



Life to Eagle

Introducing the EAGLE MENTOR PROGRAM



How Does the Program Work?

The responsibility for Eagle Project Plan approval has moved from the district level to the council level. After receiving preliminary project plan approval from within his Troop, a Life Scout seeking Project Plan approval will fill out the **Eagle Scout Project Concept Approval Form** and submit the form to the Council Registrar. The form can be emailed to Jennifer.wilcox@scouting.org or call at 708-354-1111 ext 22, to request an Eagle Mentor. The Mentor works with the Scout along with the Scout's in-Troop Eagle Coach or Scoutmaster in preparation of his Project Plan, approves the plan, and supports the Scout as the project itself proceeds and the report is completed. Following final approval and review of the paperwork, the Eagle Mentor may participate in the Eagle Board of Review for the Scout.

Have the guidelines for what makes an acceptable project changed?

No. This is governed by National Policy. However, a Life to Eagle transition document has been prepared to clarify National guidelines and to help those involved in the process to interpret them.

At what point in the planning process should the Eagle candidate request a Mentor?

The Scout should have completed the Project Description section in the *Eagle Scout Project Concept Approval Form*, and be able to supply a short description of the Project Concept, beneficiary contact information, and a time frame for completion of the project. The scout should also have received preliminary project plan approval from his Troop Eagle Coach, Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chair, as appropriate.

Do we need to come in to the Council office to drop off a copy of the paperwork?

Unless you have a special request, there is really no need to drop anything off at Council. Filling out the **Eagle Scout Project Concept Approval Form** and emailing the form to the Council Registrar is good enough.

We are having difficulties finding a suitable Eagle Project. What should we do?

Numerous resources for project ideas may be found on the internet. Some of the better ones are: <http://home.flash.net/~smithrc/eagleprj.htm>

<http://www.scoutorama.com/project/>

<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/eagle/eagleproj1.html>

<http://www.eaglescout.org/project/select.html>

If you would like to discuss an idea for a project, email your request to Jennifer.wilcox@scouting.org at the Council Service Center. She will forward your request to the appropriate person who will respond to you.

Will a Mentor be assigned to a particular troop or will there be a different Mentor for each Scout? If so, who do we contact?

Each Scout will work with a different Mentor. Please contact Jennifer Wilcox the Council Registrar at the Council Service Center to have a Mentor assigned.

Will there be a list of Mentors' e-mails and phone numbers published so Scouts can make direct contact?

Well, the system is not set up to work like that. Each Mentor works with only assigned Scouts, so publishing a list would not be of any use.

One of our troop's adult leaders is an Eagle Mentor. Can he work with Life Scouts from our troop?

To encourage consistency across units in the process, Eagle Mentors only work with boys outside their home troops. He may wish to help your Scouts as an Eagle Coach, however.

Will the role of the Scoutmaster and/or the Unit Committee in the Life to Eagle process be changed under this new system?

No. The only change from the system formerly used is that the Eagle Mentor will now be one of the candidate's resources for project plan approval, and will help to support him as he works his project. Not all Troops within the Council handle the in-Troop approval process the same way, so it is the Scout's responsibility to inquire of his Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chair how the Troop wants to handle the in-Troop approval process. The Eagle Mentor will make every effort to remind the Scout of this responsibility.

How do you wish Eagle Coaches to interface with this program? We are used to working in the background to encourage and coach with the Scout making all the contacts and copying us on correspondence.

We would like to see the Mentors stay in touch during the process, but they are not there to do your job. Please continue to support the Scout just as before. You, or the candidate, could contact the Mentor if any questions or problems arise, or if direction is needed.

Will the Eagle Mentor stay actively involved as the project proceeds?

The Mentors are asked to keep in touch with the Scout following plan approval, and will support the boy as required.

Is the Mentor reviewing and commenting on the project planning workbook? Does the Mentor wish to see drafts or just the final product?

Yes, the Mentor would like to see both.

We have been waiting for a response to our Mentor request, but have not heard back yet. Is there any way that we can get help with our Project Plan now?

Yes. Email a copy of your draft Project Plan to Jennifer.wilcox@scouting.org with *Eagle Project Plan Evaluation* in the subject line. You will receive a response within approximately five working days. If email is not an option, mail or bring in your Project Plan to Jennifer Wilcox the Council Registrar, and request an evaluation.