INSTRUCTIONS

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

1. The unit leader (Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor) initiates this application on behalf of a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or qualified* Explorer (candidate).

2. Following the instructions stated on this application to determine the alternate merit badge(s).

3. Secure a clear and concise medical statement from a physician licensed to practice medicine concerning the Scout’s disability.

4. A conference is to be held by the unit leader and unit committee chairman with the candidate and his family present. They determine the alternate merit badges for those requirements which physical or mental disability prevents him from doing.

5. The district or council committee then reviews the proposed alternate merit badges. (If approved by the district, its recommendations would be forwarded to the council committee for final approval.)

6. After council approval, the candidate starts to qualify.

7. Upon completion of the Eagle rank requirements, using the alternate merit badges, the candidate appears before the board of review. This application is attached to the Eagle Award application.

8. Following a successful board of review the council processes both applications and forwards them to the National Court of Honor. The local council action on the use of alternate merit badges for the Eagle Award does not require National Council approval.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1. The Eagle Award may be achieved by a Boy scout, Varsity Scout, or qualified* Explorer (candidate) who has a physical or mental disability by qualifying for alternate merit badges. This does not apply to individual requirements for merit badges. Merit badges are awarded only when all requirements are met as stated.

2. The physical or mental disability must be of a permanent rather than a temporary nature.

3. A clear and concise medical statement must be made by a physician, licensed to practice medicine, concerning the Scout’s disability.

4. The candidate must earn as many of the required merit badges as his ability permits before applying for an alternate merit badge.

5. The candidate must complete as many of the requirements of the required merit badges as his ability permits.

6. This form, Application for Alternate Eagle Award Merit Badges, must be completed prior to the candidate’s qualifying for alternate merit badges.

7. The alternate merit badges chosen must be of such a nature that they are as demanding of effort as the required merit badges.

8. When alternates chosen involve physical activity, they must be approved by the physician.

9. The unit leader and the board of review must explain that to attain the Eagle Award a candidate is expected to do his best in developing himself to the limit of his resources.

10. This application must be approved by the council committee responsible for advancement, utilizing the expertise of professional persons involved in Scouting for the handicapped.

11. The candidate’s application for Eagle must be made on the Eagle Award Application, No. 30-728, with this form (No. 30-730) and the Eagle service project attached.

The Purpose of the Eagle Award

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

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

*In order for an Explorer to be an Eagle candidate, he must have achieved First Class rank as a Boy Scout or Varsity scout.
To: The District Advancement Committee

____________________________________ District
____________________________________ Council

Gentlemen:

We are submitting this application in behalf of __________________________ (Name of Candidate)
of Unit No. __________________________, chartered to __________________________, and located in ________________ (Community) ________________ (State) Because of the disability (see the medical statement below), we believe that he is physically or mentally unable to complete the requirements for the following merit badge or badges required for Eagle Award:

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

Signed __________________________ (Unit Leader)

Signed __________________________ (Unit Committee Chairman)

Signed __________________________ (Parent or Guardian)

Parents’ Statement

In view of the medical statement (below), and following a conference with __________________________ Scouting leaders, we approve of the alternate method of application for Eagle Award and merit badges recommended as alternates.

Date __________________________

Signed __________________________ (Parent or Guardian)

Medical Statement

As a result of a thorough examination of __________________________ (Name of Candidate) on __________________________ (Date) I find that he has a permanent physical or mental disability that would prevent him from completing the requirements for the merit badge or badges, as shown above.

REASONS FOR INABILITY:

____________________________________

Date __________________________

Signed __________________________ M.D.
District Certificate

We have reviewed the situation regarding [Name of Candidate]

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

Date __________________________
Signed __________________________
(District Representative)

[Signature]
(District)

Council Committee Action

The recommendations of the [Name of Candidate] District in regard to alternate merit badges for [Name of Candidate] have been reviewed, and the merit badges recommended have been approved as alternates for Eagle Award requirements.

Date __________________________
Signed __________________________
(Council Chairman)

Signed __________________________
(Scout Executive)

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

Possible alternates for required merit badges*

**CAMPING**
- Cooking
- Cycling
- Hiking
- Rowing

**COMMUNICATIONS**
- Electronics
- Journalism
- Photography
- Printing/Communication
- Public Speaking
- Radio
- Signaling

**PERSONAL FITNESS, SWIMMING OR SPORTS**
- Archery
- Canoeing
- Cycling
- Golf
- Hiking
- Horsemanship
- Orienteering
- Pioneering
- Rowing
- Skating
- Skiing
- Water Skiing

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**
- Fish and Wildlife Management
- Geology
- Nature
- Soil and Water Conservation
- Weather

**PERSONAL MANAGEMENT**
- Consumer Buying
- Farm and Ranch Management

**SAFETY**
- Firemanship
- Public Health
- Traffic Safety

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

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