

APPLICATION FOR ALTERNATE EAGLE SCOUT RANK MERIT BADGES

INSTRUCTIONS

This application includes the necessary information to properly apply for alternate merit badges on the route to Eagle Scout. Below, you will find the steps to follow from the initiation of the application to the awarding of the Eagle Scout rank.

1. The unit leader (Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor) initiates this application on behalf of a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or qualified* Venturer (candidate).
2. Follow the instructions on this application to determine the alternate merit badge(s).
3. Secure a clear and concise medical statement from a physician licensed to practice medicine, or a school administrator, concerning the Scout's disability.
4. The unit leader and unit committee chair hold a conference with the candidate and his family present. They determine the alternate merit badges for those requirements that physical or mental disability prevents him from completing.
5. The district or council committee then reviews the proposed alternate merit badges. (If approved by the district, its recommendations would be forwarded to the council committee for final approval.)
6. **After council approval, the candidate starts to qualify.**
7. Upon completion of the Eagle Scout rank requirements, using the alternate merit badges, the candidate appears before the board of review. This application should be attached to the Eagle Scout rank application.
8. **Following a successful board of review, the council processes both applications and forwards them to the national Eagle Scout Service. The local council action on the use of alternate merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank does not require National Council approval.**

*In order for a Venturer to be an Eagle Scout candidate, he must have achieved the First Class rank as a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout.



GUIDELINES FOR ADVANCEMENT TO EAGLE SCOUT RANK FOR SCOUTS WITH DISABILITIES



1. The Eagle Scout rank may be achieved by a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or qualified* Venturer who has a physical or mental disability by qualifying for alternate merit badges. This does not apply to individual requirements for merit badges. Merit badges are awarded only when all requirements are met as stated.
2. The physical or mental disability must be of a permanent rather than a temporary nature.
3. A clear and concise medical statement concerning the Scout's disabilities must be made by a physician licensed to practice medicine, or an evaluation statement must be certified by an educational administrator.
4. The candidate must earn as many of the required merit badges as his ability permits before applying for an alternate Eagle Scout rank merit badge.
5. The Application for Alternate Eagle Scout Award Merit Badges must be completed prior to qualifying for alternate merit badges.
6. The alternate merit badges chosen must be of such a nature that they are as demanding of effort as the required merit badges.
7. When alternates chosen involve physical activity, they must be approved by the physician.
8. The unit leader and the board of review must explain that to attain the Eagle Scout rank a candidate is expected to do his best in developing himself to the limit of his resources.
9. The application must be approved by the council committee responsible for advancement, utilizing the expertise of professional persons involved in Scouting for the disabled.
10. The candidate's application for Eagle must be made on the Eagle Scout Rank Application, with the Application for Alternate Eagle Scout Award Merit Badges attached.

The Purpose of the Eagle Scout Award

A recipient of the Eagle Scout Award is a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or qualified* Venturer who applies the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life. He has achieved the qualities listed below because of determination and persistence through the advancement program.

- Concern for others
- Ability to help others through skills he has learned
- Ability to live and work cooperatively with others by meeting his responsibility to his patrol and troop
- Concern for self by improving his physical fitness to the limits of his physical resources
- Capacity for leadership

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APPLICATION FOR ALTERNATE EAGLE SCOUT RANK MERIT BADGES

To: The District Advancement Committee

_____ District
_____ Council

We are submitting this application in behalf of _____
_____ (Name of candidate) of Unit No. _____,
chartered to _____
and located in _____
Community State

Because of the disability (see the medical or administrative statement below),
we believe that he is physically or mentally unable to complete the requirements
for the following merit badge or badges required for the Eagle Scout rank:

Because of his excellent performance, perseverance, and Scout spirit, and
following a personal conference with him and his family, we recommend that the
following alternate merit badge or badges be assigned to him, feeling that they
will be equally challenging and useful, but within his capability:

Date _____

Signed _____
Unit leader

Signed _____
Unit committee chair

Parent Statement

In view of the medical or administrative statement (below), and following a
conference with _____'s Scouting leaders,
we approve the alternate method of application for Eagle Scout rank merit
badges and the merit badges recommended as alternates.

Date _____

Signed _____
Parent or guardian

Medical or Administrative Statement

As a result of a thorough examination or testing of _____
_____ (Name of candidate) on _____,
Date

I find that he has a physical or mental disability that would prevent him from
completing the requirements for the merit badge or badges as shown above.

REASONS FOR INABILITY:

Date _____

Signed _____



District Certificate

We have reviewed the situation regarding _____

Name of candidate

and in review of the medical or administrative statement, and his excellent record in Scouting, we feel he could follow the alternate Eagle Scout rank merit badge method of achieving the Eagle Scout rank. We recommend to the council advancement committee that the merit badge or badges on the preceding page be assigned to him as alternates.

Date _____

Signed _____
District Advancement committee chairman or designee

Signed _____
District executive

Council Committee Action

The recommendations of the _____ District
in regard to alternate merit badge(s) for _____

Name of candidate

have been reviewed, and the merit badges recommended have been approved as alternate merit badges for Eagle Scout rank requirements.

Date _____

Signed _____
Council Advancement committee chairman or designee

Signed _____
Scout executive

(The local council action on the alternate merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank does not require National Council approval.)

Possible alternates for required merit badges*

CAMPING

Backpacking
Canoeing
Cooking
Rowing

COMMUNICATIONS

Cinematography
Computers
Electronics
Graphic Arts
Journalism
Photography
Public Speaking
Radio
Salesmanship

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OR LIFESAVING

Fire Safety
Motorboating
Public Health
Radio
Rowing
Safety
Traffic Safety
Wilderness Survival

PERSONAL FITNESS

Archery
Athletics
Backpacking
Canoeing
Climbing
Golf
Horsemanship
Orienteering
Pioneering
Rowing
Skating
Water Sports

SWIMMING, HIKING, OR CYCLING

Archery
Athletics
Canoeing
Motorboating
Rowing
Small-Boat Sailing
Snow Sports

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Archaeology
Energy
Fish and Wildlife Management
Forestry
Geology
Nature
Oceanography
Soil and Water Conservation
Weather

*These possible alternates are suggested to give each person involved in selecting an alternate a list to choose from that could provide **similar learning experience**. If, after a careful review of the requirements, it does not seem possible that the individual can meet the requirements of one of the suggested alternates, apply for other alternates using this form.

It is important that unit leaders use reasonable accommodation and common sense in the application of the alternate merit badge program. This plan is designed to provide advancement opportunities for Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers with disabilities.

