

We have a wide variety of scouts and scouters here today. First Class, Star, and Life Scouts along with parents of scouts at many ranks. So we wanted to remind you, wherever you are in your scouting program, becoming Eagle is a big, but very doable objective.

But why should you want to become an Eagle? Can you think of any benefits you might get for going through all this work?

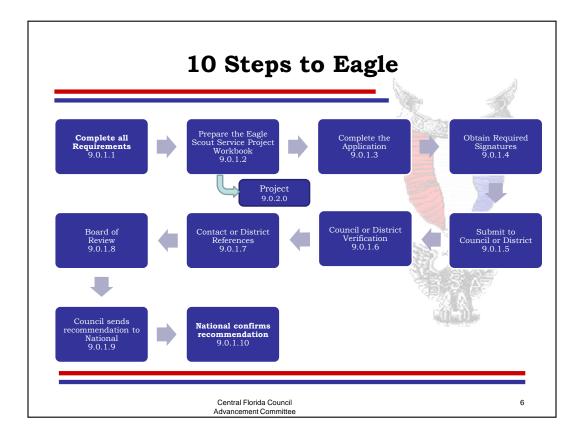
(Military: +1 rank, Job: priority, College Scholarships)



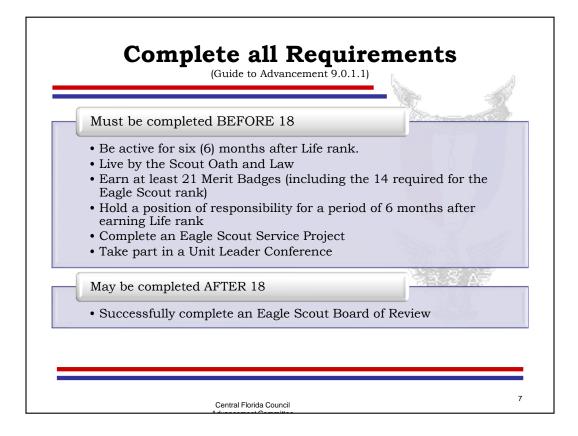
While becoming Eagle begins when you bridge into Scouts, We'll focus this workshop on the trail from Life rank to Eagle. We'll review both the rank requirements as well as the requirements for the Service Project and explain the procedures used in the Orange County Council.



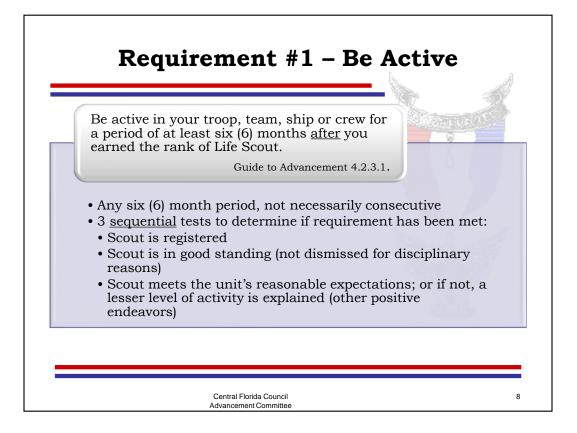
We want you to know that what we present to you today is not simply our understanding of the process. Everything we will be telling you is found in official BSA publications. In fact, for most of the presentation, we'll tell you where to find it.



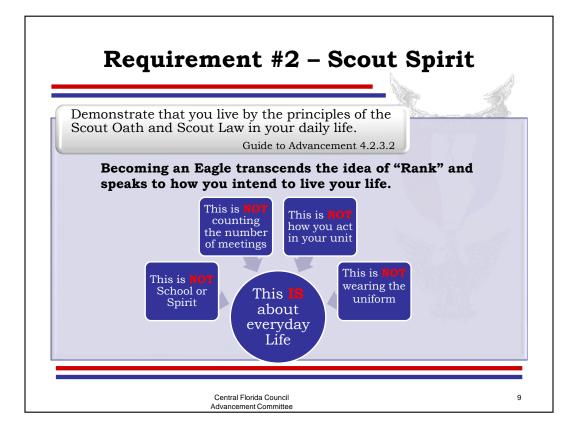
These are the steps we'll review. The numbers listed below the words all come from the 2017 BSA Guide to Advancement. You can obtain this from the scout shop, or online.



The most important information we can give you is that, with one exception, the requirements to become an Eagle scout must be completed BEFORE you turn 18. Not the day you turn 18, BEFORE. Anyone not know when their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday happens? The only requirement that may be completed after turning 18 is your Board of Review and we'll give you some guidance on that as well.

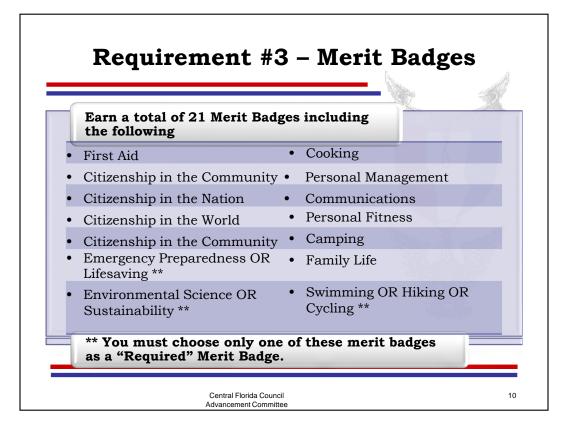


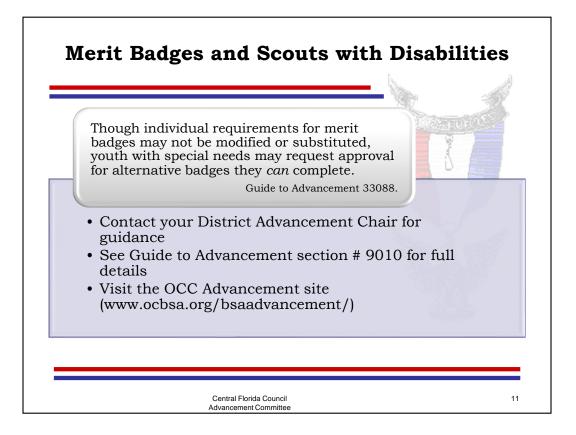
Requirement #1 is to be active in your unit for 6 months in the rank of Life Scout. It can be any 6 months and they don't need to be consecutive. There are three rules to determine if you are active. (Discuss)



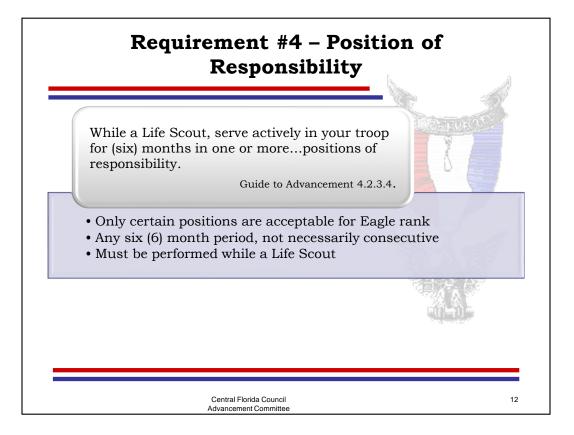
Requirement #2 to is to demonstrate Scout Spirit.

Remember, you are Scout-Life for however long you hold that rank until you are 18. You will be an Eagle for the rest of your life. Although this is the same requirement for all ranks, depending on how your scout spirit has been evaluated for Scout-Life, you may find you are evaluated differently.

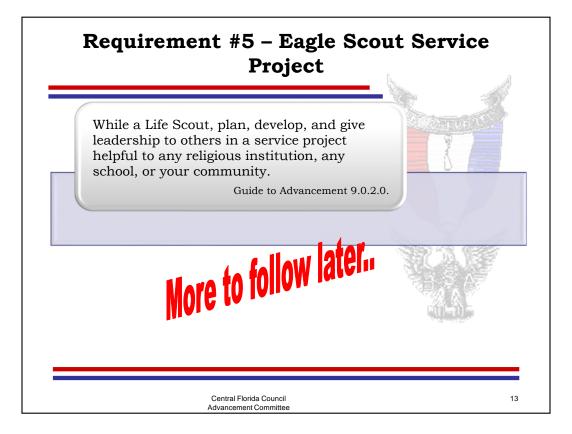




Although everyone must complete 21 Merit Badges, BSA offers modifications for youth with disabilities. While we won't discuss that in depth here, if you are a parent here who has a child with a disability, or know someone in your unit who falls into this category, please contact your District Advancement Chair as soon as possible so we can work with you to help your scout become Eagle.



Requirement #4 is for position of responsibility. As with being active in your unit, the time you spend in your position does not need to be consecutive, nor does it need to be the same position. However, it MUST be done while you are a Life Scout and there are some positions, like Bugler, that do not qualify as a position of responsibility for the rank of Eagle. You can find those exceptions in the Guide to Advancement or your Scout Handbook.



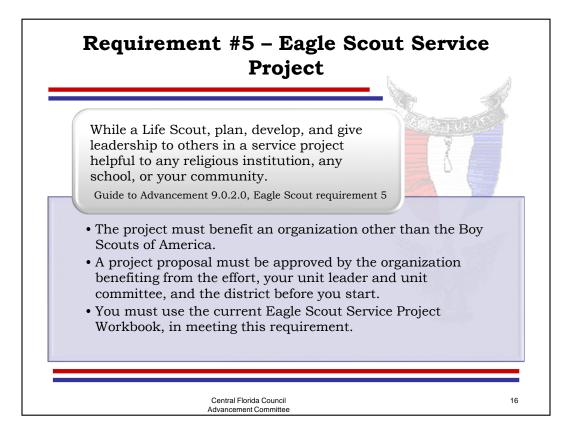
Requirement #5 is the Project and we'll discuss that at length later in the program.



Requirement #6 is to have a Unit Leader Conference, sometimes referred to as a SM Conference. While this is chronologically listed as the last thing that needs to be done before turning 18, it does not need to be the last thing done. A Unit Leader Conference is always helpful to assist you and guide your progress. Multiple conferences are acceptable and any one may be used to fulfill the requirement.



The last requirement is to complete your Board of Review and we'll discuss the particulars of that later.

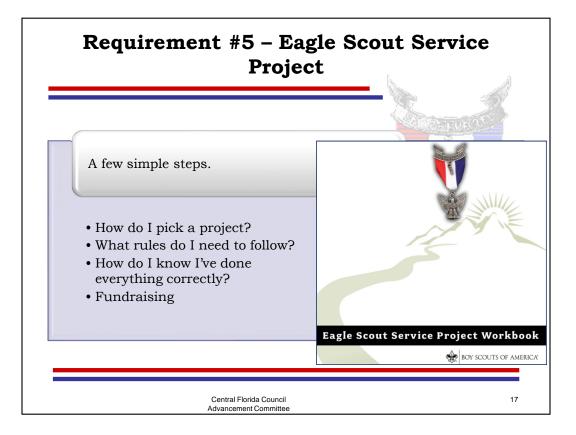


Now, let's talk about the Project. The three most important things we want you to remember are that:

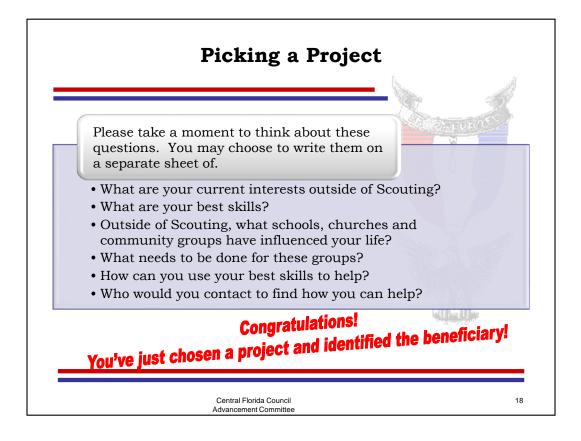
1) The project cannot be done for the Boy Scouts of America. Almost any other organization qualifies, but we'll give you some details in a few slides.

2) Before you start anything, a project proposal must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your unit leader and unit committee, and your district. And finally,

3) You must use the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, Currently Feb 2023 2023a is the most current, in meeting this requirement.

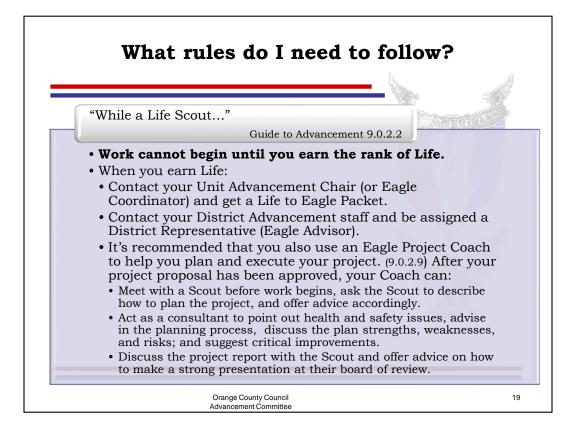


So we'll go through this following these few steps.



Picking a project is probably the step that most scouts struggle with the longest. But it doesn't need to be that hard. Take out a piece of paper, or write on the back of your presentation materials all of these steps. [CLICK] **Congratulations!** 

## You've just chosen a project and identified the beneficiary!



There are obviously some rules that you must follow:

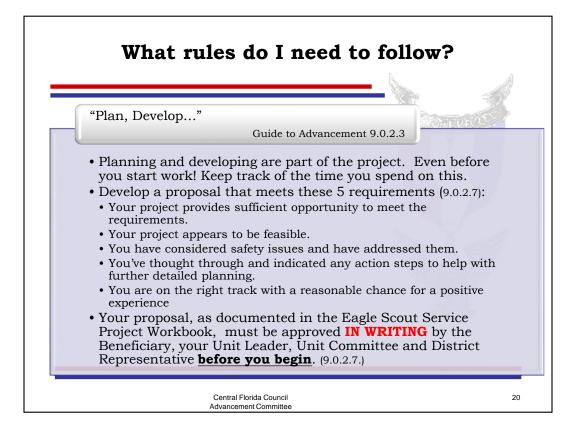
Most importantly, you cannot begin until you earn the rank of Life.

When you earn Life:

1)Contact your Unit Advancement Chair (or Eagle Coordinator) and get a Life to Eagle Packet. It will contain a lot of this material and help you get started.

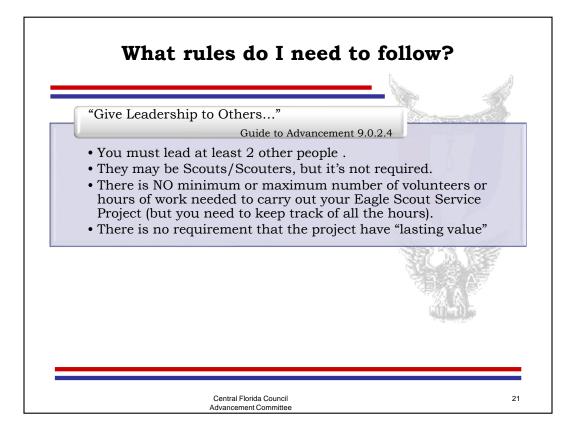
2) Contact your District Advancement staff and be assigned a District Representative (Eagle Advisor) to help you with the process.

3) We strongly recommend you use an Eagle Project Coach to help you plan and execute your project. Your Coach may be from your unit or not but should be a subject matter expert in what your project entails. No one expects you to be an expert in all the things you will need to do to perform your project. But Leadership is identifying and using all the necessary resources to help you be successful.



Everything you do for your project IS PART OF THE PROJECT. Keep track of who you talk with, the time you spend actively thinking about the project, any research or discussions with your leaders, parents or other scouts and, of course, the time actually performing the project. All of that time is captured as time spent on your project and will be recorded in your project workbook.

But even before you have a defined project, you must develop a proposal and have it approved IN WRITING, before you begin doing actual work. The approvals are from your Beneficiary, your Unit Leader, Unit Committee and District Representative. Your District Representative is the last one to approve and he or she will be looking to know whether you meet 5 requirements.



The Leadership requirement is simple: You must lead 2 other people. While there is no set number of hours necessary, as we discussed in the last slide, hours add up pretty quickly. If you discuss a potential project with your SM for 15 minutes, then discuss it with your proposed beneficiary for another 15 minutes, although that seems like only 30 minutes, it's at least twice that because there are at least 2 people in each discussion.



There are a lot of misconceptions about for whom the project can be conducted. As we said earlier, it cannot be done for the BSA or on any BSA property.

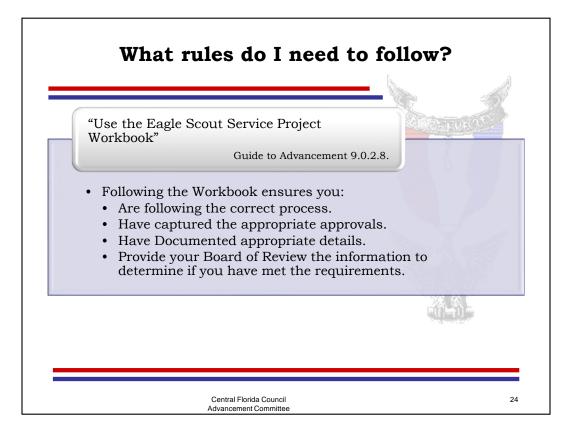
Other than that, it can be done for a non-profit OR a for profit organization. If it's for a profit based company, take care that it's not a commercial based nature. The key test is whether the project primarily benefits the community, as opposed to the profits of the business.

Normally "your community" would not refer to a single individual. However, an approved opportunity may be where an individual in need can affect a community, such as an elderly person able to live at home but unable to maintain their property causing a related dangerous situation. The challenge lies in who will provide approvals. They must come from a source representing the "community," such as a neighborhood association, watch group, homeowners association, or perhaps a division of a town or county.



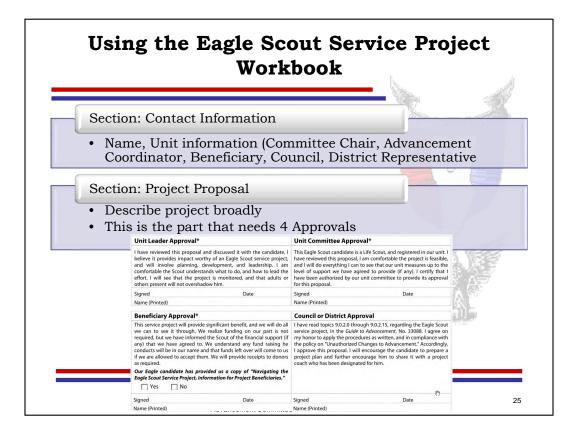
The real key to determining an acceptable project is can you demonstrate leadership thorough planning, development and execution?

Remember, this is your time to shine. You may not share your project with another. You alone must satisfy your beneficiary's needs.

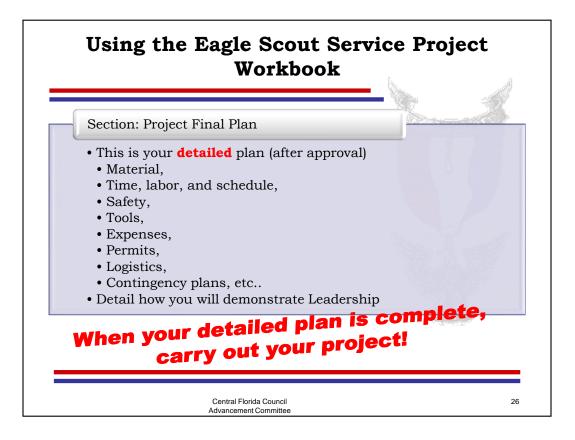


The last rule we want to tell you about is that you must use the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook. AND MAKE SURE YOU USE THE CURRENT VERSION.

You can obtain the Workbook on line and even fill it in electronically. Using the workbook almost guarantees your success because it will walk you through all the appropriate steps and approvals.



When using the workbook, you'll be asked to identify contact information to help ensure you meet all the necessary steps. The first step in the project is to develop a proposal. Extreme details are not necessary. You just need to describe the project broadly in order to get the 4 approvals necessary for you to begin work. Your District Representative must be the final approval.



After Proposal approval, you need to develop your detailed plan. This is the heart of your project.

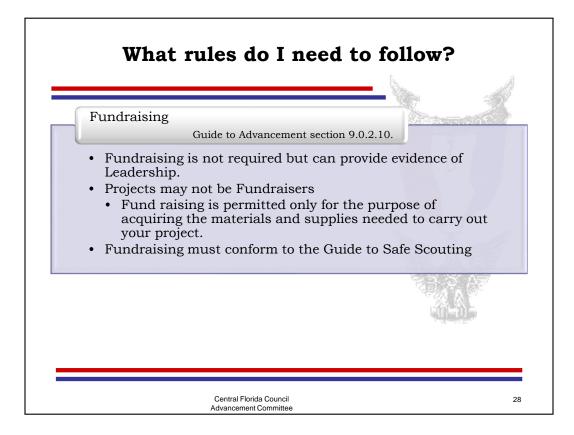
Then [CLICK] Carry out your project.

Using the	•			rvice Pro	ject
	W	orkb	ook	_	
Section: Projec	t Report				
• Describe the	esults; Wh	nat happ	ened?		
Be sure to include yourself, and the time spent or	Number of Workers	Total Hours Worked			
The Eagle Scout candidate	1		Show logg of	roun offorta	
Registered BSA youth members Other youth (brothers, sisters, friends, etc., who are not BSA members)				Show logs of y	your enorits.
Registered BSA adult Scouting volunteers and				2 2	1
Other adults (parents, grandparents, etc., who are not BSA members)					2
Grand Total of Hours (Enter here and on your Eagle S	cout Rank Application.)	1			D. YES
	Candidate's Promise Sign below before you seek the other approvals.				
	On my honor as a Scout, I was the leader of my Eagle Scout service project and executed it as reported here.				
	Signed:				Date:
equires your promise	Approvals				
nd 2 approvals.	In my opinion, this Eagle Scout service project meets Eagle Scout requirement 5, as stated on page 4 of this workbook.				
	Beneficiary name:			Unit leader name:	
	Signed:		Date:	Signed:	Date:
	Central Flori	da Council			27
	Advancement				21

Although we know this will take time, once you complete your project, you're not finished yet.

The Service Project Report lets you describe the differences between your Final Plan and what actually happened. You can describe what went well, what was challenging and generally, how you led the project.

You must sign the promise that you completed and were the leader of the project and your beneficiary must sign that they are happy with what you did.

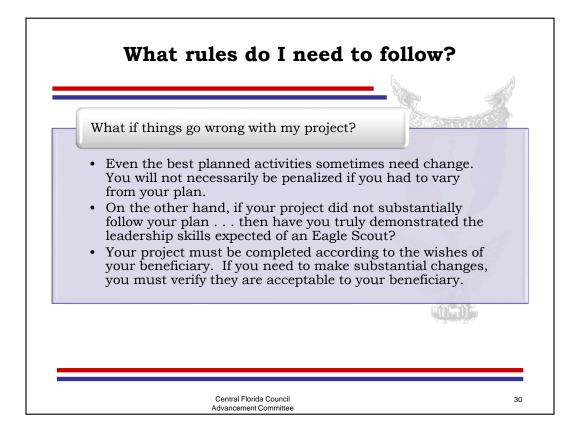


Now, let's talk about how you fund your project. One common myth is that a scout must raise funds to carry out a project. That's not necessarily true, but fundraising does demonstrate evidence of leadership.

When done, Fundraising is only for the purpose of acquiring materials and supplies. Your project may not simply be a fundraiser.

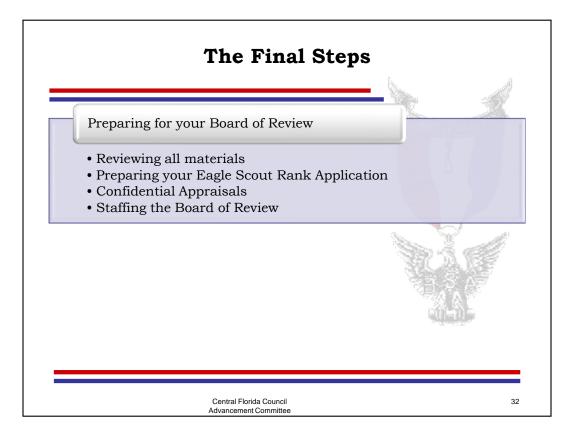


The Guide to Advancement allows Councils to set their own rules on how fundraising can be performed. Orange County Council has adopted some special rules that we show here.



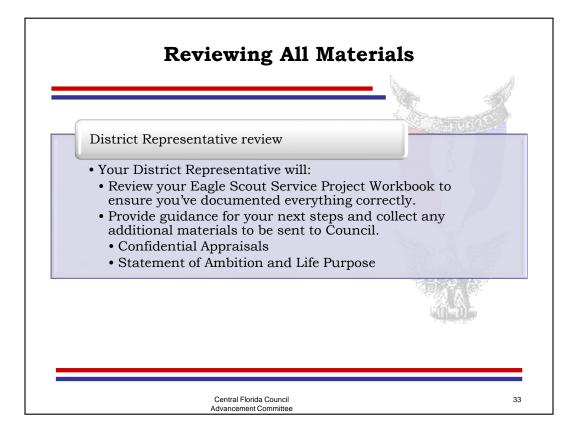
Nobody expects you to be perfect. Remember, Do Your Best and Be Prepared are the lynchpins of the scouting program. Things may go wrong. How you handle them is a testament to your leadership.





So all the requirements are done, your project is completed, you've had your Unit Leader conference, it's time to get ready for your Board of Review.

We'll discuss all these topics.



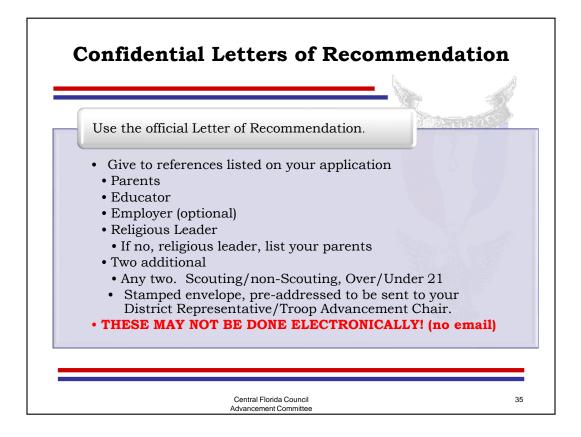
Hopefully, you will have been meeting with your District Representative all along to make sure your are on the right path. As soon as possible after you complete your project, your District Representative will help Review your Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook to ensure you've documented everything correctly and provide guidance for your next steps. One of these steps is to provide materials to your Board of Review to give them insight into who you are and what the scouting program has meant to you, done for you and how you intend to use your skills and rank in the future.

The two materials are a Statement of Ambition and Life Purpose and ask 5-6 people to perform a Confidential Appraisal of your character and adherence to the Scout Oath and Law.



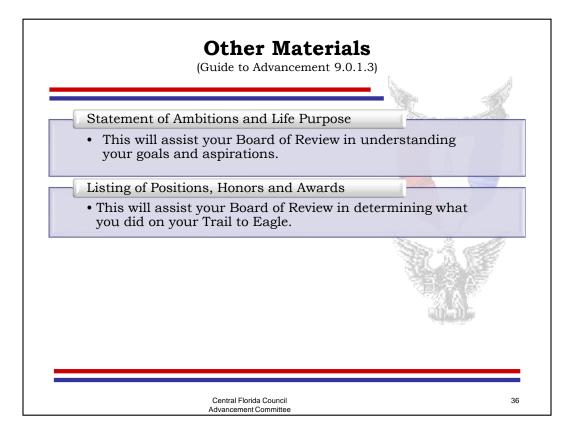
In order to prepare for your Board of Review, you must complete your Eagle Scout Rank Application.

This is your official request to be considered an Eagle Scout. Please make sure all dates and information are correct, you have identified the people to whom you have requested Confidential Appraisals and that all signatures are on the application.

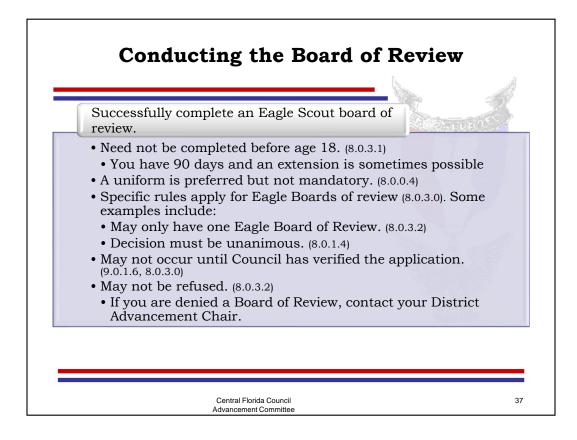


The application lists specific rules for who should provide Letters of Recommendation. You should print the official OCBSA form and give them to your references along with a pre-stamped envelope pre-addressed to your District Representative.

This MAY NOT BE DONE ELECTRONICALLY.

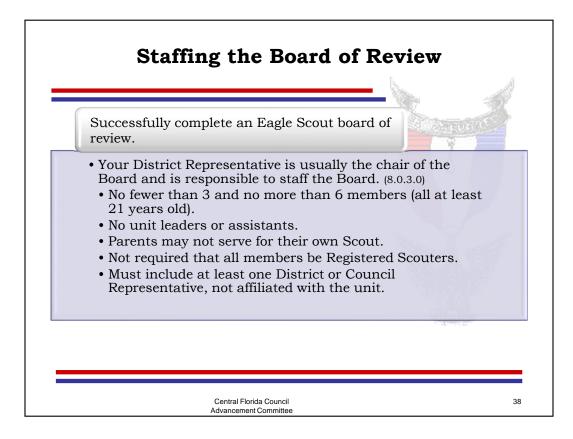


In addition to the Statement of Ambitions and Life Purpose, you should also list all your positions, Honors and Awards, both inside and outside of Scouting.



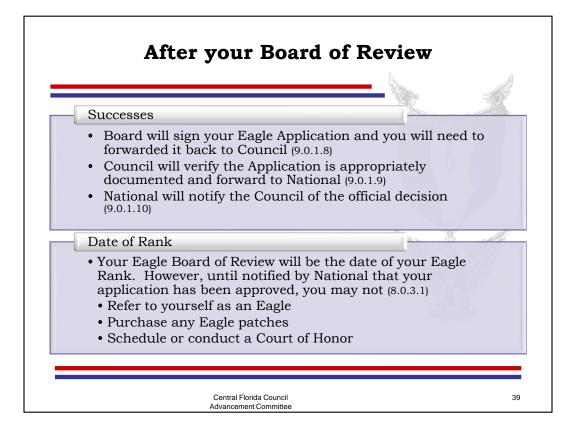
Finally, it's time for your Board of Review.

(Discuss all points)



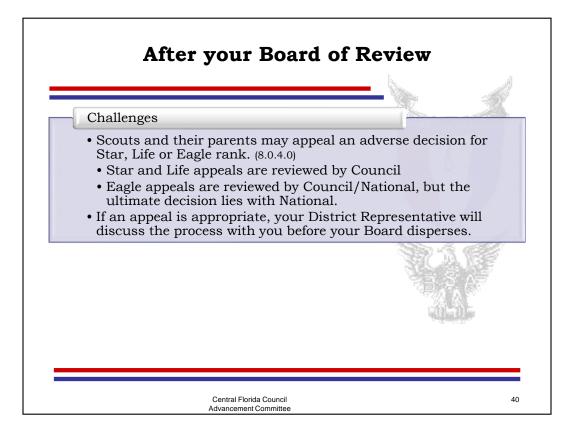
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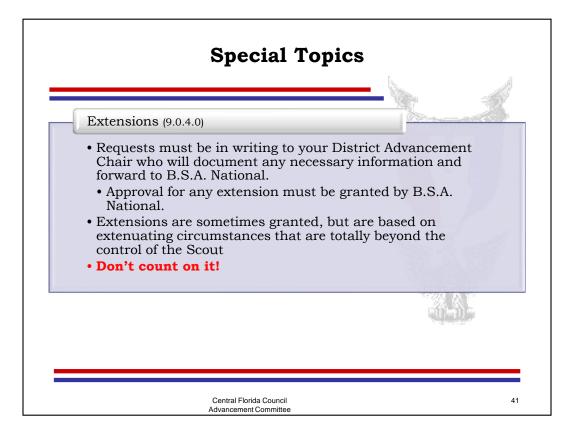
When you are successful, the Board will sign your Eagle Application and ensure it is forwarded to Council. Council will verify the Application is appropriately documented and forward to National and National will notify the Council of the official decision. You will receive an email notifying you of your success.

If you are not successful, you have an opportunity to appeal the decision. That process is detailed and you will be instructed what to do at the time.

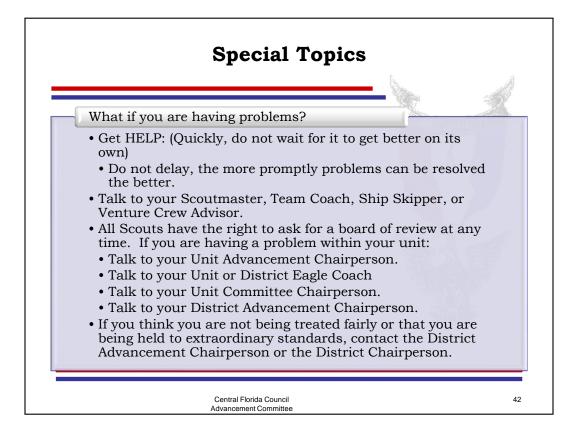


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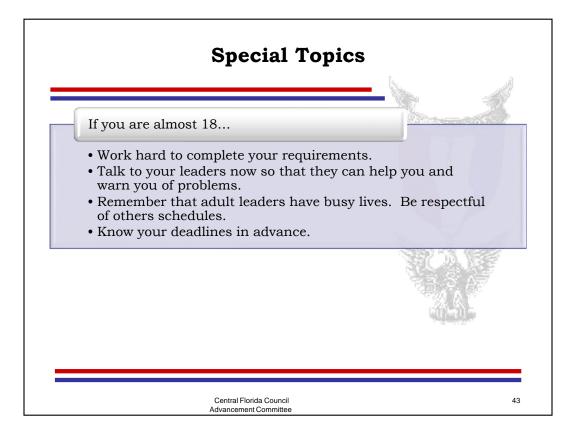
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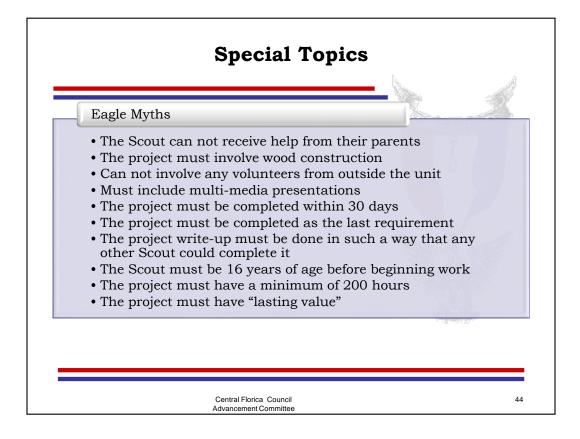
We always get questions about what happens if you need a little more time. Extensions are sometimes granted, but are based on extenuating circumstances that are totally beyond the control of the Scout. In other words, don't count on it. Anyone not know when they turn 18?



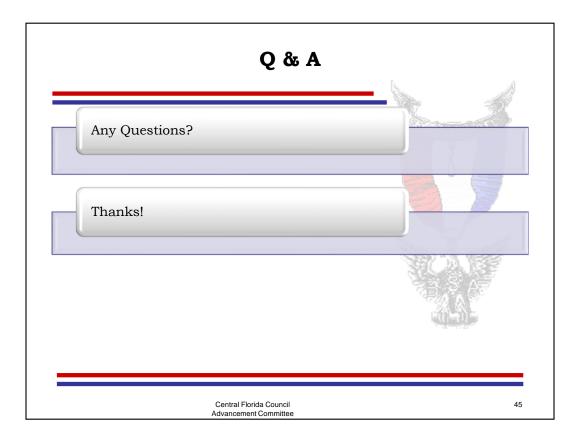
Finally, your leaders are there to help you. If you are having difficulty, talk to them as soon as possible. If you think you are not being treated fairly or that you are being held to extraordinary standards, contact the District Advancement Chairperson or the District Chairperson.



Remember, keep working, keep talking and remember your deadlines.



At this time, we'd like to dispel some common myths about the Eagle rank and project.



This concludes today's workshop.

We'll be happy to take any questions and also to point you to the OCBSA Advancement Website.

Thanks.