



Frontier District Advancement Committee

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT EAGLE SCOUT LEADERSHIP PROJECTS

Where can I get ideas for a project? Your Eagle packet contains the names of several organizations that welcome projects. You are not limited to these organizations. Your project can serve any church, school, or acceptable community organization. You should be aware that representatives of these organizations are not the authority on the acceptability of a given project for your purposes. You must confirm this with your leaders and Eagle advisors before making a choice.

What if someone suggests a project and I just don't like it? Don't do it, no matter how worthwhile it may be. Choose a project that interests you. The more excited you are about your choice of project, the better you'll plan and execute it. This should be a happy time for you.

What kinds of projects definitely are forbidden? Your project cannot raise funds, even for a very worthwhile purpose. Under certain conditions, you may raise the funds necessary to complete your project, but this cannot be the project itself. You also cannot coordinate a blood drive or any other activity where the control is beyond your leadership. Getting people to come to give blood does not meet the "substantial" requirement. If you have any questions regarding your choice of project, you should gain approval from your District Eagle Service Project Committee.

Can my project be maintenance work? No. Your project must provide lasting value to the benefiting organization. Gardening, clean-up or other on-going maintenance does not give "lasting value". A major renovation may qualify, depending on the specifics of your plan.

Are donations to my project tax deductible? Probably not. You cannot solicit materials or money in the name of the Council, so you cannot use that number. If your Unit or your sponsoring organization has a non-profit tax ID number and will permit you to use it, that's okay. Most companies and individuals are willing to contribute reasonable amounts without a hassle. Just ask for what you need.

Can I combine my project with another project? Probably not. In order for you to show the required leadership, your project must stand alone in terms of planning, organization, and execution. If it can be a part of a larger project and still meet these requirements, it may be accepted.

Can I do a project that's been done before? Your project must be original. It may be like a previous project, but it must be entirely your own planning and leadership. You may not use any information from a previous project.



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Is there a minimum number of hours? No. However, your Unit leaders and District Eagle Service Project committee will look for substantial leadership effort on your part. Depending on the project, that could be extensive. Many projects involve several hundred total hours (including workers).

Is there a limit on what I can spend? The details of the project will determine what materials are required. You will need to provide whatever is necessary to satisfactorily complete the project you have chosen.

When can I begin? Once you have chosen a project you believe will be acceptable to your District Eagle Service Project committee, you may begin to plan at any time. Your plan is very important. Most likely, you will make several revisions before you receive approval to proceed with the project. You may **not** begin to do any portion of the project until your plan has been approved and signed by your District Eagle Service Project committee. If you do, you will be required to select another project and start over.

What if I have to raise funds to pay for the project? You should include any fundraising plans in your project plan to be sure you are covering all of your needs. Once your District Eagle Service Project committee has approved your project you can hold your fundraising event with the confidence that you have planned sufficient money to successfully complete your project. It is not a good idea to conduct a fundraiser in advance of obtaining District approval of your project plan.

Should I record what happens during the project? Yes. Take pictures before, during, and after. Make notes of what went well and what didn't. You'll want to include these remarks in your final report.

When I finish the project, what do I do next? You should complete your final report as soon as possible after completing the project. Do it while the details are fresh in your mind. Your report will be much better if you do this. As soon as you have completed the report, get it approved by your Unit leader. You may be required to do some revision, but this is normal.

How detailed must my plan be? A good rule of thumb is that you provide enough detail that any other Scout or Adult with your ability would be able to successfully complete your project from your plan. You must plan for all of the tools, materials, and labor you will need. You will need to describe where you plan to get each of these and how. You must provide any necessary construction details as may be necessary. You cannot "wing it" on the job. No one plans to fail. They just fail to plan.