



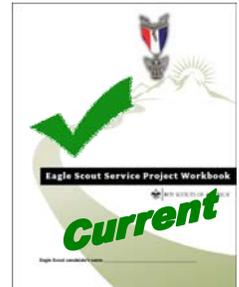
JANUARY 2014
COMPLETING THE LIFE to EAGLE TRAIL
 IMPEESA DISTRICT

Pamela Miller, Impeesa District Advancement / Eagle Board Chairman



TO START YOUR EAGLE PROJECT, YOU MUST: ❶ Be a Life Scout; ❷ Fully prepare the appropriate pages of the Life-to-Eagle workbook; ❸ Obtain the approval signatures in the workbook from your project's recipient, from your scoutmaster or crew advisor, from the chair of your unit committee, and from the district Eagle board chair. **Starting your project before obtaining all four approvals voids that project!**

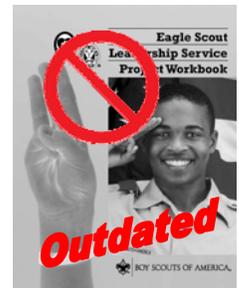
GETTING YOUR PROJECT APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT EAGLE BOARD: Call me at **819-7956**. We'll review basics over the phone to ensure that you have the required information and signatures. **The only accepted workbook is the official BSA version pictured to the right.** Unauthorized workbooks or outdated editions are **not accepted**. Print the entire workbook including the rules and procedures. **Your Life-to-Eagle workbook must be fully completed to the place for my signature.** If the required pages are blank (or say only "see attached"), or if any of the signatures preceding mine are missing, you must secure the missing information and schedule another meeting to get my approval. When your project is ready for district review, we will schedule a meeting. **Please attend this meeting in "Class A" uniform.**



EAGLE PROJECTS ARE INDIVIDUAL MATTERS: One candidate per project.

TIME FRAME / MINIMUM HOURS: While most projects are 75 - 150 hours and completed in six months, it's the project's quality that's important, not the hours recorded. There is no minimum or maximum set by the district.

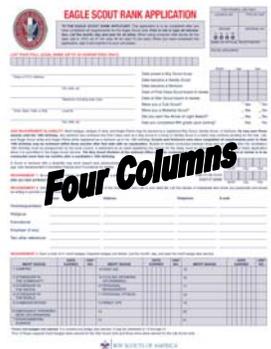
INELIGIBLE PROJECTS: ❶ Routine labor; ❷ Work on BSA property, personal property or commercial (for profit) projects; ❸ fundraising (except to raise money to buy materials for your "real" project); ❹ "father-son" projects; ❺ do-it-all yourself projects, or ❻ projects in which you play a secondary role (someone else does the planning and leading). If your hours (or your parents'/family's) exceed 50% of the total project hours, expect serious questions from your board and a high probability that it will not be passed. Remember: "...**plan, develop, and give leadership**...".



IN ADDITION TO YOUR EAGLE PROJECT: Requirements for merit badges and leadership positions are completed at the troop. In addition, you must:

- ❶ Prepare a statement of your life purpose. You must include a list of accomplishments, honors, awards and recognition you've received.
- ❷ Prepare a typed or ink **original 2014** Eagle Scout application.
- ❸ Fully complete the rest of the Life-to-Eagle workbook **before your 18th birthday!**
- ❹ **Ask each reference on your Eagle application to write a letter of recommendation** on your behalf. (See *Letters of Recommendation* section).
- ❺ Deliver the Eagle application, statement of life purpose, and the service project workbook to the council office. **Do this on or before your 18th birthday.**

Allow the council office two weeks to process your Eagle application.



AVOIDING DELAYS IN VERIFICATION AND SCHEDULING A BOARD:

Two common reasons are:

1-INABILITY TO VERIFY RECORDS: If you transferred from another council, ask your troop to request a records transfer using **Transfer Application Form, No. 28-401R**. If you have been in more than one troop in Occoneechee Council, have the council check prior troop records. Check your records early – a missing merit badge not discovered until your 18th birthday could spell disaster!

2-LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Some scouts experience delays in what should be the easiest part of the Eagle process. **The choice is yours!** Since you select the references you list on the Eagle application, be sure to select people that are willing to write letters on your behalf.

A- Contact your references NOW! Most people will require four to six weeks to write a letter. Don't wait until you're turning in your paperwork to ask for letters. **Do it NOW!**

B- Request letters from all references. You need all six (five if you do not have an employer). Letters from family members (other than your parents) or your unit leaders do not count! Also, reference writers must be an adult age 21 years or older.

C- Give your references a stamped, pre-addressed envelope.

D- Secure letters from the sources shown on the application. Requirement 2 reads "Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law **in your daily life.**" We need to know that you reflect the Scouting ideals in **all** areas of your life. You must provide at least one religious reference and at least one educational reference. If you have an employer, we require an employer reference. Letters from three teachers will not make up for failing to secure a religious reference. Letters from three neighbors or family friends will not make up for having no educational reference. You may have as many teachers or neighbors write letters as you would like so long as we have letters from all sources required by National.



The best way for your references to send their letters is by **email to eaqlereference@aol.com**

The 2nd best way is to mail the letter (no faxes) to the council service center at:

**Eagle Board of Review for (Candidate name)
 Occoneechee Council, BSA
 3231 Atlantic Avenue
 Raleigh, NC 27604**

BSA rules require confidentiality for all references. **If a letter of recommendation is not delivered as outlined, it will not be accepted.** References are a national requirement and critical to the Eagle process.

Here are areas that your references may address to help the board learn more about you.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ➔ Reflects the ideal of Scouting | ➔ Regular attendance at troop meetings |
| ➔ Active in community outside of Scouting | ➔ Regularity of school attendance |
| ➔ General scholastic record | ➔ Leadership in observed activities |
| ➔ Attendance at religious observances | ➔ Respect for others' religious convictions |
| ➔ Leadership in religious activities | ➔ Shares duties and responsibilities |
| ➔ Thrifty in management of his funds | ➔ Carefully uses other peoples' property |
| ➔ Handles emergencies confidently & effectively | ➔ Courteous and considerate |

SCHEDULING YOUR EAGLE BOARD OF REVIEW: After we have received your Eagle packet, we will contact you and your scoutmaster and schedule your Eagle board of review. **Our goal is to complete each board within 30 days of receiving your packet from the Eagle Service Desk.**

DIGITAL PHOTO OF YOUR EAGLE PROJECT: Please email a great digital photo to the district at EMillerBSA@aol.com so that we can include it on our district website and in the videos shown at the District Dinner and the Council Eagle Banquet.

YOUR EAGLE SCOUT BOARD OF REVIEW: Your scoutmaster introduces you to the board. Unless he is a relative, he may remain in the room during the board, but is not allowed to participate. The Eagle board consists of three to six members assigned by the district. BSA prohibits your scoutmaster, assistant scoutmasters, parents, guardians, or relatives from serving on your board or from being spectators in the room during the review or during the board's deliberations.

ITEMS TO BRING TO YOUR EAGLE BOARD: Bring your handbook so it can be reviewed and signed. Please wear your Class A uniform (Scout shirt with correct insignia, Scout pants, merit badge sash and neckerchief).

EAGLE BOARD OF REVIEW TOPICS: The Eagle Scout board' of review determines your fitness for the Eagle rank. Eagle Board questions are intended to maintain the standards of quality and achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout. We will always review the seven Eagle Scout rank requirements:

- Scout spirit** – Requirement 2: Living the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your daily life; how you do your duty to God, your country, in your home, to yourself.
- Scout participation** – Reqs 1 and 4: Your contributions, activities, duties and leadership as a Scout.
- Merit badges** – Req 3: The meaning and value they have for you; the quality of your MB experience.
- Eagle Scout Service Project** – Req 5: A detailed examination of your planning and leadership.
- Future plans** – Req 6 and 7: Personal, educational, professional and Scouting plans.

The Eagle rank is awarded only upon a unanimous favorable vote of the board members.

RECEIVING YOUR EAGLE Upon successful completion of your Eagle board of review, your paperwork is sent to the council office where it is signed by the Scout Executive and forwarded to the National office for processing. Turnaround time for your approved application and certificate to return from national is two weeks. For **\$50** (credit card, cashier's check or money order) the paperwork can be expedited by the National office. Your Eagle award will be presented to you by your troop at a Court of Honor.

A NOTE TO UNIT LEADERS and PARENTS

This guide provides the Eagle candidate with the basic information he needs to progress smoothly through the Eagle Scout Service Project and the Life-to-Eagle process. Links to needed forms such as the current Eagle Scout Rank Application, Eagle Project Workbook and District Guide (PDF) are at:

<http://www.impeesadistrict.org/eagle-scouts/candidate-information>

