

NOMINATION FOR THE DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT AWARD



The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award is the National Eagle Scout Association's highest recognition. The Award was established to recognize Eagle Scouts who, after 25 years or longer of having received the Eagle Scout Award, have reached the highest national level of success in their field. In addition, these recipients have demonstrated a strong record of volunteer leadership service to their community.

All DESA nominations must be made through the candidate's local council with approval by the council NESA committee. The award may not be granted posthumously. For confidentiality, the candidate should not be notified of their nomination.

Submission: the nomination form and supporting documentation should be scanned into one PDF and **emailed** to noesa@scouting.org.

We are pleased to submit this Distinguished Eagle Scout Award nomination for:

Full name _____ Date of birth _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone number _____

The nominee has distinguished himself nationally in the field of: _____ (examples: medicine, education, business, military, government, law, national-level award winner).

After diligent investigation, the Scout executive, council president, and council NESA committee chair do hereby certify that this nomination accurately and completely details the achievements of this candidate.

Scout executive _____ Council president _____
Signature Signature

NESA committee chair _____
Signature

CST _____ Council name _____

Council No. _____ City _____ State _____

Requirement 1: The nominee must have earned the Eagle Scout rank through Scouting America at least 25 years prior to submission of this nomination. If the national Eagle Scout database does not list the nominee as an Eagle Scout, the local council is obligated to provide proof acceptable to the Program Impact Department that the nominee did in fact receive the award.

Council, City, St where Eagle Scout Award was earned _____

Date Eagle Scout Award was earned (month/day/year) _____ Troop No. _____

Requirement 2: The nomination must state the specific reasons or how the nominee has received extraordinary national level recognition, fame, or eminence within the identified field.

Has the nominee retired from his primary career? Yes No

The nominee's current employer or immediate employer prior to retirement _____

Position or title _____

Principle office of employer _____

If the nominee's field has been within a corporation, include:

- Educational preparation
- Chronological listing of positions held, indicating career growth and noteworthy contributions to corporate mission or objectives
- A description of the nominee's present responsibilities, unless the nominee is chairman of the board, president, or chief executive officer of the corporation
- Present evidence of the corporation's size, i.e., annual report, number of employees, ranking of firm among similar corporations

If the nominee's career has been within a field, i.e., education, law, medicine, sports, indicate:

- Educational preparation
- How he has achieved distinction, not only through his practice but in the contributions made beyond his practice to further his field, i.e., election to an office in a state or national society, authorship of books or articles in professional journals, new procedures/laws that he was instrumental in developing

Note: Please provide details about specific achievements.

Sample Write-Up for Career-Related Accomplishments

The following are examples of how information for the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award could be written. This format should be utilized for each position listed.

From 1997 to 2010, as chief financial officer of Widgets Inc., John Eagle Scout's duties currently include the management of 5,200 employees under 15 divisions. In 2009, the company made record profits that exceeded \$2.5 billion. During his tenure as chief financial officer, Widget Inc.'s annual gross sales have increased from \$12 billion to \$37 billion. He has been instrumental in implementing new procedures that helped the company maintain its high standard of quality products and reduce expenditures across the board, saving the company tens of millions of dollars.

Additional Information. List awards, honors, books or articles written, or other information pertinent to the nominee's accomplishments as related to his chosen field.

Requirement 3: Through the years, it has been established that a nominee should also have a strong record of voluntary service to his community. This is in addition to his achievement of a distinguished career, not in place of one. Service to Scouting is not required.

Care must be taken in listing service that is truly meaningful. Membership in an organization in and of itself is not meaningful. Committee or board membership might not be meaningful unless the individual makes a major impact on the success of a project or program. Service as the leader of a successful campaign is more meaningful than a large financial contribution. Service as a Scoutmaster is as significant as service as a council president.

List organizations, offices held, **specific achievements**, and dates.

Sample Write-Up for Community Service

This format should be utilized for each community service item listed.

From 2001 to present: Free Food for Jobless People

Offices held: Board member; Distribution Committee chair (2002 to 2004); Procurement Committee chair (2005 to 2008)

As a board member of Free Food for Jobless People, John Eagle Scout has been instrumental in broadening the organization's base of donors to include fast food and grocery store chains, as well as fine-tuning its distribution process. His involvement has allowed Free Food for Jobless People to expand its outreach not only within Fort Worth city limits but to now include all of Tarrant County.

Additional information: List awards, honors, books/articles written, or other information pertinent to the nominee's accomplishments in his community service.

NOMINATION MATERIALS

Supporting documentation should be submitted for review with the signed application. There is no minimum number of pages required for review; however, a substantial percentage of nominations are declined due to insufficient supporting materials. You should put forth your best effort in presenting the nominee's complete qualifications for the award.

The volunteers of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award Selection Committee make the decision, and that decision is final.

In order to render a fair decision, it is necessary that the DESA Selection Committee receives detailed information documenting the candidate's achievements in his field and volunteer service to his community. The descriptions of the nominee's achievements should be specific. Explain clearly the relative significance of awards and honors received by the nominee. Letters of endorsement should contain facts about the nominee's accomplishments and recognitions. Information submitted with the nomination form should clearly demonstrate how the candidate has "distinguished" himself among other colleagues in his field.

The NESA office is available for consultation in preparing the nomination.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Nominations for the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award must be made by the council in which the candidate currently resides. Individuals may not submit nominations directly to the national office. Nominations will not be reviewed without the signatures of the Scout executive, council president, and NESA Committee chair. *Nomination of a candidate does not ensure approval.* Nomination form and supporting documentation should be scanned into one PDF and emailed to noesa@scouting.org.

Upon receipt of the nomination form, the National Eagle Scout Association office will review the contents to ensure that the nomination is as strong as possible. If additional information is necessary, the NESA office will contact the council with recommended additions to the nomination materials. Following acceptance of the nomination by the NESA director, the nomination will be presented to the DESA Selection Committee.

If a candidate is not selected for the class in the year they were nominated, they must wait one full nomination cycle before being resubmitted. For example, if a candidate was nominated in 2026 and not selected, they may be nominated again in 2028.

HISTORY OF THE DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Since its establishment in 1969, the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award has gained prominent standing among Scouting recognitions. Those previously awarded the gold Eagle pendant include President Gerald R. Ford, several governors and senators, military flag officers, university presidents, chief executive officers of Fortune 500 companies, and nationally known lawyers, educators, and doctors. Each of the recipients had risen to a state of national prominence and distinction in his field prior to receiving the DESA.

DEFINING WHO IS “DISTINGUISHED”

DESA recipients are typically recognized by their colleagues as the best in their field. As evidence of distinction, these men are nationally known and have an impressive record of peer recognition. The DESA Selection Committee will determine whether the candidate is worthy of the DESA based on the documentation provided. As such, it is the council's responsibility to honor the candidate's life work by sufficiently and thoroughly documenting his qualifications.

DESA PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

This is a national award presented by a local council. The presentation should be made at a meeting or dinner with the recipient's peers at hand. The ceremony should be dignified and the focus of the event, not tied to another program such as a Silver Beaver dinner. It may be presented as part of a fundraising activity.

Nomination does not ensure approval. Do not set a presentation date until the NESA director notifies the council of the Committee's decision. Once approved, the council should use the DESA order form (found at www.nesa.org) to order the appropriate recognition items. If a plaque is ordered, the council committee must submit the DESA citation form (found on www.nesa.org) with the approved wording as it will appear on the plaque. Preparation time on the plaque may take up to three months, which will provide adequate time for the council to plan an appropriate presentation ceremony.

A detailed list of presentation guidelines can be found at www.nesa.org

WRITING THE CITATION

Because the council committee is closer to the recipient and knows which accomplishments he would prefer to list on the citation, it is the council's responsibility to write the wording as it should appear on the DESA plaque.

A citation template can be filled out online at www.nesa.org. Due to limited space on the presentation plaque, a maximum character count of approximately 400 words has been built into the template.