

**Alpine District and Mt. Tahoma District
Mountain Territory Service Area
Chief Seattle Council, Scouting America**

Greetings Life Scout on the Trail to Eagle!

Congratulations on your Scouting journey so far. The Trail to Eagle is yours to travel, but many have blazed a way. Your trail continues onward and upward. Guideposts have been planted along the path so that your travel may be sure and steady. May you pass these guideposts on the Trail to Eagle with determination and strength.

The attached TRAIL TO EAGLE guide maps out a well traveled course. Use the wisdom in it to guide you on your Trail to Eagle.

Get going, hit the Trail and enjoy the journey!

Yours in Service,

Deborah Meehan

Alpine District Eagle Scout Advancement Coordinator
Chief Seattle Council, BSA

Todd Daniels

Mt. Tahoma District Eagle Scout Advancement Coordinator
Chief Seattle Council, BSA

TRAIL TO EAGLE

A Guide for Eagle Scout candidates

GUIDEPOST ONE -- Be Prepared!

“Be Prepared” is the Scout motto and great advice. Your journey will be smoother if you prepare adequately for it. Prepare a plan for success at the start of the trail.

Seek guidance. Ideally, at your Life Scout rank Scoutmaster Conference you took the opportunity to discuss a plan to timely complete the requirements of the Eagle Scout rank. You could seek an additional conference to discuss the steps along the path to complete your Trail to Eagle. If your troop has a Life-to-Eagle coordinator, that Scouter, along with your Scoutmaster, is ideally the person to hold the conference; otherwise you should schedule a conference with your troop advancement coordinator and Scoutmaster if your troop does not have a Life-to-Eagle coordinator.

Know the requirements and forms that apply. The Scouting America website (scouting.org) and our local council website (seattlebsa.org) will have links to the following resources that you will need as you pursue the rank of Eagle Scout.

1. Current Eagle Scout rank requirements
2. Guide to Advancement
3. Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook
4. Application for the rank of Eagle Scout
5. Chief Seattle Council Confidential Letter of Reference Form

Be aware that most of the Eagle Scout rank requirements require that the work be done “while a Life Scout”. Merit badges are the exception; they count for the Eagle Scout rank requirement even if earned before becoming a Life Scout. But, holding a position of responsibility in the troop as a Star Scout will only count for achieving the rank of Life Scout or doing a major service project before being a Life Scout cannot be used to complete an Eagle Scout rank requirement.

Make progress along the trail with an eye on the calendar. The active participation, Scout spirit, merit badges, position of responsibility, service project and unit leader conference requirements all need to be completed before your eighteenth birthday. A number of the requirements, including the active participation, position of responsibility, and certain required merit badges, have minimum time requirements, so plan with this in mind.

Consult with the Mountain Territory Service Area Advancement Chair if there are special considerations such as a disability or severe circumstances. You may be eligible for modifications or substitutions to required merit badges, or an extension of time to complete requirements past your eighteenth birthday. Special applications must be filed well in advance of the deadline and are granted only in exceptional cases after documentation, investigation and thorough review. If applicable to you, begin the application process as soon as the circumstances present themselves. While the Covid-19 pandemic is no longer valid as a stand alone reason for an extension of time to complete the Eagle Scout rank requirements, it may be considered a factor under the three part test in the Guide to Advancement under section 9.0.4.0.

Consider asking for the assistance of an Eagle Scout service project coach as you prepare to undertake your Eagle Scout service project. This is your option, but it is recommended especially if the project involves construction. Your Eagle Scout service project coach must be a currently registered unit, district, or council Scouter with current Youth Protection training and approved by the district.

Now that you are prepared, stay on the trail to Guidepost Two ...

GUIDEPOST TWO -- Cheerfully put in your time.

Be active in your troop for six months while a Life Scout. You must be registered and in good standing. You are considered “active” if you meet your troop’s reasonable pre-established expectations of a level of activity in the troop. If you do not meet your troop’s expectations of activity, you must explain how other positive endeavors—in or out of Scouting—or noteworthy circumstances have prevented you from participating at a higher level.

Demonstrate Scout spirit during your tenure as a Life Scout. You will show how you incorporate the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto and Scout slogan in your daily life at home, at school, in religious life and in your community.

Cheerfully continue onward to Guidepost Three ...

GUIDEPOST THREE -- Complete your merit badges, including the required ones.

Complete a total of at least 21 merit badges (10 more than required for Life Scout rank). Of course, you don't have to stop there, you can earn more until your 18th birthday.

Your 21 merit badges earned must include 13 specific merit badges:

- First Aid
- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Communication
- Cooking
- Personal Fitness
- Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving
- Environmental Science OR Sustainability
- Personal Management
- Swimming OR Hiking OR Cycling
- Camping
- Family Life

Plan to earn your merit badges with an eye to your 18th birthday. Start well in advance those required merit badges must be completed over a period of time specified in the requirements. Please keep in mind that three of the merit badges listed above (Family Life, Personal Fitness and Personal Management) involve tracking one or more requirements over the course of three months.

Adventure on with determination to reach Guidepost Four ...

GUIDEPOST FOUR -- Provide leadership to your unit.

“Serve actively in your troop for a period of six months in one or more ... positions of responsibility” while a Life Scout. The eligible positions are:

- patrol leader
- assistant senior patrol leader
- senior patrol leader
- troop guide
- Order of the Arrow troop representative
- den chief
- scribe
- librarian
- historian
- quartermaster
- junior assistant Scoutmaster
- chaplain aide
- instructor
- webmaster
- outdoor ethics guide

Note that assistant patrol leader and bugler do not qualify as positions of responsibility for the Eagle Scout rank requirement. The option of fulfilling the six months of leadership within your unit by completing a “Scoutmaster approved leadership project to help the unit” does not apply to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Satisfy the “serve actively” requirement by reasonably meeting established troop expectations for the position of responsibility based on your personal skill set.

Lead on to Guidepost Five

GUIDEPOST FIVE -- Perform a significant service project.

Plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school or your community while a Life Scout.

Explore possible beneficiaries. So, who can be a beneficiary? “Any religious institution” and “any school” and “your community” can be beneficiaries of your Eagle Scout service project.

Dare to think expansively about “your community”. “Your community” can be as small as your neighborhood. Certainly your neighborhood, your city or town, or even your county or state or the community organizations serving them are all your “community”. But “community” can even include a portion of the broader world, as we are all citizens of the world. For example, you might choose a project that provides a service to an impoverished African village or a remote Afghanistan school.

Make sure the beneficiary is acceptable, it must not normally be an individual, but could be if the community benefits from the providing of the service to an individual in need to address a concern to more than that of just an individual. The community in this case could be represented by a neighborhood association, watch group, homeowners association, or perhaps a division of a town or county.

Choose an eligible project beneficiary. It need not be a registered nonprofit. Projects may not be of a commercial nature or for a business, but this is not meant to disallow community institutions that would otherwise be acceptable to the council or district advancement committee. These might include museums and various service agencies, or some homes for the elderly, for example. Some aspects of a business’s operation provided as a community service may also be considered; for example, a park open to the public that happens to be owned by a business. In cases such as these, the test is whether the project primarily benefits the community, as opposed to the profits of the business. A “for profit” organization cannot use a Scout’s project to make money (for example, by charging for tickets or charging fees for access to a playground).

Remember that the beneficiary of your Eagle Scout service project cannot be Scouting America. Youth groups similar to Scouting America, such as, the 4-H, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, the YMCA and YWCA, Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs and many others are worthy beneficiaries.

Choose an Eagle Scout service project. Your project does not have to be original, but it could be. It might be a construction, conservation, or remodeling project, or it could be the presentation of an event with a worthwhile purpose. Your project must have an impact or benefit for the beneficiary, not necessarily being permanent. Conversations with your unit leader, teachers, your religious leader, or the leaders of various community organizations can help to identify needs and even suggest outstanding project ideas. In any case, be sure the project presents a challenge that requires leadership, but is also something that you can do with unskilled helpers, and within a reasonable period of time.

Make sure your choice of an Eagle Scout service project is acceptable. Your service project proposal must meet five tests:

- You must show that planning, development and leadership will take place,
- The project must appear feasible, so you must show that the project is realistic for you to complete,
- You must be aware of safety issues by addressing what might be done to guard against injury and what will be done if someone does get hurt,
- You will make a list of the key action steps you will take to make sure your plan has enough detail to be carried out successfully,
- You must demonstrate that you are on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.

Make certain your choice of an Eagle Scout service project is within the limitations:

- Routine labor is not normally appropriate for a project, nor is routine maintenance normally acceptable, but major renovation, refurbishing, updating, expansion and the addition of safety improvements, increased usability and handicap access may qualify,
- A project may not be of a commercial nature or generally not be for an individual or business,
- A project may not be a fundraiser for another organization,
- No more than one Eagle Scout candidate may receive credit for working on the same Eagle Scout service project.

Use your Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook. You must use the current workbook. The workbook serves as an excellent organizing guide to your successful Eagle Scout service project. You must read it in its entirety before you begin to choose your project. Have your parents or guardians read the “Message to Scouts and Parents or Guardians” on pages 5 and 6 of the workbook. The workbook documents that the project proposal was approved in advance, shows your planning, development and leadership of your project, and, then, that the project was properly accepted by all parties when finished.

Secure project approvals from the beneficiary, your Scoutmaster, your troop committee and the Alpine or Mt Tahoma District before you start the project. A list of district Eagle Scout service project approvers is listed on the Chief Seattle Council Advancement webpage. Do not start your project until you have the approvals on your Eagle Scout service project proposal in the workbook. While it makes sense to obtain the approvals in the order listed in the workbook -- unit leader, unit committee and beneficiary -- they are not required to be obtained in that order but all three must be obtained on the workbook when the project proposal is presented for district approval.

Raise the funds and secure donations of monies and for in-kind donations of materials, supplies, tools, or other needs. If your fundraising effort involves contributions only from the beneficiary, you, your parents or relatives, your unit or its chartered organization, or parents or members of your unit, then you do not need a fundraising application. The Chief Seattle Council does not require a fundraising application if no more than \$500 is sought to be raised. If your fundraising plan is to seek donations of more than \$500 or from others outside of the list of donors above you must fill out a fundraising application and submit it for approval by your district Eagle Scout service project approver. Do not submit the fundraising application to the Chief Seattle Council. (seeking clarification)

Respectfully request providers of materials if they could offer a discount, materials at cost or even outright donation of supplies for your Eagle Scout service project. Many commercial operations are proud to subsidize or sponsor Eagle Scout service projects. Dunn Lumber, a proud sponsor of many Eagle Scout service projects, offers all materials at cost with a \$200 credit towards the total.

Plan to be S.A.F.E. Use the S.A.F.E. Scouting Service Project Checklist. Follow the S.A.F.E. Project Tool Use guidelines. Comply with the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) Portable Hand and Power Tool Self-Inspection Checklist. Incorporate the Service Project Checklist into your Eagle Scout Service project notebook as part of your plan. While use of the checklist is not a requirement, it is a good practice to keep yourself and your service project workers safe. You can access the checklists and guides at

- [Service Project Planning Checklist](#)
- [SAFE Project Tool Use](#)
- [Portable Hand & Power Tools - Safety Checklist Program for Schools | NIOSH](#)

It is recommended that the Safety section of your project proposal include a specific statement that a first aid kit will be on site and that an adult will serve as the designated medic for the project. A statement that “the age restrictions published in the Guide to Safe Scouting will be utilized when making all task assignments during project implementation.”

Recruit your workers. And who can work on your Eagle Scout service project? Anyone, and of any age appropriate for the work. Volunteers can be family members, Scouts and Scouters in your troop or other troops, friends, schoolmates, members of the community, and they don't have to be registered in Scouting. But how many workers? You have to "give leadership to others ...". "Others" means at least two people besides you, the Eagle Scout candidate. You must lead others on the project, not just work on it. You need as many volunteers to help as is required to accomplish the project. **This is a Scouting project, so the two-deep leadership policy must be observed.**

Accomplish the project. And how many hours are required? No minimum number of hours is required by you or the other youth and adults that participate in your project. The total hours required is the total hours needed to accomplish the project. Councils, districts, and units can not establish requirements for the number of people led, or their makeup, or for time worked on a project.

Account for all of the hours you and everyone puts in on the project. It will be most helpful to keep a time log that you start from the inception of the ideas for your project. Record time spent on the project in six minute (tenths of an hour) increments.

Account accurately your planning hours. Be sure you include in the hours you report, those hours you spent planning the project. Include time spent in exploring and developing potential projects and identifying potential beneficiaries, as well as every email, phone call and personal contact. Include any travel time. Include the time you spend developing your proposal even if the proposal changes as you go along. Include time spent in securing approvals. Include time spent in identifying potential safety hazards and planning to be prepared in case they present themselves. Count time in determining the logistics, including contingency plans, of the project. Do the same as you progress through the development of your plan.

Account accurately your execution hours. Continue to capture your time in actually doing the project. This will include time spent in securing volunteers to help on your project, publicizing the project, raising funds, securing and transporting tools, materials, supplies and equipment, and securing permits and permissions. Include time in safety and job task briefings. Count each worker's time in executing the project. Be sure to count time spent in cleanup and the return of borrowed items. Capture the time in compiling the project report and securing the approval signatures and thanking those who contributed to the success of your Eagle Scout Service Project.

Record the totals of the planning and execution hours in the workbook. The BSA collects information on hours worked on Eagle Scout projects because it points to achievement of our citizenship aim.

Consider marking your contribution as an Eagle Scout service project. Scouting (and you) deserve recognition for your contribution to the community. If permission is granted by the beneficiary, a permanent marker identifying your project can be erected. Be sure to include your name, troop, city/state, and date of project completion (or date of earned rank) a description of the project, its location (or beneficiary of the project), and city/state. Follow the rules on fonts, colors and design elements as set forth in the The Language of Scouting and BSA Style Manual [Language of Scouting](#) and the Scouting America Brand Guidelines [Scouting Brands](#).

A striking 8" x 10" etched, black-marble marker is available through the Scout Shop. In the alternate, you can design and have produced an attractive plaque or sign through a local printer or sign shop. Make sure that the signage you produce will withstand the elements for many years to come.

Obtain the signatures of the beneficiary and your Scoutmaster. Your Scoutmaster certifies that your completed project meets the requirement that you have planned, developed and given leadership to others in your service project. The beneficiary certifies that your service project provided significant benefit to them and has met their reasonable expectations for the project. While the district previously approved of the plan, the district does not approve the final project or its results. No final signature from the district on the Project Report section of the workbook is given.

Consider submitting your Eagle Scout service project for the Messenger of Peace Award.

All Eagle Scout service projects that have a significant impact on the community

- in the personal dimension of harmony, justice and equality,
- the community dimension of peace as opposed to hostility or violent conflict, or
- the relationships between humankind and its environment dimension of security, social and economic welfare, and relationship with the environment

qualify you as a “Messengers of Peace”. Eagle Scout service projects conducted for religious institutions, schools, or the community directly or indirectly impact one of the three dimensions, so almost all Eagle Scout service projects qualify as Messengers of Peace projects

Explore using your conservation focused Eagle Scout service project for the BSA conservation awards: the Distinguished Conservation Service Award, the Conservation Good Turn Award, the National Outdoor Badge - Conservation, the Keep America Beautiful Hometown Award and the World Conservation Award.

Continue serving others as you prepare to reach Guidepost Six

GUIDEPOST SIX -- Prepare for your Unit Leader Conference

Prepare a statement of your ambitions and life purpose. There are no set standards as to how this statement should be prepared, but the suggestions in this guidepost will help you write a thoughtful statement. Describe your short term and long term goals. Discuss what you think is your purpose in life.

Include a list of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community, or other organizations, during which you demonstrated leadership skills. Include a listing of all honors and awards you received during this service. The list may be incorporated in your statement or as a separate attachment.

Reflect thoughtfully on your life to this point and ponder with purpose where your values, hopes and desires may lead you. You can't know with certainty where life will take you, and your plans will evolve and may even radically change, but you can have a plan of how to approach whatever challenges and opportunities lie ahead. You are not making promises but sharing how you plan to live the rest of your life.

Write down your thoughts. Take your time and do it several times to assure that you have thought it through and covered everything you need to include. Do not do this at the last minute. The best time to write your statement is in advance of your Scoutmaster conference. The Eagle Scout rank requirements only require it to be submitted at the time you file your Eagle Scout rank application, but sharing it at your Scoutmaster conference is great preparation for your Eagle Scout rank board of review.

Structure your statement in an organized, logical, flowing narrative. Avoid sounding like a choppy checklist. While there are no hard and fast rules, most well written personal statements tend to be two double-spaced pages long at about 500 words. A good format includes an introductory paragraph, a paragraph on your short term goals, a paragraph on your career options or plans, a paragraph on activities, and a concluding paragraph addressing family, long term involvement in scouting, community, and religion. It is important to put your name on each page of your statement.

Speak with sincerity, and in your voice. Your "statement" is a letter to yourself reflecting on who you are, how you became that person and how you are planning to develop into the best person you can be. Give yourself thoughtful advice. Tell your story.

Describe some of your Scouting experiences, in your introductory paragraph. Tell what you have learned from those experiences. Be sure to include how you have grown as a leader.

Relate your short term goals, including academics and preparation for a career. If you are entering or in High School you should discuss the course choices you have made and how they position you for careers you are considering. If you are planning to pursue education following

graduation from High School, share what those plans are, or if you are considering entering the work force immediately after graduating, enlisting in the military or pursuing a skilled trade, what you are doing to advance those plans.

Tell about your activities, in school and outside of school. Describe how they are fulfilling to you and what else you may plan to pursue in the future. Share how you plan to continue in Scouting and continue to contribute to be of service to others.

Concentrate in your paragraph on long term goals on what you see as your life after your schooling is completed. Discuss your broad goals and how you might achieve them. Share any goal that sets you apart from others, like climbing mountains, becoming an acclaimed musician, writing a bestselling book, learning a foreign language or curing a dread disease.

Conclude your statement with a paragraph on how you foresee living your life, fulfilling your life purpose. Be sure to tell how Scouting has provided the lessons that made you the person you are and how it will continue to guide the person you are becoming.

Thoughtfully approach Guidepost Seven ...

GUIDEPOST SEVEN -- Participate in a Unit Leader conference.

Participate in a Scoutmaster conference while a Life Scout. This is not a retest, but a discussion of your Scouting experiences, and ambitions, life purposes and goals for future achievement.

Decide and share what kind of role model you are becoming. Bring forward and discuss areas of your character that you are perfecting and those that need further work.

Share your personal goals outside of Scouting. Certainly you have accomplished much within Scouting. But what do you want to do in life besides Scouting? Share ideas about your educational and career plans. What do you do for fun? What gives you that special feeling of satisfaction? Are you an artist, an author, an adventurer? What rainbows do you want to chase, mountains to climb, oceans to sail? How are you going to participate in your community? Do you wish to raise a family? How do you plan to meet your religious and community obligations? Dare to dream.

Stand ready to answer the question of “Are you an Eagle Scout?” Think ahead and reflect on what it means to be an Eagle Scout.

Be prepared to explore how you can continue your Scouting experience after achieving your Eagle Scout rank. Opportunities abound whether you achieve your Eagle Scout goal at 13 or 18!!

Capitalize on the opportunity for counseling and advising. If work is left to be completed on the rank requirements—and perhaps why it has not been completed and your plans on how and when you will accomplish the tasks—may be discussed. Certainly you will be asked to present your Eagle Scout Service Project in some detail -- whether it is yet to be completed or if it is a fait accompli!

Give feedback on your troop’s programming and overall health and direction. Who but you is better experienced? You have had good, great and not so great experiences. Say what you liked, what you disliked and what was most valuable to you. Share your best memories.

Use the conference as a preparation for your Eagle Scout rank board of review.

Review your personal statement of ambitions and life purposes to be submitted with your Eagle Scout rank application and review it in your conference. Your Scoutmaster will be able to review it with you and make suggestions.

Ask for and participate in more than one Scoutmaster conference if you would find it helpful, and you are allowed to count any of your conferences toward the requirement. You must participate in your Scoutmaster conference *before* your 18th birthday. It need not be the final Eagle Scout rank requirement you complete. You should schedule and hold your Scoutmaster conference well in advance of your 18th birthday.

With wise counsel, progress to Guidepost Eight ...

GUIDEPOST EIGHT -- Request letters of recommendation.

The application for the rank of Eagle Scout was revised in early 2026. Make sure you are utilizing the most recent version.

Requirement 2. (from the application) – As a Life Scout, demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life and tell how you have done your duty to God. List the names of individuals who know you personally and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf.

Your parents/guardians are listed for demographic and communication purposes (two deep leadership applies to all online communications). You will be asked to secure the signatures of your current Scoutmaster and Committee Chair, their signatures are considered their endorsement of your fitness for the rank of Eagle Scout, and therefore they should not be among those you ask for a letter of reference.

Ask the references to send their letter of recommendation to the Alpine District Advancement Committee if you are an Alpine District Eagle candidate or to the Mt. Tahoma District Advancement Committee if you are an Mt. Tahoma District Eagle candidate. In advance of filing your Eagle Scout rank application, it is your responsibility to ask your references for the letters of recommendation. You may use the Chief Seattle Council Confidential Letter of Recommendation form available on the Chief Seattle Council Advancement website. Have the letters sent directly to the Advancement Committee. Do not have the letters sent to or given to you. The preference is for the references to email the letters of recommendation to the eagle coordinator for your district. Contacts can be found on the Mountain Advancement website

Knowing you have support, carry on with head held high to Guidepost Nine ...

GUIDEPOST NINE -- Fill out and file forms to apply.

Fill out the Eagle Scout Rank application. Make sure to use the most recent application from Scoutbook Plus or the Chief Seattle Council Advancement website:

- **Use the Scoutbook Plus Eagle Scout Rank application** (it is preferred as it will automatically fill in the dates for merit badges, Unit Leader conferences and other relevant dates). If you are using an approved, current application form not from Scoutbook Plus, transfer the relevant dates in Scoutbook Plus to your application. The approved, current application may be accessed from the Chief Seattle Council website.
- **Fill out your application on a computer**, if possible. The Scoutbook Plus version and the application form from the Chief Seattle website are fillable PDFs. When obtaining signatures or filling out the form by hand, use only blue or black ink, not pencil or colored ink. Do not cut and paste into a Microsoft Word, Apple Pages, Google Docs or other word processing document. It must be a .pdf attachment to an email.
- **Fill out all of the rank dates.** Make sure you use the board of review date, not the court of honor date for your rank.
- **List the thirteen required and eight elective merit badges** (When you list a required merit badge that has choices of which to earn and be counted as the required merit badge (for example Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving) make sure to cross out the option you did not choose.
- **List position(s) of responsibility held.** List only those positions of responsibility served after the Life Scout board of review date. You may list two that cover the six month requirement. If your unit does not utilize Scoutbook Plus as its primary tool for tracking advancement, meet with the unit advancement chair and confirm that the dates for your Position of Responsibility while a Life Scout have been accurately transferred into Scoutbook Plus.
- **Provide the date of your unit leader's conference.** If you had more than one conference since becoming a Life Scout, list only one.
- **Give your Eagle Scout service project a name** that includes a brief description. Fill in the date you completed your project and the grand total of your project hours. Be sure to include the hours you spent planning your project in the grand total.
- **Work with your unit's Life-to-Eagle Coordinator** or Troop Advancement Coordinator (if your unit does not have a Life-to-Eagle Coordinator) to make sure your application is totally accurate, fully filled out and completely legible before proceeding further.
- **Sign the application.** Provide your telephone number and fill in the date. Sign the application.
- **Proof your name and review it** with your parents or guardians. Make sure you are all in agreement that the name as listed on the application is exactly how you want your name to appear on your Eagle Scout certificate.
- **Proof the entire application again** before you submit it.

- **Obtain the signatures** of the registered unit leader and registered committee chair. While the unit leader and committee chair may sign the application after your 18th birthday, there should be as little delay as possible and the application should be filed promptly.

File the Eagle Scout Rank Application in PDF format at membership@seattlebsa.org.

As part of requirement 6 of the application for the rank of Eagle Scout, you will be asked to:

In preparation for your board of review, prepare and attach to your Eagle Scout Rank Application a statement of your ambitions and life purpose and a listing of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community, or other organizations, during which you demonstrated leadership skills. Include honors and awards received during this service.

This is the statement that was discussed in detail under Guidepost Six.

You may file your Eagle application with the Chief Seattle Council with or without the above referenced statement. You may opt to submit the above statement directly to the Alpine or Mt Tahoma Eagle Coordinator (alpine.advancement@seattle.net or mt.tahoma.advancement@seattle.net)

Always cc a parent or guardian in all electronic communications including emails, including those where you are filing forms. Scouting's Youth Protection policies require no one-on-one Scouter contact even in electronic communications.

Make sure you respond promptly to the email from the Chief Seattle Council notifying you that your Eagle Scout rank application has been sent to the district Eagle Scout Advancement Coordinator. The email will ask you to confirm the spelling of your name as it is to appear on the Eagle Scout certificate or with the desired corrections.

Trek on, you are almost there, approach Guidepost Ten ...

GUIDEPOST TEN -- Participate in an Eagle Scout rank board of review.

Successfully complete a board of review for the Eagle Scout rank. This is not a retest, but a discussion of your Scouting experiences and ambitions, life purposes and goals for future achievement.

Expect the board of review process to proceed within established guidelines:

- Your Eagle Scout rank application must be verified. After you properly file your Eagle Scout rank application with the Chief Seattle Council, it will be verified against the council's records. Verification normally is completed within five to eight working days of filing the application except that no processing happens during the annual unit rechartering (mid-December to mid-January) period. If problems are found, an email is sent detailing the problem. If there are no problems with the application an email is sent stating that the verified application has been transmitted to your District Eagle Scout Advancement Coordinator. The emails are sent to you, your parent or guardian, unit leader, committee chair and district Eagle Scout Advancement Coordinator.
- Upon receipt of the verified application for the rank of Eagle Scout, your district coordinator will begin the process for scheduling an Eagle Board of Review. Boards of Review are in-person interviews unless unique circumstances require a video conference.
- Observers are not generally permitted at an Eagle Scout rank board of review. Your parents, relatives, or guardians should not be in attendance in any capacity—not as members of the board, as observers, or even as the unit leader. Their presence can change the discussion dynamics. In cases where parents or guardians *insist* on attending a board of review, they will be counseled that their presence can change how their child addresses questions, and that the opportunity to further self-reliance and courage may be lessened. However, if parents or guardians still insist on being present, they must be permitted to attend as observers.
- Expect to introduce yourself briefly to the board of review and to lead the board in a recitation of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The board of review will lead you on an celebratory exploration of your Scouting journey and your future. Expect thought provoking questions and be ready to share your reflections with the board of review. Board of review members are eager to hear about your advancement, your outdoor experiences, your leadership growth, your Eagle Scout Service Project and your life goals and aspirations.
- Upon completion of the Eagle Board of Review, the now signed copy of the application must be resubmitted to council in PDF form. After the Chief Seattle Council receives the Eagle Scout rank application with the signatures of the board of review, the Scout Executive will certify the application and forward it to the National Council. The National Council will approve the Eagle application, usually about 24 hours after it receives it from the Chief Seattle Council. The National Council will issue the Eagle Scout credentials and return it to the Chief Seattle Council.

- **Wait patiently for your credentials.** There is normally a substantial lag time between your Eagle Scout rank board of review and the return of your approved Eagle Scout credentials from the BSA National Council.
- **Eagle Palms** – Scouts who have earned more than the minimum of twenty-one merit badges during their Scouting career may be eligible for Eagle Palms. Scouts earn one palm for every additional five merit badges they have completed. Check with your unit advancement chair to confirm how many additional merit badges you have completed. Since 2016, scouts have been awarded the palms for the total number of merit badges completed at the time they earn the rank of Eagle Scout. Scouts who have not yet attained their 18th birthday may continue to earn merit badges and qualify for additional palms for every five merit badges completed.

You reached a pinnacle, tramp on to Guidepost Eleven ...

GUIDEPOST ELEVEN -- Participate in a court of honor.

Be formally recognized with a court of honor. Your court of honor is a special occasion gathering together Scouts, your family, friends and guests where you are recognized for your accomplishment and achievements. Many units have traditions for recognizing scouts that attain the rank of Eagle Scout, but it can also be an event planned by your family, celebrating your accomplishment in a manner that fits your personality.

Processing times for the certificates to arrive from the National Council have been taking six to eight weeks on average. The Chief Seattle Council will email you, your unit leader and committee chair when they arrive. The Chief Seattle Council will then mail your certificate and an Eagle Scout presentation kit containing the metal Eagle award, cloth Eagle badge, Mom and Dad pins, and Eagle mentor pin directly to the address listed on your application. The presentation kit, (medals and badges) is available at the Chief Seattle Council service center for pick up any time after you have received your confirmation email from council. Should you wish to obtain other Eagle items, contact the Chief Seattle Council Scout Shop for additional Eagle related items or order online from <https://www.scoutshop.org/>.

You are honored, but journey further ...

GUIDEPOST TWELVE -- You are an Eagle Scout -- the journey continues.

Take Pride. Since 1912, the Eagle Scout rank has represented a milestone of accomplishment --perhaps without equal-- that is recognized across the country and even the world. Those who have earned the Eagle Scout rank count it among their most treasured achievements.

Soar as an Eagle Scout. "Eagle Scout" is not just an award, it is a state of being. Those who earned it as a youth continue to earn it every day as adults by exemplifying the highest ideals of Scouting. You will have deserved much credit for having achieved Scouting's highest rank. But you will wear your award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and the Scout Law be your guides for tomorrow and into the future.

Seize opportunities. If you are not yet 18 years old when you complete your Eagle Scout rank board of review, you can continue to earn merit badges until your eighteenth birthday. For every five merit badges earned beyond those required for Eagle Scout rank or the last Palm you may be recognized with Eagle Palms. After three months of active tenure, upon demonstration of Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life, and continuing to set a satisfactory example of accepting responsibility or demonstrating leadership ability, and participation in a Scoutmaster conference, you are awarded Eagle Palms.

Seize more opportunities.

- Invoke your inner scientist, technologist, engineer and mathematician by pursuing BSA S.T.E.M. Nova and Supernova Awards ([S.T.E.M.](#)). BSA High Adventure bases offer S.T.E.M. experiences : [Adventures - Sea Base Summer Individual Programs - Northern Tier Roving Outdoor Conservation School \(ROCS\) Trek - Philmont Scout Ranch.](#)
- Challenge yourself with the 50 Miler Award afoot, afloat or astride a bike ([50-Miler Award](#)).
- Prove your outdoor prowess. Earn the National Outdoor Award by demonstrating your camping, aquatics, conservation, hiking riding and adventure skills ([National Outdoor Awards Program](#)).
- Earn the Distinguished Conservation Service Award, ~~the 50th Anniversary Environmental Protection Agency Award (through 2024)~~, the Conservation Good Turn Award, the National Outdoor Badge - Conservation, the Keep America Beautiful Hometown Award and the World Conservation Award. See [BSA Conservation Awards](#) for specific requirements, reporting and recognitions.

Seek High(er) Adventures. Philmont Scout Ranch, Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier High Adventure Base, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve beckon for the adventurer in you. Programs are available practically throughout the year. All offer premier opportunities to test and hone your outdoor skills and develop new ones. Explore putting together a contingent from your troop or along with neighboring troops.

- Philmont offers traditional backpacking treks of 7, 9 or 12 days or 8 day horseback cavalcade treks. Individual experiences include S.T.E.M, Roving Outdoor Conservation School (R.O.C.S), Ranch Hands, Rayado and Trail Crew treks. Check out [Philmont](#) for all of the opportunities.
- Sea Base invigorates the seafarer in each of us with journeys to explore the Florida Keys and to St. Croix, St. Thomas, and the Bahamas. Learn to scuba, to sail, do marine S.T.E.M., even attend the Divemaster Academy or take Instructor Development courses. Explore [Sea Base Adventures](#).
- The BSA's Northern Tier High Adventure Base offers wilderness canoe and camp expeditions in Northern Minnesota, Northeast Manitoba and Northwest Ontario. Wilderness Medical and Leave No Trace Master Educator certification courses are offered. Winter cold weather camping, dogsledding and survival is taught at OKPIK courses. Click [Northern Tier](#) should you dare.
- Summit Bechtel Reserve isn't just the home of BSA National Jamborees. At the Paul R. Christen High Adventure Base at the Summit, kayak, river raft, bikepack, backpack, ATV explore or pack and paddle -- it's your adventure to choose in wild, wonderful West Virginia along the New River and at the 70,00 acre New River Gorge National Park and Preserve ([The Summit Bechtel Reserve](#)).
- Have an insatiable thirst for high adventure? Earn the Triple Crown of High Adventure by participating in three qualifying BSA high adventure programs at Philmont, Northern Tier, Seabase and the Summit. Still thirsting for chasing the adventure? Earn the Grand Slam of High Adventure by completing a high adventure at all four bases. Make sure you check out <https://www.nationalhighadventureawards.org/requirements>.
- Special programs for Order of the Arrow members abound. Do the OA Summit Experience, OA Wilderness Voyage or OA Canadian Odyssey at Northern Tier, the OA Trail Crew at Philmont or the OA Ocean Adventure at Sea Base. Complete three journeys and win the prestigious Order of the Arrow Triple Crown High Adventure Award ([Triple Crown](#)).

Expand your youth Scouting career. Stay active in your troop and serve as a role model. If you are not yet eighteen, you can and should stay registered as a youth member of your troop. Your Scoutmaster will be happy to make sure you have opportunities to continue providing leadership in your troop. Every troop can use Instructors and troop guides. Consider serving as Senior Patrol Leader.

Enrich your Scouting adventure. If you are at least 14 (or 13 and have completed the eighth grade) but not yet 21 years old, Scouting's programs for older youth-- Venturing (adventure based program), Sea Scouts, BSA (water high adventure program) and Exploring (career exploration program) may appeal to you.

Continue to serve in your troop. Your Troop can always use your experience and leadership abilities. If you are between the ages of 16 and 18, you may serve your unit as a junior assistant Scoutmaster (a youth leadership position of responsibility). If you have already, or shortly will celebrate your eighteenth birthday, you may register as an adult leader after completing the Safeguarding Youth online training.

Promote Scout camping and cheerful service. If you were inducted into the Order of the Arrow, opportunities abound with a full calendar of activities and service opportunities in T’Kope KwisKwis Lodge and its chapters in each district. You could serve in a youth leadership position until age 21.

Excel in leadership. Participate in a National Youth Leadership Training Course (NYLT). Woodbadge is the equivalent course for adult leaders..

Lead on. Consider serving on a Camp Staff locally at a nearby council or at a BSA High Adventure base or even on the staff of a National or World Jamboree as an International Camp Staff member. There are countless opportunities to give back and pay it forward.

<https://jobs.scoutlife.org>

Join the National Eagle Scout Association. The National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) helps Eagle Scouts stay in touch with Scouting and hear positive stories about how Scouting transforms the lives of youth through developing their leadership skills, character, citizenship, and physical fitness. NESA is also an outlet for alumni to network and collaborate with one another, which may include increasing business connections and participating in service to the BSA or other organizations. NESA offers scholarships to Eagle Scouts to pursue higher education. Chief Seattle Council has a local NESA chapter with opportunities to support the Chief Seattle Council mission, vision and programs, provide community service, and join other Eagle Scouts in fellowship. Explore the NESA website at [NESA](#).

Share Your Story. As a NESA member, highlight the difference Scouting makes by showcasing your contributions and accomplishments at every level at [Faces & Places](#). Submit a story or share a photo – like multiple generations of Eagle Scouts or joint courts of honor, or professional achievements, such as job promotions, military service and awards received. You can send in a story about how you’ve recently retired after decades of service to your community or just share a photo of how your son or daughter earned the Eagle Scout rank — every story from one’s Eagle trail is worth celebrating and recognizing.

Exemplify Leadership, Friendship and Service at college. College-bound Scouting alumni who wish to continue serving others in meaningful, rewarding ways will want to join Alpha Phi Omega, the national service fraternity at more than 375 colleges nationwide and a “partner in service” with Scouting on more than 375 campuses in the United States from the University of Alaska Anchorage, the University of Washington, the University of Oregon, to the University of Miami, Canada and the Philippines. Learn more about Alpha Phi Omega at [APO](#).

Be a Scouting Ambassador. Scouting needs your help to maintain the public’s attention and support. Being an ambassador means you share far and wide how Scouting is helping young people gain skills for life. Help keep Scouting in the public view. Talk about Scouting. Support Scouting.