

Advancement News

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Prepared. For Life.®

As programs and opportunities modify over time, your friends at *Advancement News* will continue to be here to share these changes with you and offer insights. *Advancement News* will be uploaded directly to the [Advancement Resources](#) page of Scouting.org. Each bi-monthly edition will be found at the [Advancement News](#) page. Since advancement evolves and occasionally changes, please note that the most current information found in *Advancement News* and the online version of [Guide to Advancement](#) supersedes previous versions.

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From the *Guide to Advancement*

***Guide to Advancement* Ten-Year Anniversary Edition in the Works**

By Christopher Hunt, National Director of Advancement, Ret.

First published in 2011 and revised four times in the alternate years since, the “GTA,” as we affectionately call it, will soon celebrate its tenth anniversary. Love it or hate it, the guide has been hailed as one of the most valuable booklets of its kind. It’s my job to give you the “inside view” on the revision process and to tantalize you with a few of the changes we’ve been working on.

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Who is involved?

There are five of us on the sixth edition task force: One is a metropolitan council commissioner, two were members of the National Advancement Team, and two are associated with the National Scouts BSA Committee and were members of the now retired National Advancement Committee. Four of us served in creating the original 2011 edition—either as writer or an editing reviewer. Two of us live in Texas, one in Montana, one in Colorado, and one in Nevada. We're all volunteers, but more importantly, we each have a distinctly different perspective.

What significant changes are expected?

Topic 4.0.0.1 reworded to point to the BSA advancement websites related to each program, as the official sources for requirements (for example, www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards, for Scouts BSA).

Section 6 updated to more accurately reflect the role and importance of Scoutbook.

Section 7 reorganized, with new topics added and several rewritten to present a more realistic approach to blue cards and merit badge counselor approval, while still promoting program integrity, youth protection, and BSA methods implementation.

Topics 9.0.4.0, 9.0.4.1, and 9.0.4.2 (new) rewritten or added to in order to set forth policies and procedures in the transfer of time extension authority to councils. These topics are already approved and published at www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources.

Section 10 updated, primarily to coordinate language with the guidelines that National provides to council registrars.

With the exception of the 9.0.4.0 series, the changes described above are not final until National approves and publishes them.

When will the 2021 edition be released?

That's hard to say, but we're projecting second quarter, 2021. We addressed a number of issues in 2019, then began seriously editing and rewriting this past September. We've gone at it in weekly ZOOM meetings, bearing witness, questioning, consulting, debating, negotiating, and coming to agreement. The most difficult work is finished, and according to our chair, "We can see a light at the end of the tunnel, and it's not another train!" We expect to make our submission to National in the first part of March. There it will be copy edited and returned for our final review and submission.

For reference, the 2011 first edition was two years in the making. Work began with an analysis of the pre-GTA advancement publications and a comprehensive survey of active advancement volunteers. As writing took place, the author regularly submitted rough drafts to a group of 20 representative volunteers for detailed feedback. After repeated redrafting, and achieving consensus within the group of 20, an expanded review team and two national BSA committees then went through the manuscript before copy editing, proofreading, and publication.

On Increasing Advancement

Positions of Responsibility: Why So Many Troop Leadership Positions?

In the last issue of *Advancement News* we noted the 2020 Eagle Scout Rank Application lists 15 troop leadership positions that will fulfill Requirement 4 of the Eagle Scout award. They are patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, troop guide, Order of the Arrow troop representative, den chief, scribe, librarian, historian, quartermaster, junior assistant Scoutmaster, chaplain aide, instructor, webmaster, and outdoor ethics guide.

Why are there so many? Some may say it is practical because if there were only one or two leadership positions in the troop that met the leadership requirement for Star, Life, and Eagle we would only have a few Scouts advancing. So, we must have several. But that would not be the main reason.

Someone once said “The best way to learn leadership is to have frequent opportunities when you are young to practice being a leader.” Hopefully, by now, most of us understand advancement is a method to achieve the aims of Scouting and not just something to do. Hopefully we also understand that it is best to give as many Scouts as possible the opportunity to be a leader and to have the opportunity to both succeed and fail at leading other Scouts, so we may achieve the Scouting aim of leadership.

The smart Scoutmaster, or smart leader of any team for that matter, knows it takes a variety of skill sets to make a successful team. Also, they know that every leadership position is important. Each of the leadership roles in a troop has similar and unique aspects which will add to a Scout’s leadership “toolbox” of skills. Skills which will help them in other troop leadership roles, and even more importantly, in future leadership roles in life.

The designers of the Scout advancement plan understood these concepts and the importance of giving as many Scouts as possible the opportunity to lead.

In future *Advancement News* we will discuss more of these positions of responsibility in more detail.

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

Cub Scouts



Virtual Meetings and More

When the pandemic first hit, many of our dens and packs turned to virtual meetings. Our volunteers have been amazingly creative. Who knew that a Cub Scout den could have some fun without meeting in person? A year later, virtual scouting is no longer an anomaly, it is what we do.

Many communities will allow small gatherings, getting together but with a size limit. Cub Scouts is set up to do just that. The path to advancement for Cub Scouts is about what happens in a den. Adventures are designed to be accomplished as a den or at home with the Scout's family. Pack meetings are not a required part of Cub Scouts (see [Cub Scout online training](#).) However, we should not lose sight of their purpose, or more importantly, of their value.

The key to success is to understand what the families in your den want. Poll your den and see how they want to meet: virtually, in-person outside, or a hybrid model. Listen and be respectful of each family's wishes.

Hybrid meetings seem to be a model that is working well for many dens. One meeting is held outside and the second meeting is virtual. For the outdoor portion, assign each family a window of time to meet and complete the activity. Based on the number allowed to gather in your local community, and keeping YPT rules in mind, several Cub Scouts may be able to meet together. This is also perfect for families that prefer to isolate. They can do the outdoor activity in the same spot as everyone else, but with their own time slot.

When holding a virtual den meeting, keep it simple and short. "Show and tell" works incredibly well for a virtual meeting. Kids love sharing their creations and seeing what their peers did, giving them ideas on what they might do next.

Cub Scouts is all about "Do Your Best." The goal is to give the Cub Scouts an opportunity and to have them try something. If the activity is cooking, have everyone share a video of themselves in the kitchen. An introduction to cooking is the objective. The food being edible is not the goal nor the standard for advancement.

Remember, all activities must conform to the policies of the BSA and your local council. Here is a link to the [COVID-19 FAQs](#) from National BSA.

Looking for ideas for a virtual meeting?

- Check out [Cub Chat Live Virtual Meeting Fest](#).
- Scroll through the [Cub Scout Volunteers Facebook](#) page or post a question on the site, you will not be disappointed. You will receive numerous ideas in just minutes.



Scouts BSA



Supporting Scouts on the Way to Eagle Rank

Overview

A cardinal Scouting characteristic is that no youth member is ever expected to “go it alone.” This is especially true for Scouts reaching Life rank who plan on earning Eagle rank.

The *Guide to Advancement (GTA)* specifically devotes a 12-page section (9.0.0.0) to the Eagle Scout rank. The first 10 sub-segments deal with the application process; the service project for Eagle has 16 sub-segments. In the first segment set of 10, the *GTA* discusses the seven Eagle requirements, the required approvals and signatures, when and how the council service center becomes involved, and the roles of the BSA national office and National Advancement Team. The second set of 16 is devoted to the Eagle Scout Service Project, including all aspects a Scout needs to know before and while carrying out the project. Also covered, are the roles of the Eagle Scout Service Project Coach and the Eagle Mentor (or Advisor—the unit may choose either title).

In addition, Scouts aiming for Eagle rank are encouraged and supported by their Scoutmaster and the unit’s committee, primarily the designated advancement coordinator.

The Eagle Scout Service Project Coach

This position (GTA, Section 9.0.2.9) requires [BSA registration](#). Some councils and districts prefer to appoint this position; others use the services of each unit’s committee members. This volunteer position activates when the Scout’s service project proposal is approved by the project beneficiary, his or her Scoutmaster (or “unit leader”), unit committee representative, and the district or council. This is a “coaching-mentoring-support-resource” role. It specifically excludes both “approving” and “decision-making.” Once the project is underway, the Scout makes all decisions through completion.

The Eagle Scout Service Project Coach's work ends with the approval of the Scout’s final project report.

The Eagle Scout Mentor (or Advisor)

The Eagle Scout mentor is a registered volunteer who operates at the unit level. This important position, which is not intended to be another aspect of either a Scoutmaster’s or Assistant Scoutmaster’s responsibilities, initiates as soon as a Scout has successfully completed the Life rank board of review and continues through to the Eagle Scout board of review. Like Eagle Scout Service Project Coach, this is not a ‘decision’ or ‘approval’ position. Its purpose is to provide close-to-home support and guidance to Scouts through their entire Life-to-Eagle rank process. In addition to the main role of providing support, encouragement, and guidance to Scout, the Eagle Scout Mentor may also establish cooperative working relationships with the Scoutmaster, unit advancement coordinator, unit committee, service project beneficiary, Eagle Scout Service Project Coach, the district or council advancement committee, and the local council’s service center personnel who manage Eagle Scout rank applications. The Eagle Scout Mentor is a registered volunteer.

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The Eagle Scout Mentor Pin

This special pin is for nonuniform wear. The “Eagle Scout Mentor” pin is expressly for Eagle Scouts to present to his or her “non-parent [there may be more than one] who was “instrumental in the Scout earning the rank of Eagle Scout” (*Guide to Awards and Insignia*, p.34). Although the pin states “Eagle Scout Mentor” the *Guide to Awards and Insignia* designation is “Eagle Mentor pin” (No. 14123/27). Parents/Guardians may receive the Eagle Scout pins specifically designed for them.



The Scoutmaster

This is a significant individual for every Scout. The Scoutmaster (or unit leader) meets with each Scout at least once between ranks and often much more frequently at a “Scoutmaster conference,” which is a requirement so that the key adult knows all Scouts personally. Through these conferences and other conversations, the Scoutmaster advises, guides, answers questions, teaches (as a “guide-on-the-side”), and assures that the Scout feels safe and comfortable in both the patrol and troop settings. The Scoutmaster regularly keeps in touch with each Scout’s advancement and is aware of all merit badges sought and earned by the Scouts. A Scoutmaster may introduce the Scout to the board of review members and sometimes is a silent observer at these reviews.

Guide To Advancement, Topic 8.0.1.0
The unit leader may remain in the room, but only to observe, not to participate unless called upon.”

The Unit Advancement Coordinator

This position, invariably filled by a member of the unit committee and frequently called its “Advancement Chair” is not an “approval”-oriented position but is one of precise record-keeping and active coordination between the Scoutmaster and the unit committee on which he or she serves. The advancement coordinator—or “AC”—keeps the individual advancement records of all youth in the unit, including both rank completions and merit badges earned. When Scouts return the “unit” segment of the merit badge application (aka “blue card”) to their Scoutmaster for final signature and recording in their records, the AC receives that segment, records it, and preserves it while the Scout and the merit badge counselor each retains their own segments of this three-part card.

When all Eagle Scout rank requirements—including all needed merit badges and the service project—are completed, the Scoutmaster and the unit’s committee chair sign the rank application, signifying that the Scout is ready to move on to a board of review. The AC manages the application and any accompanying documents, first copying and safekeeping them, and then submitting the originals to the council service center, in accordance with council practice. (Note: The unit’s “blue card” segments are not required in the application process

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unless the local council finds a discrepancy.) The council service center will forward all necessary documents to the BSA National Advancement Team. As for the Scout's references, it often falls to the AC to contact each one and request a recommendation from them. Meanwhile, according to the council's preferred method of carrying it out, the board of review will be gathered, scheduled, and convened.

Review the *Guide to Advancement*, Section 9 for details on completing the application for Eagle Scout Rank and submission processes. Note that revisions to this section will be included in the 2021 edition of *Guide to Advancement*, as referenced earlier in this edition of *Advancement News*.

A Final Word

No GTA section or volunteer role described here has the intent of "producing" Eagle Scouts. We are here to support and encourage the personal initiatives of individual young people as they move through the Scouting program and achieve—of their own volition—Scouting's highest rank. Scouting's steadfast aim is to help young people become responsible, service-minded citizens, strong of mind and body, capable of moral and ethical decisions throughout their lives.

SCOUTBOOK REMOVED UNREGISTERED MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS ON FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Merit Badges

Merit Badge Counselors – Registration Status

For years, BSA policy has been that all leaders, including merit badge counselors (MBCs), be registered and that their registration be entered into ScoutNET. To be registered, all MBCs must be current in Youth Protection Training (YPT) and deliver a signed criminal background check authorization (CBC) to their council. In order to further implement these policies, in the fall of 2020, Scoutbook was updated so that MBCs would be imported directly from ScoutNET. At this time, units were no longer able to add MBCs to their unit rosters.

Councils were notified that, as of February 1, 2021, all MBCs must be registered in ScoutNET and that the merit badges that the MBCs counsel must be listed either in ScoutNET or uploaded to Scoutbook by a council administrative person.

Accordingly, on February 1, 2021, the BSA removed any remaining unregistered MBCs from Scoutbook, deleted MBC connections with any Scouts they are counseling, and removed the ability of units to change which merit badges are approved for MBCs. For MBCs that were registered in ScoutNET but had merit badges that were **not** in ScoutNET, or in the last MBC list uploaded to Scoutbook by the council, those merit badges were removed from their records in Scoutbook.

As a result, as of February 1, the only remaining MBC positions in Scoutbook are those that have come in via

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ScoutNET (council registration,) AND their approved merit badge listing will also come in via ScoutNET or a council upload. Merit badges and requirements previously approved by removed MBCs will remain. **Note:** Until the 2021 registration process is completed, this will not affect MBCs whose registration expired on 12/31/2020 and are waiting for council rechartering.

Anyone with a MBC position on a troop roster, has had their MBC ended on the Scoutbook troop roster. **Note:** Merit Badge Counselors coming in from ScoutNET will show up in the Merit Badge Counselor search function but will not show up in unit rosters as merit badge counselors. **Registered** MBCs will appear in the MBC search and the individual MBC can see their position in their My Positions page. Information for units on how to find merit badge counselors in Scoutbook is at: <https://help.scoutbook.scouting.org/.../where-can-i-find.../> Follow this link for more information. <https://help.scoutbook.scouting.org/.../merit-badge.../> Council Advancement Committees should inform District Advancement Committee members of these changes, so they, in turn, can inform unit leaders of these changes. Unit leaders must use the Scoutbook Merit Badge Counselor search function to find MBCs going forward. Unit leaders also should check their former list of unit MBCs against the current Scoutbook list, and ask MBCs who were deleted from Scoutbook to register and have the council upload their merit badges so they can continue to counsel Scouts in their unit.

Required or Elective – Which Are the Most Important?

Occasionally we will hear Scouters say they require and expect more from a Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer who is working on one of the merit badges on the list of those required for the Eagle Scout rank than on the other badges. For example, they may say the Scout should be more serious about the required merit badge, or that the Scout needs to provide more detail to earn that silver-bordered badge.

Are merit badges required for Eagle more important than elective merit badges? Should we expect more of a Scout when they are working on a required merit badge. The answer to both questions is a resounding **NO!**

The [Guide for Merit Badge Counseling](#) does not differentiate between required and optional merit badges. It says, about *all* merit badges: “The Scout is expected to meet the requirements as stated - no more and no less. Furthermore, the Scout is to do exactly what is stated.” It goes on to emphasize that “...you cannot require more of a Scout than stated. You must not, for example, say, ‘I want to be sure you really know your stuff, so instead of the 20 items in your collection, you must collect 50 to get my signature.’ You can suggest, encourage, and help the Scout to get 50 things, but you must not require it.”

Please remember, no more, no less – regardless of which merit badge the Scout or Venturer is working on.



Dr. George J Fisher, was deputy Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America from 1919 to 1943.

So, if all merit badges should be treated equally, why are some required? For that answer, let’s go back to Dr. George J. Fisher, who was instrumental in the original design of the advancement program.

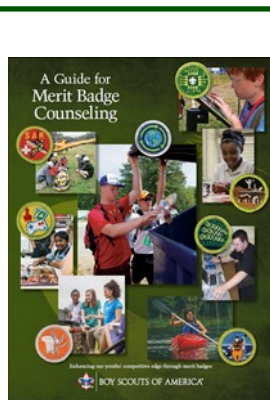
In those early days of Scouting Dr. Fisher spoke during a course titled *Principles of Scoutmastership* about the intended outcomes of Scout advancement and merit badges. He said that when a Scout goes out for

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the (Star, Life, or Eagle) rank he is required to do certain things. He mentioned the chief business of the boy is to grow, and Scouting offers a group of merit badge projects related to life, growth, organic vigor, and physical fitness which **every** Scout should earn. These have character values and civic service values. For Life Scout, for example, at least five of the 10 projects [merit badges] are required because there are certain factors which Scouting believes are fundamental to a life career, such as physical development, personal health, public health; and related to these are lifesaving and first aid. He added: "These are projects which have indirect vocational values because health is essential to any vocation."

However, Dr. Fisher went on to say: "We have so developed the program that the required subjects go hand in hand with the electives, so as to include what the boy wants as well as what we think he needs. This interplay should be maintained for we are dealing fundamentally with boys rather than subjects."

Many, many Scouts have found a future hobby or vocation as a result of the merit badge program. Is a required merit badge more important to the Scout who became a U.S. Navy aviator because of an interest sparked by earning the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge or to the one whose dreams of flying developed while earning the Aviation merit badge? No, they are all equally important and every merit badge should be counseled with the same care as any other merit badge.



[A Guide for Merit Badge Counseling](#), page 4

"The Scout is expected to meet the requirements as stated - no more and no less. Furthermore, the Scout is to do exactly what is stated."

Examples abound; a Scout who has a life-long hobby of fishing because of the fishing merit badge? Or was a required merit badge more important in the life of Steven Spielberg who told us at the 1989 National Jamboree that his career started with earning the photography merit badge?

No more, no less.

You never know which merit badge, required or elective, will be most important in the life of a Scout.



Sea Scouts

A Sea Scouts Primer



So, you say you want to know more about Sea Scouts?

What is it? Does it have the same advancements as Scouts BSA?

Sea Scouts was formed in 1912 and has been looking at the Scouting horizon since then. It is one of the high-adventure branches of the Boy Scouts of America, with its own uniform and advancement trail.

If you want to look at what there is to offer, the Sea Scout brass have made it easy. You can look at what is available for yourself. While on the home page at seascout.org, click on the upper ribbon on the right part of the page on “Resources.” There you will find an abundance of help for Sea Scouts.

For advancement, click on “Advancement Central.” There you will find advancement resources and quarter-master resources.

The highest rank in Scouts BSA is the Eagle; the highest rank in Sea Scouts is the Quartermaster. Just as the Eagle requires an Eagle Project, the Sea Scout equivalent requires a Quartermaster Project. Both have to be approved and signed off by your District Eagle Advancement Chairman.

There is a Scoutmaster conference for the Eagle rank and there is a Skipper conference for the Quartermaster. And just as there is an Eagle Board of Review, there is a Quartermaster Bridge of Review for the Sea Scout.

The levels of advancement for Sea Scouts are Apprentice, Ordinary, Able and Quartermaster.

Just as used in Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts also use advancement to teach leadership, citizenship, morals and values. The Sea Scouts have the same Scout Oath and Motto. Scouts BSA meet in a troop; Sea Scouts meet in a ship. Knots learned in Scouts BSA can be directly applied on sailboats. Many other things crossover as well, such as sailing, first aid, shooting sports, swimming, etc.

Sea Scouts can be on the ocean or inland, as many units camp overnight on their boats as well as in tents on land. Sea Scout ships [what we would call troops in Scouts BSA] not only sail on the seas, but also canoe, kayak and paddle board on lakes and rivers. It’s the same fun as Scouts BSA, with water added.

You can be a member of a ship and of a troop at the same time, as long as you meet the age requirements. Sea Scouts also can work on and earn their Eagle rank in a ship, because, after all, we’re all in the same boat.

As is said on the seascout.org page: Advancement is an important part of the Sea Scout experience. These experiences help Sea Scouts to set realistic goals to achieve rank, accomplish projects, and gain knowledge and understanding of the world around them. There are many opportunities for advancement in Sea Scouts. Included are the trails to Eagle and Quartermaster. Each of these trails is a highlight experience, but each requires the Sea Scout to set their own goals and follow through to achievement. The requirements for advancement were designed by Sea Scout youth to establish standards of performance for all Sea Scouts.

Venturing



Tiers of Adventure

In the Venturing program, there are three tiers of adventure. Each tier is designed to quantify the amount of engagement and challenge Venturers need to experience at a particular tier. Each tier focuses on the ALPS model (Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service). Tier I activities are fairly basic, but Tier II and Tier III adventures increase the use of the skills needed to plan and develop more complex adventures that a crew can experience.

Tier I Adventures require very little preparation or prior skill development. They are generally less than one day and are not far outside of one's comfort zone. Typically, these activities are simple, crew fun and easily accommodate guests. Examples could be a bowling night, trip to a local tourist attraction, going to a local climbing wall, pizza party, movie night, etc. Tier I Adventures are often stepping stones towards planning Tier II or Tier III adventures.

Tier II Adventures require some advance planning and sometimes prior skill development. They could be a one-day event but also could be multiple-day events. These are a step up from the standard activities found in Tier I. Examples of Tier II Adventures may include: the planning of a weekend camping trip, organizing a community wide talent show, or planning a weekend kayaking trip on a nearby river.

Tier III Adventures require extensive advance planning and often require much prior skill development. These adventures are at least 4 days in length and challenge Venturers mentally and physically. Tier III Adventures are often a favorite part of the program year and generally take place once or twice a year. Examples may include the planning of a 50 mile backpacking trip through a National Park, planning a New York City museum tour, or planning/organizing a contingency going to an International Scouting event or to a BSA high adventure base.

It is important to have a mix of all three types of adventure in the crew's program schedule. Having a variety of adventures ensures engagement and creates opportunities for the youth to develop their skills, planning abilities, and take responsibility for leading their own adventures. Having participated and planned various levels of Tier Adventures is also part of the advancement structure as youth members work their way towards the Summit Award.



Visit the [BSA Venturing awards and advancement pages](#) to discover more information about [Tiers of Adventure](#)

Worth Repeating

January-February 2017

Counselor's Corner

Tips for Getting Up to Speed and a Checklist for Staying There

With any volunteer position in the Boy Scouts of America, understanding exactly what the role of that position is in the bigger picture and getting the proper training for the position is critical.

For the new merit badge counselor (MBC), a good starting point is to review the "Guide for Merit Badge Counseling" available at: <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-065.pdf> This resource introduces MBCs to the merit badge process, helps them gain an understanding of their unique role in advancement, and provides them with good instructional techniques for working with Scouts.

To find out about the availability of Merit Badge Counselor Orientation training in their area, new MBCs should check their local council's website or contact their local district or council training committee. This training is of value even to seasoned MBCs, as new counseling techniques and ideas are often times rolled out in these sessions. Here is an example.

New and veteran MBCs should first ask themselves a few simple questions:

- Am I using the latest merit badge pamphlet and requirements for badge instruction? (Visit <http://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/> for current merit badge pamphlets and requirements.)
- Do I have the skills, education, and experience currently required to teach youth the subject matter of the merit badge? Furthermore, if required, as for certain badges, do I have the specialty certification or training needed to teach the badge? (Find a list of the required special qualifications or certifications in the *Guide to Advancement* (topic 7.0.1.1), accessible at www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.)
- Is my required Youth Protection Training (YPT) current? (If you are not sure, contact your local council service center to find out; or better yet, just log onto your [My.Scouting account](#) and take the convenient online YPT certification course.)

Editor's Note

Editor Note: This article referenced 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 Scouts BSA has been substituted for all references to Boy Scouts. Varsity Scouting references have been removed.

As always, refer to the *Guide to Advancement* for all current requirements.

Helpful Links

The most current materials of interest for Scouters who are involved in the administration of advancement are located in one handy place. Many resources are available via the Advancement Resources page at www.scouting.org/Advancement

Video – “Guardian of the Gate”

This inspirational video showcases experienced Scouter, Darnall Daley, reading his article, “[Guardian of the Gate](#).” This and many other informative items are found at the [Advancement Resources](#) page. Once there, click on “Advancement Educational Presentations” and scroll down to the Video section to link to Mr. Daley’s video.

Guide to Awards and Insignia

The [Guide to Awards and Insignia](#) is the “go to” resource for answers to Scouters’ questions such as these:

- Where do the council shoulder patches for Scouts BSA go? (page 29)
- What do the Cub Scout advancement badges look like? (page 21)
- Where do you sew the Cub Scout den emblems? (page 19)
- What is an Order of the Arrow Sash? (page 59)
- What happens if our unit wants a custom patch? (page 15)
- What is the Arrowhead Honor? (page 57)
- What are those beads that Scouters wear around their neck [Wood Badge bead] (page 58)

