

Eagle Palms Award Changes

Eagle Palms are bronze, gold and silver awards presented to young men who earn five, 10, 15 or more merit badges beyond the 21 required to become an Eagle Scout.

This week, the BSA has announced significant changes to the way Scouts earn Eagle Palms. The modifications take effect Aug. 1, 2017.

The changes bring Eagle Palm requirements in line with the needs of older Scouts. The National Boy Scouting Subcommittee has eliminated unnecessary obstacles, such as the Eagle Palm board of review, and expanded the definition of active participation.

But the biggest change affects young men who haven't yet earned Eagle. Beginning Aug. 1, all earned Palms may be awarded instantly to new Eagle Scouts at their Eagle court of honor. This abolishes the wait of months or years for these young men to receive all Palms available to them.

Here's a look at what's changing. Below that, an in-depth guide to the new Eagle Palm requirements.

What's changing?

- 1. A new Eagle Scout can instantly receive, alongside his Eagle medal, all Eagle Palms he has earned for merit badges completed before he became an Eagle Scout.** These Palms recognize additional merit badges earned before completing the Eagle board of review. Previously, an Eagle Scout needed to wait three months between each Palm – even if he earned the extra merit badges before becoming an Eagle. This meant that, under the old rules, a young man who became an Eagle Scout at 17 years and 10 months, was mathematically unable to earn any

Eagle Palms.

- **Example:** Glenn, a 16-year-old Life Scout, has 36 merit badges at the time of his Eagle Scout board of review – 15 more than required. Previously, he would've needed to wait three months after his Eagle board of review to receive his Bronze Palm, another three months for his Gold Palm and another three for his Silver Palm. Under the new rules, he can get that Silver Palm (representing 15 additional merit badges) along with his Eagle medal at his Eagle Scout court of honor. No wait required.
 - **Note:** After becoming an Eagle Scout and receiving the Palms already earned, additional Palms may be earned by completing the revised requirements, including the three months tenure between awarding each Palm.
2. **The three-month tenure requirement has been expanded** to allow active participation in any BSA program – not just the troop and patrol.
 - This recognizes that as some Scouts get older, their Scouting participation shifts to the Order of the Arrow, summer camp staff or elsewhere.
 3. **The leadership requirement has been broadened** to include “accepting responsibility” as well as “demonstrating leadership.”
 4. **The Eagle Palm board of review has been eliminated.**
 - Eagle Palms are not ranks, so the Eagle Palm board of review was seen as an unnecessary step. A unit leader conference is deemed to be sufficient and may be conducted at any time during the tenure requirement.

Eagle Palms: the official

requirements

These are effective Aug. 1, 2017.

After successfully completing your Eagle Scout board of review and being validated as an Eagle Scout by the National Service Center, you will be entitled to receive an Eagle Palm for each additional 5 merit badges you have completed before your Eagle Scout board of review. For these Palms only, it will not be necessary for you to complete any of the requirements stated below.

After becoming an Eagle Scout, you may earn additional Palms by completing the following requirements.

1. Be active in the Boy Scouts of America for at least three months after becoming an Eagle Scout or after the last Palm was earned. **
2. Since earning the Eagle Scout rank or your last Eagle Palm, demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Tell how you have done your duty to God and how you have lived the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Continue to set a satisfactory example of accepting responsibility or demonstrating leadership ability.
4. Earn five additional merit badges beyond those required for Eagle or last Palm. ***
5. While an Eagle Scout, participate in a Scoutmaster conference. *

Notes

*For Varsity Scouts working on Boy Scout requirements, replace "Scoutmaster" with "Varsity Scout Coach." For Venturers working on Boy Scout requirements, replace "Scoutmaster" with "crew Advisor." For Sea Scouts working on Boy Scout requirements, replace "Scoutmaster" with "Skipper."

**Eagle Palms must be earned in sequence, and the three-month

tenure requirement must be observed for each Palm.

***Merit badges earned any time since becoming a Boy Scout may be used to meet this requirement.

Eagle Palms: the official requirements, annotated

Here are those same requirements annotated.

- The new requirements are in green. Remember, these take effect Aug. 1, 2017.
- The old requirements are in red.
- Notes in orange explain why each change was made. The text comes from the National Boy Scouting Subcommittee.

After successfully completing your Eagle Scout board of review and being validated as an Eagle Scout by the National Service Center, you will be entitled to receive an Eagle Palm for each additional 5 merit badges you have completed before your Eagle Scout board of review. For these Palms only, it will not be necessary for you to complete any of the requirements stated below.

By implementing this proposal, a Scout can be recognized with an Eagle Palm(s) for the extra work he has put into earning merit badges and acquiring additional education prior to earning the rank of Eagle Scout regardless of his age at the time he earns the rank of Eagle Scout. If the Eagle Scout has sufficient time remaining before his 18th birthday, he can then continue to earn additional Eagle Palms by completing the following proposed requirements.

After becoming an Eagle Scout, you may earn additional Palms by completing the following requirements.

1. Be active in the Boy Scouts of America for at least three months after becoming an Eagle Scout or after the last Palm

was earned.

1. Be active in your troop and patrol for at least three months after becoming an Eagle Scout or after award of last Palm

Requirement 1 has been changed to include being active in the "Boy Scouts of America" instead of just "troop and patrol." This allows a Scout to receive active participation time credit for programs such as the OA, Venturing, serving on camp staff, NYLT and NAYLE staff etc. In addition, participation in positive non-Scouting activities can be given consideration, as explained in topic 4.2.3.1 of the Guide to Advancement. This significantly broadens the opportunity for Scouts to stay involved in Scouting or other character-building activities and receive consideration toward earning additional Palms after earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

2. Since earning the Eagle Scout rank or your last Eagle Palm, demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Tell how you have done your duty to God and how you have lived the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life.

Requirement 2 is unchanged.

3. Continue to set a satisfactory example of accepting responsibility or demonstrating leadership ability.

3. Make a satisfactory effort to develop and demonstrate leadership ability.

Requirement 3 has been updated to include accepting responsibility as well as demonstrating leadership ability. This is not as restrictive as the current requirement, which focuses only on leadership. It is reasonable to make this change because Scouts can achieve Eagle Scout rank by serving in a position of responsibility rather than just serving in a leadership position. Accepting responsibility or demonstrating leadership should be sufficient. If a young man demonstrates

leadership, we can assume that at some point he developed it.

4. Earn five additional merit badges beyond those required for Eagle or last Palm.

Requirement 4 is unchanged.

5. While an Eagle Scout, participate in a Scoutmaster conference.

Requirement 5 is unchanged, expect for the addition of this footnote: For Varsity Scouts working on Boy Scout requirements replace "Scoutmaster" with "Varsity Scout Coach." For Venturers working on Boy Scout requirements replace "Scoutmaster" with "crew Advisor." For Sea Scouts working on Boy Scout requirements replace "Scoutmaster" with "Skipper."

6. *There isn't a No. 6 under the new requirements.*

6. Successfully complete your board of review for the Eagle Palm.

Requirement 6 has been eliminated. A Palm is an award to recognize achievement beyond the rank of Eagle Scout. It is not a rank itself, so it is not necessary to have a board of review. It also generates confusion, becomes a barrier to recognition because delays can result in a Scout being short of time to earn another Palm, and is one more duty for a unit advancement committee which should be devoting more attention to building advancement throughout the unit. These are Eagle Scouts; they've already reached the pinnacle. They represent youth with whom we have most likely already achieved our aims. Approval of the unit leader is sufficient.

The right way to wear a combination of palms

The Bronze Palm represents the first five merit badges beyond

the 21 required for Eagle. The Gold Palm represents the next five (10 total), and the Silver Palm the third five (15 total).

After that, you'll combine multiple Palms. While qualifying Eagle Scouts can wear multiple Silver Palms, they should never wear more than 1 Bronze or 1 Gold Palm. You'll see why in this handy chart that shows the proper Palm combinations.

Total number of merit badges	Number beyond minimum	Palm combination
21	0	None
26	5	1 Bronze
31	10	1 Gold
36	15	1 Silver
41	20	1 Bronze, 1 Silver
46	25	1 Gold, 1 Silver
51	30	2 Silver
56	35	1 Bronze, 2 Silver
61	40	1 Gold, 2 Silver
66	45	3 Silver
71	50	1 Bronze, 3 Silver
76	55	1 Gold, 3 Silver
81	60	4 Silver
86	65	1 Bronze, 4 Silver
91	70	1 Gold, 4 Silver
96	75	5 Silver
101	80	1 Bronze, 5 Silver
106	85	1 Gold, 5 Silver
111	90	6 Silver
116	95	1 Bronze, 6 Silver
121	100	1 Gold, 6 Silver

126	105	7 Silver
131	110	1 Bronze, 7 Silver
136	115	1 Gold, 7 Silver

To read full article and Q&A: [Bryan on Scouting](#)

Service Center Closure – July 3/4, 2017

The Council Service Center will be closed on Monday, July 3 and Tuesday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday.

Scout Executive Selected to Lead Council 251

The Executive Board of Council 251 is pleased to announce that Bryan Feather has been selected to serve as the Scout Executive of Council 251 effective August 1, 2017

Bryan began his career in 1991 in Orlando, Florida as an Exploring Executive. In 1993 Bryan moved to Ft. Myers, Florida as a District Executive, District Director, Field Director and Assistant Scout Executive. In 2000, he moved to Lake Charles, Louisiana serving as the Scout Executive of the Calcasieu Area Council. His success in these roles resulted in a promotion in 2004 to his current position of Scout Executive of Westark

Area Council in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Bryan is Woodbadge trained, a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow, has served on several Parent Teacher Organizations and enjoys flying as a private pilot. Bryan is the proud father of three children and is happily married to his wife Marilyn.

Please join us in congratulating Bryan as he leads Council 251 forward into our next chapter in Scouting.

Sincerely,

Rob Hillman

Council President

2017 Golf Classic

Mayflower Council cordially  invites you to attend the 2017 BSA Golf Classic.

Proceeds from the event are used to benefit youth development through Scouting programs that now serve 64 communities. This year's golf outing will take place on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Juniper Hill Golf Course, 202 Brigham Street, Northborough, MA.

Our ongoing mission is to encourage the positive development of our young people through Scouting programs that help

instill values in them, and prepare them to make ethical choices that allow them to achieve their full potential throughout their lifetime. We appreciate your effort to participate at any level and look forward to seeing you on Friday, September 22nd for this great event. Thank you for your support.

Download the Event Flyer for a complete listing of Sponsorship and Player opportunities. EARLY BIRD: Register by July 30th and receive \$25.00 off per golfer.

Register will close on September 14, 2017.

REGISTER HERE

KTC Jamboree Collector Set's

[2017 Mayflower Council National Jamboree "Limited Edition Collector Sets"](#)

The Knox Trail Jamboree Committee has produced 100 "Collector Sets" for the

2017 Jamboree. There will be no other sets made.

All sets are available for \$125 per set.

The sets are gold bordered and numbered on the front (#1 to #100), with an embroidered # on the right of the patch in white. (The "Contingent / Trader" sets have matching colored borders and are not numbered).

The set contains the 4 back patches and the 16 JSP's for the troops. The patches depict adventures of the RAC PAC, the Chippanyonk Lodge Mascot 'Chip'.

This will be the last Jamboree set for with the Mayflower Council logo.

You can choose to pick up your purchased patches at the Council Office in Marlborough after July 4th or have them shipped for an additional \$15. All sales are processed online.

100% of the money raised from the sale of these sets goes to the 2017 Mayflower Council Jamboree Contingent.



CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE SETS #2 – #99

Taste Of Scouting

Registration Closes at 7:00 pm on Thursday, June 15th – Sign Up Now!

Bring your family and come get a Taste of Scouting at Camp Resolute! Experience all the fun that Scouts have like fishing, shooting sports, gaga, and a campfire with S'mores! For Scouting families this is a two day overnight event and all activities count towards advancement! June 17th and 18th.

Enjoy the great outdoors at Camp Resolute!

Scouting is "Outing" so join us at Camp Resolute for some exciting outdoor activities, the opportunity to earn awards and camping! Fun for the whole family!

Are you a new Scouting family? Or have you been involved for a while? This activity is for you and the entire family. We have something for everyone!

Activities being offered include: Archery, BBs, Fishing, First Aid, Hiking, Knots, Map & Compass, Gaga Ball, Kickball and more! Siblings, ages 6-11 can sign up for all of the same programs as their Cub Scout brothers!

All Cubs and family members will receive a commemorative patch and will receive their awards as they complete each activity.

If your child already has their compass patch from a previous Taste of Scouting event, they should bring it with them to the event and they will receive their new segments. First time participants will receive their compass patch at registration.

Schedule for the Weekend

Event Activity Map

Rules & Regulations

Medical Form

What to Bring

Event Flyer

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Popcorn Commitment Form

Time To Commit To The Popcorn Sale!

Please click on the link and follow the instructions. By filling out the Trails End Tracker Form, you are committing to sell popcorn for the 2017 season.

If your unit has or will be attending a kickoff meeting and commit by June 16th, your unit will receive a FREE DRONE!
Don't delay, sign up now!

CLICK HERE to commit!

Please note: Once you fill out the required form, the Trails-End system will create an account for you that you can start to use immediately. In order to access your account please go to: <https://scouting.trails-end.com/>

For more information and all your popcorn resources, please [CLICK HERE](#)

Service Center Closure – May 29, 2017

The Council Service Centers will be closed on Monday, May 29, for the Memorial Day holiday.

Merger Update: A Message from Rob Hillman

As of May 10, 2017, the merger of the Old Colony Council and Knox Trail Council Council is in effect. The name of the new, merged Council will be chosen after an opportunity for scouts and scouters to enter suggestions in a “Name my Council” contest. Watch this space for details. What is new is our Council number – we are merged as Council 251 – which you may

see on announcements until a new name is chosen.

The Executive Board and Officers of the new Council met for the first time on May 10th. We have a very talented and experienced group of volunteers who are focused on integrating the two prior Councils into one, strong Council.

As the last president of the Old Colony Council, I am proud of what we accomplished and how well we supported scouting in our 41 cities and towns. As the first president of our new Council, I am confident that we can do even more to support scouting in our 62 cities and towns, and our three camps.

The process of merger will take a while. The staff and volunteers will do our best to keep you informed through our website and Facebook feeds, as well as at Roundtables. Please feel free to ask questions and make suggestions as we go forward.

Rob Hillman

Massachusetts BSA Licence Plate

Just Like the BANDIT!
□

*I know we've really just started the initiative, however...
We can't help but think that a lot more people are willing and able,
than have signed up.*

Are you one of them?

Well there is no reason to wait.

*The sooner we hit our numbers, the sooner we'll all have this plate
on our cars!*

How about a little push?

*Please share this with all your friends who might also be
interested! Thank you!*

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Proceeds benefits Scouts and Scouting across ALL of
Massachusetts. Please click the link to order yours today.
www.BSAplateMA.org

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