

Advancement News

May-June
2020

Vol. 10, No. 3

Prepared. For Life.®

Previous issues are available at <https://www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/advancement-and-awards/advancement-news/>

Publication update for May-June edition of Advancement News

All future editions of *Advancement News* will be provided on the regular schedule of six times per year, every other month. It will be published directly to the Advancement and Awards web page under the category of [Advancement News](#).

As this is a historical issue from May-June of 2020, articles that pertained to specific events which were cancelled have been deleted.

Impact of COVID-19 addressed in FAQ and Resources

Advancement issues during the COVID-19 crisis, including those for Eagle Scouts, are addressed in this FAQ, <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

Additional resources for Scouts and Scout families may be found at www.scouting.org/scoutingathome/



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On Increasing Advancement

Positions of Responsibility: The Patrol Leader

The essence of Baden-Powell's Scouting is the patrol method.

This being the case, perhaps the most important leadership role in Scouting is the patrol leader.

For most youth, being elected as patrol leader at the age of 11, 12, or 13 is the first time in their lives they have been elected by their peers to a leadership role. It's the first time they will have key responsibility for the success, or failure, of a group. It's the first time they will represent the needs and interests of their group to a larger group, and then represent the larger group back to their group. It's the first time they will have the responsibility to look out for the welfare of others. And it's the first time they will understand what it means to be a servant leader.

A wise Scouting leader knows that the best way to learn leadership is having frequent opportunities when you are young to practice being a leader. This leadership "practice" as a patrol leader allows a Scout to learn from things that go well, and also learn from their mistakes, as they take on other leadership roles in Scouting and in life.

Not only does the role of patrol leader help a Scout advance along their own Trail to Eagle by meeting requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle, the successful patrol leader ensures the Scouts in the patrol have opportunities to complete requirements for all ranks. The successful patrol leader does this by encouraging the members of the patrol and by planning activities that lead to advancement.

Baden-Powell wrote and spoke extensively about the importance of the patrol and the patrol leader.

"It is the patrol system that makes the troop, and all Scouting for that matter, a real co-operative matter."

"The object of the patrol method is not so much saving the Scoutmaster trouble as to give responsibility to the boy."

"The patrol system leads each boy to see that he has some individual responsibility for the good of his patrol."

"The more responsibility the Scoutmaster gives his patrol leaders, the more they will respond."

By the way, B-P did not just write about these things for boys. In *Scouting for Girls* he wrote: "If she is to be equally efficient with her brother for work in the world, a girl must be given equal chances with him; equal chances for picking up character and skill, discipline and bodily health, and equal chances for using these when she has got them."

The best part is, this really works! There are countless examples of leaders who credit their leadership success as beginning with the practical leadership they learned in Scouting. Distinguished Eagle Scout and former United States Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson, has said: "I know of no other organization in the world that teaches values-based servant leadership except the Boy Scouts of America. It's where I learned mine."

From the *Guide to Advancement*

Advancement in Summer Camp Settings

Overview

“Camp is the Scout’s paradise and the Scoutmaster’s opportunity.” This is paraphrased from the writings of Scouting’s founder, Robert Baden-Powell.

September through May, Scouts gain new skills and knowledge. They advance in rank and capture more new learning through the merit badge program. This all comes together when they go to summer camp.

Summer camp is a highlight of our Scouting year. The *Troop Leader Guidebook* affirms this: Scouts will “take part in activities that are rarely available on weekend outings...and they can do all this while spending a week hanging out with their best friends.”

Using the guidebook’s advice, astute troop volunteers choose a camp based on multiple factors including “a strong new-Scout program (and) an array of fun [outdoor-oriented] merit badges.” Because the guidebook notes that out-of-council camps can be explored too, each home council will possibly compete with neighboring councils’ camps.

The wise council combines the thinking and efforts of their advancement committee, camp program committee, and executive board, plus the camp director, and their strongest ally, the camp’s program director. The goal of this multifaceted partnership is—the *Guide To Advancement* informs us—to offer “a quality merit badge program operated according to the policies, procedures, and best practices” described in Section 7: “The Merit Badge Program,” with specific attention to Topic 7.0.3.2: “Group Instruction” (see below).

Some Practical Considerations for the Early Scout Ranks

Most camps today offer a “Trail to First Class” or other program areas specifically for first-time campers, to help them complete camp-appropriate Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class requirements. The “camp-appropriate” aspect is critical. For instance, “prepare for and build a fire, then extinguish it” makes perfect sense at summer camp, while “earning and saving money” and “develop an emergency action plan for your home” do not.

Group learning sessions are effective when the instructing staff is clear—and makes it clear—that each individual Scout will do, explain, build, demonstrate, and report on every requirement that includes this language. Emphasis on this staff instructional policy assures Scoutmasters, Scouts, and Scouts’ parents that “listen to a lecture on...” is never substituted for hands-on, individually explored and described requirements.

Most rank requirements expect the Scout to be signed-off by his own patrol leader, another troop youth leader, or his or her own Scoutmaster; consequently, these leaders should always be offered this opportunity. Should they defer, it’s completely proper for camp staffers to sign-off completions; however, when staffers do this, tangible evidence of the sign-off, such as a staffer’s legible signature, is critical.

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Some Practical Considerations for Merit Badges

At summer camp, on day one the camp director must have a process in place to secure and protect the “blue cards” Scouts bring to camp, together with having a process for returning these cards at the end of each Scout’s camping period.

Before the first camper arrives, all camp staff responsible for signing off on merit badge requirements and completions must be duly registered as counselors. Meanwhile, all subject matter instructors must demonstrate competence in their areas.

A published procedure for any merit badge with requirements that need completion before camp in order to complete the balance at camp is needed well in advance of the camping season.

Likewise, a published process for returning “blue cards” for merit badges that aren’t entirely completed (often called “partials”) must be in place well before the camp season.

Final Thoughts

Each camp must assure that no requirement for any rank or merit badge will ever be altered in any way, for any reason.

Some camps with superb merit badge programs may be unfairly labeled as “just show up and get the badge” camps or “merit badge mills.” Unfortunately, some camps deserve these monikers, especially those offering merit badges that cannot possibly be completed at camp without ‘winking’ at requirement deviations. The fact is that there are fully forty-six different merit badges perfect for a summer camp setting, depending on a camp’s facilities.

Although “partial” completions at camp are acceptable right up to a Scout’s 18th birthday, trouble can arise when a home Scoutmaster or counselor decides that a partial has somehow “expired” after six months or a

Partial merit Badges

All partials, regardless of where or with whom accomplished, are valid until age 18.

year. Sharp council advancement and training teams can – and should – head off these situations. That said, when each teaching-and-signing camp staffer provides a legible record of requirements completed, with his or her own name and contact information for verification if needed, the home counselor and Scout will not be faced with trying to decipher smudges, and Scouts will receive full value for their experience.

COVID-19 FAQ

Be sure to review the COVID fact sheet for updates on specific advancement modifications.

Additional Note:

Merit Badge requirement updates from *2020 Scouts BSA Requirements* (33216). Changes include complete revisions of American Business and Reading. Additional changes have been made to 16 others.

A list of the Merit Badges is available at the [Merit Badge](#) web page of Scouting.org.

Cub Scouts BSA



It is All About “Do Your Best”

The National Cub Scouting Subcommittee is typically focused on the future, what improvements can be made to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our families currently in the program. With the COVID-19 outbreak, we have had to pivot and help families complete the program year and youth to finish their quest to earn their rank badge.

The Cub Scout motto is **Do Your Best**. If youth have not completed their adventures to rank, reach out and see how you can help. Provide them with a short to-do list, point them to the necessary resources, and encourage them to finish. If they try, or if they get close but do not finish everything to the exact letter, remember the Cub Scout motto. These kids did their best and barriers existed that they had not foreseen. They should not be held accountable for something that was out of their control. They will always remember the kind gesture of their den leader and that they received their badge of rank.

In this era of COVID-19, here are a few things to help ensure that all our Cub Scouts complete their adventures and are enthusiastic for the next program year:

- Many councils and units have created digital den meetings. Many are posted on social media sites like Facebook and Instagram. The *Bryan on Scouting* blog has also posted a number of articles on hosting digital den meetings. These resources and more can be found on the [Commissioners Program Support Resources](#) page. And they are at the very top, so you do not have to search!
- If a unit is using Scoutbook, parents should be encouraged to download the mobile [Scouting app](#). It is available for both iPhones and Android. The Scouting app pulls advancement data directly from Scoutbook so parents (especially those who may not be leaders and therefore do not have access to Scoutbook) can see what their child needs to finish up. *Please note that this is not the Den Leader Experience app. This app is designed for the viewing of advancement, not on how to complete the adventure in a den setting.*
- Cub Scouts may continue to work on their current den’s advancement through July 31, 2020. This is to provide any additional time a Cub Scouts may need to complete their badge of rank. When they earn their badge of rank prior to July 31, 2020, they receive their badge and advance to the next rank.
- In addition, parents and other adults in the Cub Scout’s family, may sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements. We strongly encourage that parents use the Scouting App or Scoutbook to record completion of their child’s requirements.

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- For those youth trying to complete their Arrow of Light:
 - ⇒ The **Outdoor Adventure** does not require an overnight camping experience. Option A requires setting up a tent, but it does not require staying overnight. Option B requires an outdoor activity. You may complete either option with your family.
 - ⇒ For the **Scouting Adventure**, a troop meeting may be attended online. You can practice the patrol method with a virtual den meeting and function as a patrol. Elect a patrol leader, pick a patrol, and play a virtual game together. Be creative and “Do Your Best.”

Our job as adult volunteer leaders is to ensure that the youth in a program have fun and learn something along the way. We must also remember that these kids are young and do not fully comprehend why they must do everything to an adult’s exacting measures to be awarded. That is why the Cub Scout motto is **Do Your Best**. We are measuring the effort.

2021-2022 Cub Scout Program Development

In anticipation of the Cub Scout handbooks being updated for the 2021-2022 program year all elements, adventures and awards, of the program are being reviewed. Three awards have already been sunset by the Program Development committee, effective 12/31/20: National Den Award, Scout Strong, and Conservation Good Turn.

To better serve our families, we need to know what they are thinking. Since November, each time the Preview Adventure “Protect Yourself Rules” is completed, a link to a survey seeking feedback is sent. The information gathered has been invaluable not only to the BSA but also to the Barbara Sinatra Children’s Center, who are the creators of the video series and youth protection experts.

In April we launched our Adventures Feedback survey. We are asking parents and den leaders to tell us how they feel about each Adventure and the associated requirements. This feedback will help guide us as we review required and elective Adventures. The survey will be ongoing, a continuing effort to hear from our program users.

And finally, we also launched our Awards and More Survey to a random sampling of Cub Scout families. Data being gathered is wide ranging: from when den meetings are held in the summer, if at all, to den flag usage. Volunteers are asked about each award currently used by the Cub Scout program. We also want to know how they feel about the current recognition regalia.

Decisions made about potential updates to the Cub Scout program will be based on the answers in these surveys in addition to other data. We need to know what families currently in the program are doing and how they feel about what we offer so that our program continuously improves to fit their needs.

Scouts BSA

The Importance of Service Projects



Just what is a service project and why are service projects important to our Scouting mission? One of our aims in Scouting is to help our young people become good citizens. One of the ways that we do this is through service projects. Being of service to others is a tenet of many religions. Thus, in our Oath we pledge to do our duty to “God and my country.” A Scout is Helpful! It is within the Scout Law. A service project is really just Scouts being helpful as a group. This is why service projects are required for every rank advancement. In fact, the Eagle Scout service project is the cornerstone of the requirements for Eagle.

A Scout helping a “little old lady” across the street is the icon of a Scout being helpful. More than one Scout helping her would be redundant so there’s no opportunity for a service project there. But that same “little old lady” may be a neighbor, and she may need help cleaning up her yard after a storm. She and some of her neighbors may need help with a meal at the local soup kitchen, that’s a service project. And what about at church, in the fall, are there leaves to be raked or in the winter is there snow to be shoveled? How about up and down the streets where we live, do we know people who need help? Could a patrol or troop of Scouts brighten a neighborhood? And don’t forget our older citizens living in the retirement communities. How could our Scouts help them?

When deciding what service project to engage in, be sure that the Scouts are taking the lead in making the decisions and doing the planning. If we’re going to respond to snow by shoveling, we need to do our planning before the flakes fall and be ready to jump into action the minute that last flake has fallen. Perhaps a visit with the head of the chartered organization will give them ideas about what the community needs are; or expanding their horizons a bit, a visit to the local extension office might give them ideas about what conservation projects might serve the community.

If we let our youth plan and execute their service projects, they will become better citizens. Going through this process will not only teach our youth about planning but also a great deal about the needs of their communities – and the resources available to meet those needs. They will remain in Scouting longer giving us greater opportunities to achieve our goals. Now isn’t that what we’re all about.

About *Advancement News*

Advancement News is the official e-letter of the Boy Scouts of America National Advancement Program Team. Its intent is to provide and clarify procedures found in the *Guide to Advancement*, announce various changes and updates in advancement, and to assist advancement committees in making decisions that can help increase the rate of advancement. Therefore, districts and councils may reprint articles from this publication. Our plan is to distribute six issues of *Advancement News* annually, but special editions may go out whenever there is important information to share. Feedback, suggestions, and letters to the editor are welcome at

advancement.team@scouting.org.

Eagle, Summit, Quartermaster Highlights:

A Closer Look at Eagle Scout Service Project Beneficiaries

A prime place to start looking for an answer to a question about beneficiaries is the *Guide to Advancement*. GTA Section 9.0.2.5 describes the breadth of BSA's definition of "helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community." While most Scouts look close to home, BSA recognizes that in a world of instant communications and speedy travel, Scouts may look globally to help. Exploring a few completed projects will provide some insight to demonstrate some of the many possible beneficiaries.

Some Scouts benefit their unit sponsor. One Scout chose to landscape the area around a religious statue outside his house of worship that also was the chartered organization for his unit. He turned the area from an overgrown, bedraggled eyesore to a peaceful place of reflection. Elsewhere, another researched a possible Civil War site on the grounds of his unit's sponsor, an American Legion post, and led a restoration of the area.

Because they are a part of their daily lives, Scouts love helping their schools. A Scout turned an overgrown interior courtyard at his former elementary school into an outdoor classroom by building benches and tables. In another case, a Scout's project led to a theatrical set for the school, including lighting and holders for multiple scenes.

Local parks and community associations benefit from Eagle projects. One Scout installed a new welcome sign and upgraded landscaping at the town's main entrance, while another helped a local nature center revive their caterpillar population by replacing a milkweed garden. A neglected cemetery benefitted from a Scout who removed overgrown brush, cleaned the gravestones and installed fencing. Scouts with an interest in STEM and conservation have led a project that meets the requirements of both, choosing to replace invasive species with native plants or leading erosion control in a local watershed.

Non-profits get help too. A Life Scout recently led volunteers in recruiting donations of animal supplies for a local animal shelter. Another organized escorts for World War II veterans visiting a nearby memorial, recording interviews with the veterans about their experiences during the war for the association maintaining the memorial.

Under the proper conditions, a Scout may conduct a project at a for-profit facility. A "for profit" organization cannot use a Scout's project to make money (i.e., charging for tickets, fees to access the playground). One Scout organized a variety show for the residents of a for-profit senior living center. The no-cost show was for the residents who were the beneficiaries and really enjoyed the entertainment!

As with all projects, Scouts must follow BSA procedures with the use of appropriate fundraising, if needed, for required supplies used to conduct the project. See *Guide to Advancement*, Section 9.0.2.10, "Fundraising Issues."

Some Scouts take a broader view of the world. One Scout visited a Romanian orphanage during a mission trip with his family. Noticing the lack of a library, after returning home he recruited volunteers to collect books and went back the following year to build shelves. Another Scout led a team that collected, cleaned, and sorted eyeglasses for distribution in third-world countries. With international projects, Safe Scouting still applies and assessing risk overseas can be a challenge, but one a determined Scout can often overcome.

Merit Badges

Merit Badges on the Cutting Edge

Have you ever heard an adult who was a Scout say that a merit badge provided them with a life changing experience? Very often, looking back as adults, they will be surprised to find out how right they were!

Perhaps that individual selected a vocational interest to pursue because of a merit badge. Or it could be that that person found a hobby or avocational interest to follow because of another merit badge. It's true the BSA merit badges involve countless professions and avocations and often influence a Scout's vocational pursuits. Merit Badges truly do provide Scouts with an opportunity for life changing experiences.

The merit badge program is one of BSA's most historic and iconic programs, with the first merit badges awarded 1911. With untold subject matter changes since the early days of Scouting, the BSA's merit badge program has evolved. New merit badges have been introduced, merit badge requirements have changed, and the content of the merit badge materials has been updated.

Who does this vital task? That is the job of the National Merit Badge Subcommittee. The Merit Badge Subcommittee's team of about 150 BSA volunteers reviews and, as necessary, updates more than 135 merit badges. In fact, every merit badge is reviewed every two years to ensure the merit badges remain "cutting edge." No small task.

Each review process starts with a volunteer subject matter expert assigned to the merit badge. Some of the subject matter experts are university professors, some are experienced professionals, some are skilled artisans, and some are experienced in the avocational area covered in the merit badge.

Once reviewed, if the subject matter expert proposes changes to the requirements and/or content of the merit badges' pamphlet, a leadership team of the Merit Badge Subcommittee reviews the proposed changes. Proposed content changes are edited by a member of the Committee, another talented BSA volunteer. That team's editor not only edits for grammar and clarity but age-appropriate information. Since the merit badge program's "customer" is a Scout typically between the ages of 12 and 15, the editor must strike a fine balance between offering cutting edge, often complex technical information and ensuring the material can be understood easily by a middle or high school student. The team's editor, leadership team, and experts work closely to hit that balance in every merit badge before making their final recommendations.

Because the BSA takes merit badge requirements very seriously, all changes to requirements are reviewed and approved by three national committees. Great care is taken to ensure that any Scout has a fair opportunity to satisfy all merit badge requirements with the information provided in or referred to by the material of the merit badge pamphlet. In this way, the merit badge requirements and content must be carefully coordinated and uniformly applied across the BSA.

The products of this large and diverse team are exciting and challenging merit badges that can positively impact the lives of the Scouts. Cutting edge merit badges are just one more way the BSA is changing the lives of America's youth.

Special Needs Interests

Evaluation of Physical Fitness Requirements

In many cases, it will be impossible for a Scout with a physical disability to do certain kinds of exercises that are outlined in advancement requirements. Scout leaders will need to investigate alternative requirements and seek approval. Those requirements chosen should still be a physical activity. If the Scout works with an occupational or physical therapist, ask questions. One suggestion is to try to use exercises that the Scout already needs to do for therapeutic purposes. In most cases a Scout with special needs will benefit from the discipline and activity of exercise, and the Scout can certainly show improvement as certain physical fitness requirements ask.

Review the *Guide to Advancement*, Section 10 for information on accommodations to facilitate advancement.



Sea Scouts BSA

“Landship” Used by Sea Scouts for Bridge of Honor

In Scouts BSA, youth are awarded their ranks in a court of honor. It’s the same concept in Sea Scouts, but it is called a bridge of honor. The ceremony is similar to a court of honor, in that leaders talk about accomplishments, Sea Scouts talk about accomplishments and goals, and there is a Skipper’s Minute at the end. The reason is that most Sea Scout customs are patterned after the U.S. Navy. The Navy sailors live in a dorm called a ship. Sea Scouts meet in a unit called a ship. The boatswain is an important part of making the Navy’s ships run efficiently; the boatswain is an officer in Sea Scouts, just like the senior patrol leader in Scouts BSA.

Sea Scouts generally receive their ranks and awards on land – there seldom being room for families and guests aboard their craft. Sea Scouts try to make the ceremony as nautical as possible. One such way is to form a “landship.”



Most Sea Scout ships have rope and mini-poles in storage for their bridge of honor. The rope comes to a point in the front, or bow, of the landship. Then the rope forms sides that look like a sea vessel, and come to a flat end on the back, or stern.

Participants enter the landship by saluting the landship’s mast and then saluting the

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flag at the stern. This is the reverse of how a U.S. Naval vessel is formally boarded. In Sea Scouts we salute the mast first to represent our duty to God, and then the flag as our duty to country. Participants do the opposite when leaving the landship after the ceremony is over – leave the area by saluting the flag and then saluting the mast.



During the ceremony, youth, leaders, parents, and friends can sit in seating however it is set up. (Even ashore, not everyone may be able to fit on board the “landship”.)

Hopefully, you may be invited to attend a bridge of honor in your area one day. When you do, even if it is your first, you should now “know the ropes” well enough to enjoy and just do what the person in front of you does, until you get the hang of it.

Worth Repeating

From On Increasing Advancement

Support for the Outdoor Program

(May, 2012)

Lord Baden-Powell’s first campout on Brownsea Island, the outdoors has been an important part of Scouting. Fun things happen on campouts, and they can be a place where advancement occurs. Thus, district and council advancement committees have a responsibility to provide a level of support (see *Guide to Advancement* topics 3.0.0.1, No. 6, and 3.0.0.2, No. 6). How can we make this happen?

Let’s say the district or the council is planning a camporee. Proactive involvement from the advancement committee in assisting with the planning of the event can assure the activities held include advancement opportunities. The committee can also facilitate the implementation of the four steps in Scout advancement.

For example, planning could include advance notice to unit leadership on how to prepare their Scouts for the event (a Scout learns). At the camporee, careful planning will have the Scouts demonstrating what they have learned (a Scout is tested). If we’re really proactive, we might plan a special ceremony to recognize advancement at the camporee (a Scout is recognized). What else might we do?

Encourage troops to hold boards of review and courts of honor at summer camp. A court of honor in the woods at night with a campfire burning brightly in the background will be a memory Scouts will tell their children and grandchildren.

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- Visit roundtables to communicate and encourage advancement opportunities in outdoor programs.
- Ask the camping committee and the camp staff to collect reports of rank advancement at camp and forward them to the advancement committee.
- Be proactive in working with the camping committee to make sure appropriate advancement opportunities are available at Cub Scout day camp, resident camp, and other outdoor activities such as Cub Scout parent weekends and Webelos Scout camp.
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- Make sure packs understand the advancement opportunities available for Cub Scouts at camp. Again, roundtables are a good place to foster this understanding.
- Be proactive in making sure merit badge experts are available to enhance the program at summer camp. Having local experts visit camp during the week will enrich the experience.
- Get involved in the planning and promotion of Venturing and Sea Scouting outdoor program events. Make sure crew officers and advisors understand how these events and advancement can connect.
- The ideas concerning involvement with camporees also apply to the winter Klondike derbies and other similar events. Be actively involved in the planning and promotion of these activities so that advancement will be a natural part of them and units will be fully aware of the resources available.

All of these activities will make the outdoor programs more meaningful for the youth, and they will remain in Scouting longer. This gives us more opportunities to influence their character, citizenship, and fitness – isn't that what we're all about?

Editor's Note

This article was written before girls were introduced into Scouting programs. Therefore, minor modifications to the original article have been made to reflect gender references. The terminology ScoutsBSA has been substituted for all references to that program level.



Helpful Links -

Here are some links to the most current materials of interest for Scouters who are involved in the administration of advancement. These and many more resources are available via the **Advancement Resources** web page at www.scouting.org/advancement.

General Resources

- Guide to Advancement 2019, No. 33088
- Advancement Educational Presentations (see list below)
- Advancement News
- Abilities digest
- Advancement Report, No. 34403
- Building Effective Advancement Committees, No. 510-756
- Eagle Scout Challenge, No. 542-900
- Friendstorming on Tour, No. 510-003
- Lone Scout Friend and Counselor Guidebook, No. 511-420
- On Increasing Advancement, No. 512-047
- Recommendations for Regional and Area Volunteers Supporting the Advancement program, No. 512-048
- Troop Resource Survey, No. 512-940
- Guide to Awards and Insignia, No. 33066
- Venturing Board of Review Guide, No. 512-940

Advancement Educational Presentations:

- Introduction to the *Guide to Advancement*
- Today's Advancement
- Cub Scout Advancement Delivering Adventure
- Developing Council and District Advancement Committees
- The Eagle Scout Service Project Coach
- The Eagle Scout Service Project
- Effective Troop Advancement
- Essentials in Serving Scouts with Disabilities
- The Essentials of Merit Badge Counseling
- The Merit Badge program
- Getting the most from Internet Advancement
- Including Scouts with Disabilities

Videos

- Guardian of the Gate



Additional resources include

Rank Advancement Information

(including the new 2019 Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, 2019 Scouts BSA Rank Requirements, and various applications)

Merit Badge Counselor information

(including A Guide for Merit Badge Counseling, Merit Badge Group Instruction Guide and Merit Badge List)