

New Eagle Scout Required Merit Badge...Citizenship in Society Effective July 1, 2022

The Citizenship in Society merit badge is the newest merit badge for youth in the Scouts BSA program (ages 11-17). The new merit badge encourages Scouts to explore important topics around diversity, equity, inclusion and ethical leadership and learn why these qualities are important in society and in Scouting. Beginning July 1, 2022, the Citizenship in Society merit badge will be required for any youth seeking to achieve the prestigious Eagle Scout rank.

Eagle Scout candidates will continue to use the current rank requirements unit June 30, 2022, and will not be required to complete the new Citizenship in Society Merit Badge as long as they complete all of the current Eagle Rank requirements before July 1, 2022. They do not have to submit their final Eagle Scout application nor complete their Eagle Scout Board of Review prior to July 1, 2022, but must complete all current Eagle Scout Requirements before then.

Starting July 1, 2022, Eagle Scout candidates will be required to complete all Eagle Scout requirements including the new Citizenship in Society merit badge.

If the following Eagle Scout requirements are met before July 1, 2022, then Citizenship in the Society is not required:

1. Be active in the troop for at least six months as a Life Scout.
2. As a Life Scout, demonstrate Scout Spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Tell how you have done your duty to God, how you have lived the Scout Oath and Scout Law will guide your life in the future. List on your Eagle Scout Rank Application the names of individuals who know you personally and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf, including parents/guardians, religious (if not affiliated with an organized religion, then the parent or guardian provides this reference), educational, employer (if employed), and two other references.
3. Earn a total of 21 merit badges, including these 12 merit badges: (a) First Aid, (b) Citizenship in the Community, (c) Citizenship in the Nation, (d) Citizenship in the World, (e) Communication, (f) Cooking, (g) Personal Fitness (h) Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving, (i) Environmental Science OR Sustainability (j) Cycling or hiking or swimming (k) Personal Management (l) Camping, and (m) Family Life. You must choose only one of the merit badges listed in categories h, i, and k.
4. While a Life Scout, serve actively in the troop for six months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility:

Boy Scout troop. 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, or outdoor ethics guide.

Venturing crew. President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, den chief, historian, guide, quartermaster, chaplain aide, or outdoor ethics guide.

Sea Scout ship. Boatswain, boatswain's mate, purser, yeoman, storekeeper, crew leader, media specialist, specialist, den chief, or chaplain aide.

Lone Scout. Leadership responsibility in your school, religious organization, club, or elsewhere in your community.

5. Complete your project. While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. A project proposal must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your Scoutmaster and unit committee, and the council or district before you start. You must use the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, BSA publication No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement.
6. While a Life Scout, participate in a Scoutmaster conference.

What is not required to be completed before July 1, 2022:

1. The Eagle application, workbook and life letter is not required to be submitted to the council before July 1, 2022.
2. The board of review is not required to be conducted before July 1, 2022.

Additional Information about Citizenship in Society:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/citizenship-in-society-eagle-scout-requirements-clarification/#:~:text=Eagle%20Scout%20candidates%20will%20continue,requirements%20before%20July%201%2C%202022.>

<https://www.scouting.org/about/diversity-equity-inclusion/the-boy-scouts-of-america-introduces-new-citizenship-in-society-merit-badge/>