

TRAIL TO EAGLE

Troop 66

What does it take to be an Eagle Scout?

Leadership
Responsibility
Service to Others
Communication

What do you need to earn the rank of Eagle?

- Troop Leadership position
- Merit Badges (21 total - 12 /9)
- Leadership Project / Write-up
- Be an Active Scout
- Demonstrate that you live by the Scout Oath and Law
- Eagle Scout Application
- Scout Resume and Life Ambitions Letter (req 6)
- Letters of Recommendation (5 or 6)
- Scoutmaster Conference
- Board of Review
- Less than 18 years old

Leadership Leadership Leadership

- ▣ Why do Boy Scouts require a project in order to earn the rank of Eagle?
 - In addition to providing service and fulfilling the part of the Scout Oath, “to help other people at all times”, one of the primary purposes of the Eagle Scout service project is to demonstrate or hone, or to learn and develop, leadership skills.
 - Related to this are important lessons in project management and taking responsibility for a significant accomplishment

How do I start the Project?

- ▣ Find an organization that you really care about
 - Religious institution
 - School
 - Community Organization
- ▣ Find an advisor
 - A person who has experience in the Eagle process
 - A person who has experience in the type of work you are interested in performing
 - A person you have a relationship
- ▣ Determine what you want to do
 - It doesn't always have to involve building something
 - Check the internet for ideas

What does an advisor do?

- An advisor helps to develop your ideas by being your sounding board.
- An advisor will help direct you to resources and information that will help you make informed decisions.
- An advisor will attend most of your activities to ensure that you are staying within your plan.
- An advisor will read your application and offer advice where needed.
- An advisor will report to the Eagle Committee Chair and Scoutmaster as needed.

I have an idea and an advisor, what should I do next?

- ▣ Speak with our Eagle Committee Chairman and our Scoutmaster
 - The Eagle Committee Chairperson will be responsible for reviewing your proposal, plan and final write-up and will keep track of your progress along the way. They will be responsible for reporting to the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee as needed. They are also a resource in case any issues arise.
 - The Scoutmaster is responsible for overseeing the entire project and signing off on the Proposal and the Final Write-up as well as ensure the project is planned and performed as proposed. The Scoutmaster is also a resource in case any issues arise.

The Eagle Scout Workbook

- ▣ This document is brand new and a link can be found on the Troop website.
- ▣ It is meant to guide you thru the process.
- ▣ It must be followed but can and should be enhanced in order to best show your project. There are sections and techniques that the Troop has suggested to candidates in the past to better present their project.
- ▣ The workbook has 4 sections – Proposal, Final Plan, Fundraising Application and Project Report.

The Proposal

- ▣ Must be completed first and is an overview.
- ▣ It must show the Scoutmaster, Eagle Committee and District that your project will meet the requirements of an Eagle Project.
- ▣ Pictures, diagrams and additional documentation is highly recommended in order to show your intentions. Additional pages should be added to the proposal as needed.
- ▣ It must be filled out completely prior to submission. It should first be reviewed by your advisor, then the Eagle Committee and finally, the Scoutmaster.
- ▣ It must also be approved by the beneficiary of the Project and the District Representative.

The Final Plan

- ▣ Is a detailed document that lays out how you plan to run your Project.
- ▣ Although it does not require official signoff, it is important for it to be reviewed by your advisor and either the Eagle Committee or Scoutmaster. This is to ensure that the Project will remain safe, not conflict with any other Troop activities and adheres to the guidelines of the Proposal and Eagle Project.
- ▣ It must be completed and reviewed before the Project can start.

The Fundraising Application

- ▣ Must be filled out when soliciting funds or supplies from any source other than:
 - yourself
 - your family
 - members of the Troop or the Chartered Organization
 - the beneficiary
- ▣ It must be signed by the Beneficiary and Scoutmaster
- ▣ It must be mailed, emailed or faxed to our District Executive at the CNJC office. Fundraising cannot begin until the document is returned signed.
- ▣ The rules of fundraising must be adhered to at all times.

The Final Report

- ▣ Information to be used for the Final Report should be gathered as the Project is occurring. This includes daily attendance reports, pictures showing your story and a diary of daily events.
- ▣ The Final Report should detail what went on, what went well and what did not.
- ▣ It is expected that there were challenges during your Project workdays but the goal is to see how you recovered from them.
- ▣ Remember, the reason you are asked to do this Project is to show leadership. All of your comments should impress upon the reader that you were in charge at all times.

The Final Report

- Should show what you received during your fundraising efforts and whether you were able to collect more than what was needed or less and why you might have been off.
- This is a chance for you to shine. Make sure you accentuate the positive even if things didn't work out as planned.

Things to remember

- ❑ When soliciting for funds, you should always go in uniform and have a copy of your Project with you to show the person you are meeting with.
- ❑ Make sure you get the person's name of whom you spoke with and ask when you should follow-up.
- ❑ Don't be surprised if you have to make multiple visits and phone calls in order to get help. Remember, you need them more than they need you.
- ❑ Be Polite and make sure you thank them for their consideration even if they say no.
- ❑ Don't be afraid to get more funds and supplies than you need. There are always the unexpected expenditure.

Things to remember

- ▣ Be considerate of your leaders and advisors. We are here to help you but realize that Scouting is not their full time job. In the summer, remember you are off and they are not.
- ▣ Don't hand in your paperwork and expect next day turnaround. In most cases, you should plan for a week unless told differently.
- ▣ When making an announcement for help, consider how many people you really need and don't ask 100 people if you only need 3.
- ▣ During the school year, we will not send an email blast asking for help unless you have already announced it at a Troop meeting.

Things to remember

- ▣ When planning a work day, do not plan on a day when the Troop already has multiple events. We will not approve your community service project when there already is one on the calendar. Also, watch out for weekends with camping trips as your help may be limited.
- ▣ Be Prepared. Make sure you fully understand what your goal is on every workday and make sure you explain to your helpers what you need them to do. You know your project, they don't.
- ▣ Make sure you get all the signatures before handing in your paperwork to Council. It just adds more trips and time.

Important People

- ▣ Eagle Committee Chair

- ▣ Scoutmaster

- ▣ District Proposal Approval -
 - MCH District Eagle Committee
- ▣ District Fundraising Approval –
 - MCH District Executive – CNJC Council Office
- ▣ Local Council Certification of Membership, Rank and Merit Badge –
 - Registrar - CNJC Council Office
- ▣ Final Paperwork Approval and Board of Review -
 - MCH District Eagle Committee Chairman