



JANUARY 2011
COMPLETING THE LIFE to EAGLE TRAIL
 IMPEESA DISTRICT

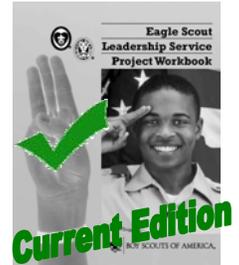


Pamela Miller, Impeesa District Eagle Board Chairman

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO START YOUR EAGLE PROJECT, YOU MUST: ❶ Be a Life Scout; ❷ Have fully prepared the appropriate pages of the Life-to-Eagle workbook; ❸ Obtained 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!**

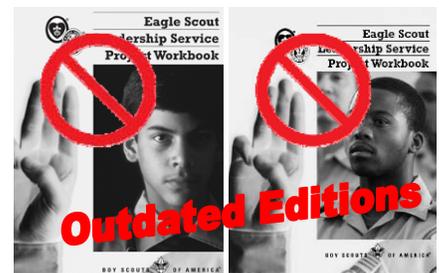
GETTING YOUR PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EAGLE BOARD CHAIRMAN:

Call me at **846-2720**. We'll review basic items over the phone to make sure you have the information and signatures necessary for district approval. **The only accepted workbooks are either the pre-printed version (pictured to the right) or the office BSA electronic version of this workbook.** Print the entire workbook including the rules and procedures. Unauthorized workbooks or non-current editions of the workbook are **not** accepted. **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 three signatures preceding mine are missing, you must secure the missing information and schedule another meeting to get my approval. Once we've ensured that your project is ready for district review, we will schedule an appointment to meet in person. Please attend this meeting in "Class A" uniform.



EAGLE PROJECTS ARE INDIVIDUAL MATTERS: You can't share a project with another Scout.

TIME FRAME AND MINIMUM HOURS: Projects are typically 75 to 250 hours and completed within six months, but it's the quality of your Eagle project that's important, not just the hours recorded.



INELIGIBLE PROJECTS: ❶ Routine labor; ❷ Work on BSA or personal property; ❸ commercial projects. ❹ fundraising (except to raise money to buy materials for your "real" project); ❺ "father-son" projects (that's not showing leadership); ❻ do-it-all yourself projects (not showing leadership), or ❼ 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. To complete the other requirements, you must:

- ❶ Secure a letter from the recipient of your Eagle project verifying its value.
- ❷ Prepare a statement of your life purpose. You must include a list of accomplishments, honors, awards and recognition you've received.
- ❸ Prepare a typed or ink original Eagle Scout application.
- ❹ Fully complete the rest of the Life-to-Eagle workbook before your 18th birthday!
- ❺ **Ask each reference on your Eagle application to write a letter of recommendation** on your behalf. (See *Letters of Recommendation* section).
- ❻ 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 and get it to me.

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. Even if you've been in just one troop, have your troop order a unit advancement report at the council office. Do this early!

2-LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Many scouts experience delays, yet it 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 well in advance. 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. Just remember that we will not convene your Eagle board until we have references from all areas stated.



Letters must be mailed (not faxed) to the council service center at:
Chairman of the Eagle Board of Review for (Candidate name)
Eagle Scout Service Desk
Occoneetchee Council, BSA
P.O. Box 41229
Raleigh, NC 27629-1229

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: Once we receive your verified Eagle packet, we will contact you and your scoutmaster to schedule your Eagle board of review. We strive to complete each board within 30 days of receipt of your packet from the Eagle Service Desk.

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 signed; pictures or materials from your project not included in the project workbook. Bring at least one picture for the council Project Registration. 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 six 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: 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. Usual turnaround time for your approved application and certificates to return from national is two weeks. For a **\$45 fee** (credit card, cashiers check or money order – no personal checks) payable to **NESA** (National Eagle Scout Association), the paperwork can be expedited by the National office with a four-day turnaround. 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. A more comprehensive explanation of the Life to Eagle process is outlined in the Occoneetchee Council Life to Eagle Guide.

