

ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS

TROOP 101

Rochester Hills, Michigan



[Link to BSA Rank Requirements](#)

Every Troop 101 Scout is responsible for his own advancement progress. Parents provide encouragement. Scoutmasters guide the youth leaders who run the troop program (including meetings, campouts, summer camp, and other activities) which provides opportunity. Brother Scouts provide support. However, it is up to each individual Scout to earn their ranks and awards. Some advancement requirements are not clearly defined, so how can you tell if you met the requirements? Scoutmasters have authority to interpret requirements. The purpose of this document is to provide a clear and common understanding of the Scoutmaster's advancement expectations for the following requirements:

- **PARTICIPATION**
- **SCOUT SPIRIT**
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
- **POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY / LEADERSHIP**
- **SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE**

PARTICIPATION

National BSA participation requirements are stated in the Scout Handbook and they are also listed below. For the ranks of Tenderfoot through First Class, participation requirements are very clearly defined. However, for Star through Eagle, they are listed simply as "be active in your troop and patrol" for a specified number of months. The definition of "active" is left up to the unit leadership. Troop 101 clear requirements of "active" are listed below for Star, Life, and Eagle.

- Tenderfoot: Spend at least one night on a patrol or troop campout. Sleep in a tent you have helped pitch on a ground bed you have prepared.
- Second Class: Since joining, have participated in five separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), two of which included camping overnight.

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- First Class: Since joining, have participated in ten separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), three of which included camping overnight.
- Star: Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 4 months as a First Class Scout. *In Troop 101, this requirement means during a consecutive four month period as a First Class Scout, you must attend 8 or more weekly meetings including at least one in each month, go on at least two troop campouts (includes weekend campouts, troop high adventure trips, and troop summer camp), and participate in at least half of all other Troop activities (includes parades, Troop member led service projects, Courts of Honor, fundraisers, PLC meetings, etc.) . If you are there for at least half of a meeting, campout, or activity, it will count toward advancement. Wearing the uniform appropriately is part of this requirement.*
- Life: Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Star Scout. *In Troop 101, this requirement means during a consecutive six month period as a Star Scout, you must attend 12 or more weekly meetings including at least one in each month, go on at least three troop campouts (includes weekend campouts, troop high adventure trips, and troop summer camp), and participate in at least half of all other Troop activities (includes parades, Troop member led service projects, Courts of Honor, fundraisers, PLC meetings, etc.). If you are there for at least half of a meeting, campout, or activity, it will count toward advancement. Wearing the uniform appropriately is part of this requirement.*
- Eagle: Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Life Scout. *In Troop 101, this requirement means during a consecutive six month period as a Life Scout, you must attend 12 or more weekly meetings including at least one in each month, go on at least three troop campouts (includes weekend campouts, troop high adventure trips, and troop summer camp), and participate in at least half of all other Troop activities (includes parades, Troop member led service projects, Courts of Honor, fundraisers, PLC meetings, etc.). If you are there for at least half of a meeting, campout, or activity, it will count toward advancement. Wearing the uniform appropriately is part of this requirement.*

If you cannot meet these participation requirements, discuss your situation with your Scoutmaster ahead of time.

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SCOUT SPIRIT

National BSA Scout Spirit requirements are stated in the Scout Handbook and stated here: Demonstrate Scout Spirit. Simply put, "Scout Spirit" means living your life according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law. It is the essence of being a Boy Scout. Advancement in every rank requires demonstration of **Scout Spirit** in everyday life. You will know you have earned the advancement requirement for Scout Spirit if others can tell from your behavior that you live your life according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law. As a Scout advances in rank, his demonstration of Scout Spirit behavior should grow. During your Scoutmaster Conference, be prepared to describe specific examples of your behavior that demonstrate Scout Spirit.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

National BSA community service requirements are stated in the Scout Handbook and they are also listed below. Service Hours are required for earning the ranks of Second Class, Star, and Life Scout. A boy led Service Project is required for Eagle rank. Service Hours typically involve support of other Eagle service projects or community service. All service projects must be approved by the Scoutmaster.

A summary of Service Project Requirements are:

- Second Class: One hour service project.
- Star: Take part in service projects totaling at least 6 hours of work.
- Life: Take part in service projects totaling at least 6 hours of work.
- Eagle: The Eagle candidate must "plan, develop, and give leadership to others" in a substantial service project. This is probably the most challenging requirement for Eagle. The service project must be for the good of the community, a religious institution, or a school. It cannot be for the benefit of a Scout facility or a business. It involves completing the requirements in the "*Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook*" (available on-line from the national BSA website) and is to be an example of service "worthy of an Eagle". When choosing an *Eagle Service Project*, appropriateness and safety must be considered. The key to the Eagle Scout Service Project is the demonstration of planning and leadership. The proposed project shall be pre-approved by the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee. The proposed project must then be approved by a BSA Council District Advancement Committee representative before any implementation work begins.

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POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY / LEADERSHIP

National BSA leadership requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle ranks are stated in the Scout Handbook and they are also listed below. On the trail to Eagle, a Scout is required to serve actively in a position of responsibility / leadership. See the Participation section above for the definition of "active". If a Scout participates actively and does his best to do his job on a regular basis, then the Scout will get credit for his position. In Troop 101, *Each candidate for Star, Life, Eagle, or Eagle Palm is required to fill out and turn in a written **Leadership Report form**.*

- Star: While a First Class Scout, serve actively for 4 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a Scoutmaster-assigned leadership project to help the troop): patrol leader, senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, bugler, chaplain aide, den chief, historian, instructor, junior assistant Scoutmaster, librarian, quartermaster, scribe, or troop guide.
- Life: While a Star Scout, serve actively for 6 months in one or more of the positions of responsibility listed in Star Scout requirements (or carry out a Scoutmaster-assigned leadership project to help the troop).
- Eagle: While a Life Scout, serve actively for a period of 6 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility: Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide, Den Chief, Instructor, Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Librarian, Quartermaster, Scribe, or Troop Guide.

SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE

When a Scout has completed all of the requirements for his next rank, except for the Scout Spirit, Scoutmaster Conference, and Board of Review, he should see the Scoutmaster and request a Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster will review the advancement approvals in the Scout's handbook to make sure the initials and dates are legible and complete. If there are any questions, the Scout will be asked to get the approvals corrected (if necessary, by seeing the Troop Advancement Coordinator). When all the approvals are completed, the Scout and Scoutmaster meet for a Scoutmaster Conference. *In Troop 101, Scoutmaster Conferences will be used to discuss the Scout's experience, progress, and goals.*

If you have questions about any of these requirements, talk to your Scoutmaster.

REFERENCE: USSCOUTS.ORG Advancement web page