eagle Rank Advancement Processes

*all of these are available online
Bringing Scouts and Eagle Mentors Together

✈ An Eagle Mentor should be designated for *every* Scout when he reaches the Life Rank.

✈ A Scout may request a specific registered Scouter as his Eagle Mentor, subject to the unit leader’s approval.

✈ The Scout may choose not to accept the assistance of the Eagle Mentor, but should be counseled on the value a mentor adds.

✈ Neither the Unit Advancement Chair, Scoutmaster or the scout’s parent should be his Eagle Mentor.
Unit Eagle Mentor
Term of Service and Association

❖ Term of Service: From Life Scout Board of Review to completion of Eagle Rank requirements, including service project proposal development through completion of the project report.

❖ The role of the designated Unit Eagle Mentor is intended to be a close, frequent association.
The Role of the Unit Eagle Mentor

An Eagle Mentor’s advice is a key to the scout’s success.

❖ Serves as a consultant and coach.

❖ Is a resource, encouraging the candidate to fully plan his project, secure resources, and to make wise decisions.

❖ Uses positive adult association, logic, and common sense to help the candidate to reach a successful outcome.
Guidelines for Unit Eagle Mentors

- Adheres to the Eagle Scout Service Project process as described in *Guide to Advancement*, Section 9.0.2.9.
- Adheres to the District and Council Eagle Rank Advancement Processes
- Strives to make his or her involvement a positive experience.
- Encourages the Scout to make the kinds of decisions that will lead to successful outcomes.
The Role of the Unit Eagle Coach Differs from the District Representative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unit Eagle Mentor</th>
<th>District Representative/Advisor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term:</td>
<td>Entire Life to Eagle process</td>
<td>From proposal approval through Board of Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus:</td>
<td>Successful achievement of the Eagle Scout rank</td>
<td>Successful fulfillment of requirement 5 and BOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment</td>
<td>By the unit leader</td>
<td>By the district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship:</td>
<td>Longer-term</td>
<td>Shorter-term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approach:</td>
<td>Coaching and mentoring in general</td>
<td>Consults on the project. Gives district project approval.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Chairs Eagle Board of Review.</td>
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</table>
District Eagle Rank Advancement Procedures

- Scout must acquire district approval of the project proposal
- Scout must acquire Fundraising approval if required
- Scout and Unit must schedule the Eagle Board of Review with the District Representative/Advisor
- Scout and Unit must follow all district and council procedures
2015 Eagle Rank Requirements

Be an active Life Scout for 6 months

Live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life and list references who will provide a recommendation on your behalf

Earn 13 required and 8 optional merit badges

Serve in a POR for 6 months while a Life Scout

Complete an Eagle Scout Service Project

Take part in a Unit Leader Conference

Successfully complete a Board of Review
Roles and Responsibilities in the Eagle Advancement Process

- The Scout meets all of the rank requirements
- The Unit Eagle Mentor coaches the scout
- The Unit Leader ensures that requirements are met
- The Unit Committee Chair ensures unit support
- The Unit Advancement Coordinator verifies records
- The District Advancement Chair assigns the District Rep
- The District Representative approves the project proposal and chairs the Eagle Board of Review
The Service Project Process

- Proposal and Approval
- Fundraising Application
- Final Plan
- Execution
- Report
- Board of Review
Preparing a Service Project Proposal

✨ The Scout must use the current edition of the workbook.

✨ Encourage the Scout to read the entire workbook before starting.


✨ Encourage the Scout to contact you when he has questions or needs advice. The Scout must copy an adult, preferably his parent, on all emails to you. Copy his parent on all emails to him, following YPT guidelines.
Preparing a Service Project Proposal

The Contact Information Page

Who is Who?
Eagle Scout Candidate
Unit Leader
Unit Committee Chair
Unit Advancement Chair
Project Beneficiary
Project Beneficiary Representative
Your Council Service Center
Council/District Project Approval Representative
Project Coach (this is YOU!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Scout Candidate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Birth date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender/Ward/Unit Rank/Boy Scout number*</td>
<td>Zip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*BOY SCOUT, OA/SM Deluxe membership card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Unit Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of District</td>
<td>Name of Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Leader Check one</td>
<td>Scouter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<td>Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Committee Chair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Advancement Coordinator (year and rank one)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<td>Address</td>
<td>City</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Beneficiary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<td>Address</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Beneficiary Representative</td>
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<td>Address</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your Council/Service Center</td>
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<td>Council Name</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<td>Address</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council or District Project Approval Representative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Name of facility, web address, contact or district council that may help you learn who to talk to)</td>
<td>Preferred telephone(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Coach</td>
<td>(Your council or district project approval representative may help you learn who to talk to)</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
<td>State</td>
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<td>Proposal Page 8</td>
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Preparing a Service Project Proposal

The Eagle Mentor should see that the project proposal meets these five tests:

1. The project provides sufficient opportunity to meet the requirements, particularly in demonstrating leadership.
2. The project appears to be feasible.
3. Safety issues will be addressed.
4. Action steps for further detailed planning are included.
5. The Scout is on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.

*Remember – this is a proposal, not a final plan!*
Preparing a Service Project Proposal

Candidate's Promise

_________________________________

On my honor as a Scout, I have read this entire workbook, including the "Message to Scouts and Parents or Guardians" on page 5. I promise to be the leader of this project, and to do my best to carry it out for the maximum benefit to the religious institution, school, or community I have chosen as beneficiary.

(Signed before approvals below are granted)
Preparing a Service Project Proposal

Unit Leader Signature Statement

I have reviewed this proposal and discussed it with the candidate. I believe it provides impact worthy of an Eagle Scout service project, and will involve planning, development, and leadership.

I am comfortable the Scout understands what to do, and how to lead the effort. I will see that the project is monitored, and that adults or others present will not overshadow him.
Preparing a Service Project Proposal

Unit Committee Signature Statement

This Eagle Scout candidate is a Life Scout, and registered in our unit. I have reviewed this proposal, I am comfortable the project is feasible, and I will do everything I can to see that our unit measures up to the level of support we have agreed to provide (if any).

I certify that I have been authorized by our unit committee to provide its approval
Service Project Fundraising

✧ Projects cannot be primarily fundraisers.

✧ Fundraising is permitted only to facilitate a project.

✧ Contributions from the candidate, parents, relatives, unit, chartered organization, or beneficiary do not require a fundraising application.

✧ All other fundraising must be approved by the unit, district or council.

✧ Additional information is in the Project Workbook and at http://advancement.ppbsa.org/newwebsite/EAGLE_SCOUT_SERVICE_PROJECT_FUNDRAISING.htm
Service Project Fundraising Application

♀ Fundraising applications should be submitted to the district advancement chair with the project proposal.

♀ Unit Leaders approve amounts up to $2,500.00

♀ District Advancement Chair approves amounts between $2,500.00 and $10,000.00

♀ Amounts over $10,000.00 must be approved by the Council Finance Committee.

♀ Note that no Scout leader at any level has the authority to require fundraising for an Eagle project.

♀ These are Patriots’ Path Council limits. Other councils may have different requirements.
Meeting with the District Representative

Project Orientation

Before work begins on the final plan, the District Representative will meet with the Scout and discuss:

- How the project proposal approval process went.
- The information requested in the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook final plan section.
- How the Scout intends to plan the project, and then offer him advice accordingly.
- Any issues, that if ignored, could stop work or create health, safety, or environmental issues.

The Scout’s parent, not the Unit Eagle Mentor, should attend this meeting.
Discussions with the District Representative

Detailed Planning and Future Communication

The District Representative will:

❖ Encourage the Scout to start work on his detailed plans and to develop a completion schedule.

❖ Emphasize how important it is for the beneficiary to approve what will be done.

❖ Discuss beneficiary-obtained building or environmental permits and the timing involved.

❖ Discuss any special skills required to execute the requirement.
Final Plan Elements

- Proposal review comments
- Project description & changes
- Present conditions
- Project phases
- Work processes
- Attachments
- Permits & permissions
- Materials, supplies, tools, & other needs
- Expenses & revenue
- Giving leadership
- Logistics
- Safety
- Contingency plans
Reviewing the Final Plan

- Emphasize the importance of sharing the final plan with you before the project is scheduled and work begun.

- With the Scout, review his plan’s strengths, weaknesses, and risks. Suggest improvements where necessary.

- Discuss leadership challenges he may face.

- The Unit Eagle Mentor may meet with the Scout, his parents, unit leader, or beneficiary to discuss concerns.

- It is the Scout’s responsibility to implement his plan.

- Final design issues are ultimately between the Scout and the beneficiary.
The Project Report

- Emphasize completion of the project report because of its importance in board of review approval.

- Review what is requested in the report to ensure it is fully understood.

- Suggest the Scout submit his draft report to you for further review and guidance.
The Eagle Scout Service Project Report

- Project Description
- Observations
- Changes
- Leadership
- Materials, Supplies, Tools

- Entering Project Data
- Funding
- Documentation
- Candidate’s Promise
- Completion Approvals
Achieving Success

“…Plan, develop, and give leadership … in a service project helpful…

We know we have achieved success when we have met the aims of Scouting.

✧ Planning and development are intellectual exercises relating primarily to mental fitness.
✧ Leadership relates primarily to character development.
✧ Helpfulness relates to Scouting’s citizenship aim.
The BSA requires a *helpful* project.

- The quality of the write-ups and having everything signed are important, but they are supportive to the effort.

- Did the project meet requirement 5?
  - Was there planning and development?
  - Was there leadership of others?
  - Was the project helpful?
Advancement Documents

Documents Required

Eagle Rank Application
Life Ambition Statement
Service Project Workbook
Individual Advancement Report
Recognition of Service Certificate*

*requested
Review

✶ What is the role of the Eagle Mentor?

✶ How does the Eagle Mentor meet his or her responsibilities?

✶ What benefits will a Scout receive when choosing to work with an Eagle Mentor?
Closing Thoughts

❖ Advancement is based on experiential learning: to educate or to otherwise expand horizons.

❖ Personal growth is the primary goal: learning to apply new skills and gaining the confidence to do so.
Congratulations. You have successfully completed Patriots’ Path Council Unit Eagle Mentor Training

Thank you for your continued support of our Scouts!

Your comments are welcome.

Please send them to us at

bob19@optonline.net
or
brucretbenson@att.net