Eagle FAQ

What is an Eagle Project?

According to the Guide to Advancement (GTA §9.0.2.7.) an Eagle Project must meet 5 Tests:

The project provides sufficient opportunity to meet the requirement.
The project appears to be feasible.
Safety issues will be addressed.
Action steps for further detailed planning are included.
The Scout is on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.
These 5 Tests are met and demonstrated through the Proposal Section of the workbook when the Scout presents the project to the Troop Scoutmaster and Committee. The Proposal must be detailed enough to provide a level of confidence for a reviewer that the tests can be met.

Eagle Projects are Unit Events:

Eagle Scout Projects Are Unit Events and as such must comply with YPT Guidelines. The beginning of the GTA says: “The Guide to Safe Scouting Applies. Policies and procedures outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting apply to all Scouting America activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout, Summit, and Quartermaster service projects.”

This means that Eagle Project Workdays must comply with YPT. Two Registered Adult Scouting America (Scouts USA) Leaders must be in attendance. Registered Adults have completed and turned in an Adult Application, completed and passed the YPT Course (valid through the entire year), completed AB506 Training, completed the requisite training for their position and have been fingerprinted.

Q: Where can I refer my Scouts to Find Eagle Projects?
A: Begin with a conversation, find out the Scout’s ideas. The best project will be one that the Scout likes and is passionate about. Finding the right project will take work, research and effort. Encourage the Scout to maximize, yet enjoy, their Scouting journey. Some ideas of Eagle Project locations are:

Charter Organization – Return service to the Charter Organization and ask them what Eagle Scout Projects are available at their location.

City – Ask your home city (where Scouts live or go to school) what projects they are in need of.

The Scout’s Church or Religious Institution will have projects that they can offer.

Schools – Have the Scout check with their current school, past schools or their siblings schools. What needs do they have that an Eagle Scout Project can be meet?

Philanthropic Organizations are located all around us. Places like soup kitchens, children centers, assistance leagues, veteran organizations (and so many others) have a need for a variety of Eagle Scout Projects. Reach out and ask.

NESA, the National Eagle Scout Association, has an “Eagle Project Generator” which will give Scouts ideas as to where to find projects based on their interest. It does not provide specific locations but will give an idea as to where to ask for projects. The ‘Eagle Project Generator’ can be found: https://nesa.org/resources/trail-to-eagle/project-idea-generator/.

Q: Where do I refer my Scouts if they have Questions?
A: A Unit’s first contact would be a conversation with the Scoutmaster and the Troop Life to Eagle Coach. If further information is needed, contact the SPC Eagle Processor, Mrs. Sammie Shaw, at sammie.shaw@scouting.org, or the SPC Advancement Chair, Mr. Herb Kopper.

Q: Do I need my application to be council certified before my 18th birthday?
A: No. You have up to 24 months after turning 18 to have your application council certified.

Q: Do I need to have my Board of Review before my 18th birthday?
A: No. You have up to 24 months after turning 18 to have your Eagle Board of Review.

Q: Do I need to be registered in my unit in order to have an Eagle Board of Review?
A: No. A candidate must be registered through the time the requirements are being completed but need not be registered thereafter or when the Eagle Scout Board of Review is conducted.

Q: Does my Unit Leader and Committee Chair need to sign my application before my 18th birthday?
A: No. You will need them, as well as your own signature, on the application when you submit it for council certification, but they may be obtained after you turn 18.

Q: Do I have to write my life ambitions statement before my 18th birthday?
A: No. You will need to write it before you submit it for council certification.

Q: Do I need to have signatures on my Eagle Service Project report before my 18th birthday?
A: No. The project report signatures need not be dated before the Scout’s 18th birthday. It is the work on the project that is required.

Q: Do I need to have my Scoutmaster conference before my 18th birthday?
A: Yes, but the Scoutmaster conference does not need to be that last requirement completed before the board of review. That conference can be held any time that the Scout is Life rank. Talk to your Scoutmaster about holding your conference before you turn 18.

Q: I was approved for an extension. Do I need to have my board before it expires?
A: No. Your extension expiration date is like your “new 18th birthday.”

Q: Where can I find a project workbook?
A: The Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook can be found online: https://www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/advancement-and-awards/eagle-workbookprocedures/

Q: What are the requirements that need to be completed before I turn 18?
A: The 21 merit badges, service project, active participation, Scout spirit, position of responsibility, and unit leader conference. You will have three months after your 18th birthday to complete your Board of Review.

Q: When can I have my Board of Review?
A: Board of Reviews cannot be scheduled until the application has been verified by the council.

Q: How do I turn in my application?
A We require that you turn in your original application, and be sure to make a copy of your application with all signatures. It is best if you or someone you trust (unit leader or parent) personally drop the application off at the Scout Shop/Council Office. However, it can be mailed to the office if necessary. Please do not submit your Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook and the Statement of Life Purpose with the application.

Q: Who do I contact if I want a copy of my personal profile or record?
A: You can obtain a copy in Scoutbook under your personal page or unit roster.

Q: What does the last question “Had you completed fifth grade upon joining? ■ Yes ■ No” mean?
A: This questions is simply asking if you completed fifth grade before joining Scouts. “One who has completed fifth grade or earned the Arrow of Light Award.”

Q: What positions do I include under Requirement 4?
A: You should list all positions of responsibility that you served starting AFTER your completed Life Board of Review.

Q: How am I contacted after submitting my application?
A: If there are any questions about your application you will receive an email with the questions that need to be answered. Once your application is verified, you will receive a Next Step Email with directions on how to set-up your Board of Review.

Q: How long will it take from the time I have my Eagle Board of Review to the time I receive my Certificate?
A: Typically, it takes about 4 weeks from the time your application is returned after your Board of Review for the Certificate to be sent to the office. Once the Eagle Certificate and other documents are prepared one of your Unit Leaders will be contacted for pick-up.