

Alternative Rank Requirements & Alternate Eagle-required MB's

As a Scoutmaster in Longhouse Council, the Council Advancement Committee (Committee) would like you to be aware that alternative rank requirements may be available to scouts with special needs for all ranks up through First Class. In addition, alternate merit badges may be approved for Eagle-required merit badges for these Scouts. Some of these options may be available to other scouts also, such as Venture and Sea Scouts.

The procedure generally requires that the scout first complete all requirements for the rank in question, or they should complete all Eagle-required merit badges that they can. Then they should apply for approval of alternate requirements to the Council Advancement Committee. This request should be made by a parent or guardian and the unit leader according to the procedure outlined in the latest edition of the “Guide to Advancement” (Guide), Article 10.2.2.0. More specific information is found in Articles 10.2.2.1 and 10.2.2.2 for rank requirements and Article 10.2.2.3 for alternative merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank. It is suggested that interested parties read Chapter 10 in its entirety.

The “Application for Alternative Eagle Scout Rank Merit Badges” provides additional information including listings of possible alternate merit badges as well as the application (see scouting.org, form 512-730 at the web-link below). A few noteworthy items include: previously earned merit badges cannot be considered as alternates, and any private information provided with the application will either be returned or destroyed after it's use.

It should be noted that these approvals do not involve an extension to complete the work beyond the scout's 18th birthday. If required, that is a separate procedure (refer to “News You Can Use” memorandum number 1).

If you have any question, please contact either the Committee Staff Advisor at the Council offices, or me.

In Scouting,

Steve Fisher
Council Advancement Committee Chair
stevfisher773@gmail.org

P.S. Here are links to the “Guide to Advancement” and Form 512-730:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-730.pdf>