BSA Publication 33216, which had been titled "Boy Scout Requirements for many years, has been renamed "Scouts BSA Requirements".

With the launch of Scouts BSA and the change in membership requirements, numerous changes have been made to the text of the requirements to change them from male oriented to gender neutral. Most of those changes are NOT listed in the table on the inside front cover of the book.

We have tried to remove all references to "Boy Scouts" on the CURRENT pages in the Advancement and Merit Badge sections of our website, and replaced that term with "Scouts BSA" or other gender neutral terms wherever we could. Note that we have NOT changed pages that show previous awards or requirements for archival purposes. If we've missed some, please write to us using this link. Since some file names also changed, if you find any invalid links, please write us with that information, using this link.

This web page shows the revised requirements for ranks, merit badges and other advancement opportunities, and the corresponding web pages on our usscouts.org website, including pages showing the requirements for 5 new Nova Awards, have been edited and are available.

However, in order to get as much information as we can to Scouts and Scouters as soon as possible, we have not edited the corresponding material on our meritbadge.org website. Furthermore, although the various Scouts BSA rank workbooks and workbooks for a number of Nova awards (including the new Nova awards) have now been completed and are available on usscouts.org, we have not yet finished the updates to the merit badge workbooks that we provide, and none have been uploaded yet. Updates to meritbadge.org and to the merit badge workbooks will be done as soon as we can.

General Information

The Guide to Advancement - 2019 (Publication No. 33088 - SKU 648216) and 2019 Scouts BSA Requirements (Publication No. 33216 - SKU 648914) are the official Boy Scouts of America sources on Scouts BSA advancement procedures.

When there is a conflict between two published lists of requirements, such as Scouts BSA Requirements and a Merit Badge pamphlet or the Scouts BSA handbooks, the requirements book should normally be considered to be the controlling document, until a newer edition of Scouts BSA Requirements is issued. However, the following excerpt from the Guide to Advancement, 2019 explains what to do when merit badge requirements change:

7.0.4.3 What to Do When Requirements Change

The current annual edition of Scouts BSA Requirements lists the official merit badge requirements. However, those requirements might not match those in the Scouts BSA Handbook, the merit badge pamphlets, and the requirements listed at www.scouting.org/meritbadges because the Scouts BSA Requirements book is updated on an annual basis. When new or revised merit badge requirements appear in the Scouts BSA Requirements book, any Scout beginning work on a merit badge must use the requirements as stated therein. However, if changes to merit badge requirements are introduced in a revised merit badge pamphlet or at www.scouting.org/meritbadges during the year after the Scouts BSA Requirements is released, then the Scout has through the end of that year to decide which set of requirements to use.

Once work has begun, the Scout may continue using the requirements he or she started with until completion of the badge. Alternatively, the Scout may choose to switch to the revised requirements. Sometimes, however—especially for more significant changes—the Scouts BSA Handbook, the Scouts BSA Requirements book, www.scouting.org/meritbadges, or official communications from the National Council may set forth a different procedure that must be used and may establish a date by when use of the old requirements must cease.

There is no time limit between starting and completing a badge, although a counselor may determine so much time has passed since any effort took place that the new requirements must be used.

The authoritative source for all merit badge requirements is the current year’s Scouts BSA Requirements book.

In addition, the following information is included on the inside front cover of the 2019 edition of Scouts BSA Requirements:

The requirements listed in this Scouts BSA Requirements book for rank advancement, Eagle Palms, and merit badges are the official requirements of the Boy Scouts of America and are effective Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 31, 2019. However, the requirements on the following pages might not match those in the Scouts BSA handbooks and the merit badge pamphlets, because this publication is updated only on an annual basis. The most current and any updated merit badge requirements can be found at www.scouting.org/meritbadges.

When new or revised merit badge requirements appear in this Scouts BSA Requirements book, any Scout beginning work on a merit badge must use the requirements as stated therein. However, if changes to merit badge requirements are introduced in a revised merit badge pamphlet or at www.scouting.org/meritbadges during the year after the Scouts BSA Requirements is released, then the Scout has through the end of the current calendar year to decide which set of requirements to use.

Once a Scout begins work, the Scout may continue using the requirements the Scout started with until completion of the badge. Alternatively, the Scout may choose to switch to the revised requirements. Sometimes, however especially for more significant changes the Scouts BSA handbooks, the Scouts BSA Requirements book, www.scouting.org/meritbadges, or official communications from the National Council may set forth a different procedure that must be used. The National Council may establish a new date for when use of the existing requirements must cease.

There is no time limit between starting and completing a badge, although a counselor may determine so much time has passed since any effort took place that the new requirements must be used.

No council, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or to subtract from, any advancement or merit badge requirements, for more detailed information, see the Guide to Advancement, which is available online at www.scouting.org/resources/guide-to-advancement

On February 1, 2019, BSA changed the name of their program for youth between the ages of 11 and 18 from Boy Scouts to Scouts BSA, opened the program to young girls, and issued two editions of the Scouts BSA Requirements which replaced the Boy Scout Handbook.

Information in the 2019 Scouts BSA Requirements book

The list of changes on the inside front cover of the new edition of Scouts BSA Requirements identifies changes to the requirements for one rank (Scout), changes to 21 merit badges, the deletion of one "Special Opportunity" (the BSA Lifeguard Award) and changes to almost all Special Opportunity awards.

In addition to the listed changes, changes were made to the introductory material. Furthermore, as a consequence of the announced change from Boy Scouts to Scouts BSA, some minor changes, to make the wording "gender neutral", were made to the requirements and notes for the other ranks, some merit badges, and some of the "Special Opportunities".

Temporary Transition Rules for Females entering Scouts BSA

On February 1, 2019, the Boy Scouts of America began admitting girls into Scouts BSA. As part of that change to the program, BSA has established some temporary transition rules, and published those rules in early October 2018.

In general, the following rules will be in effect from February 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

1. Youth 16 years of age or older, but not yet 18, on February 1, 2019 who register as members of Scouts BSA on or before December 31, 2019, may request extensions to complete the Eagle Scout Award requirements after they turn 18 years of age.

2. Requests for extensions must be received no later than thirty (30) days after turning 18 years of age. Extensions must be in writing by submitting the designated form to the National Service Center and...
the form must be received no later than January 7, 2020. Only the National Council may grant extensions. The actual extension will be based upon the individual's registration date and age at the time of the request and will provide not more than twenty-four months from the date of initial registration to complete all requirements.

3. In the interest of fairness, these temporary transition rules apply to all youth joining Scouts BSA during 2019—both girls and first-time joining boys.

A copy of the document they released can be obtained, by Clicking here.

In the notes below, changes to male gender specific terms which have been made to reflect the change to family Scouting such as replacing "Boy Scouts" with "Scouts BSA" are described as "gender neutrality" changes.

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### Introduction to Merit Badges

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* Merit Badge changes not listed on inside front cover

### Merit Badges with differences between the current merit badge pamphlet and the 2019 Scouts BSA Requirements book

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Special Opportunities

- Deleted:
  - Lifeguard BSA

- Modified:
  - 50 Miler Award
  - BeardSailing BSA **
  - BSA Standup Paddleboarding
  - Complete Angler **
  - Cyber Chip
  - Den Chief Service Award
  - Fire'm Chit
  - National Medal for Outdoor Achievement
  - National Outdoor Awards
  - National Park Service -
  - Resource Stewardship Scout Ranger
  - Nova and Supernova Awards
  - Outdoor Ethics Action Award
  - Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award
Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Changes were made to a note which applies to each of these ranks. The note changes are as follows:

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Star, Life, Eagle, and Eagle Palms (Note)

Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class (Notes)

Rank Advancement for Venturers and Sea Scouts

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

• Any registered Venturer or Sea Scout who has achieved the First Class rank as a Boy Scout or Lone Scout (or as a Varsity Scout prior to Jan. 1, 2018), may continue advancement up to age 18 to earn the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks, and Eagle Palms.
• The Requirements book.
• The Venturer may fulfill leadership requirements by serving as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, den chief, historian, guide, quartermaster, chaplain aide, or outdoor ethics guide.
• The Sea Scout may fulfill leadership requirements by serving as boatswain, boatswain's mate, purser, yeoman, storekeeper, crew leader, media specialist, specialist, den chief, or chaplain aide.
• The unit leader conference will be conducted by the Advisor or Skipper. As the Venturer fulfills requirements for the Star and Life ranks, a board of review must be conducted by the crew or ship committee according to the procedures established by the National Council as published in the Guide to Advancement. Eagle Scout boards of review are conducted in accordance with the Guide to Advancement and procedures established by the local council.

Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class - Alternative Requirements

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Age Requirement Eligibility

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

Merit badges, badges of rank, and Eagle Palms may be earned by a registered Boy Scout or a qualified Venturer or Sea Scout. He may earn these awards until his 18th birthday. Boy Venturers or Sea Scouts who have achieved the First Class rank as a Boy Scout in a troop or as a Lone Scout may continue working up to his 18th birthday toward the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks and Eagle Palms. Registered Scouts, including Lone Scouts, and by qualified Venturers or Sea Scouts who are not yet 18 years old. Venturers and Sea Scouts qualify by achieving First Class rank as a Scout or Lone Scout (or as a Varsity Scout prior to Jan. 1, 2018). The only exceptions for those older than age 18 are related to Scouts registered beyond the age of eligibility and those who have been trapped time extensions to complete the Eagle Scout rank.

Rank Advancement for Venturers and Sea Scouts

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

• The Eagle board of review should follow the procedures established by the local council.

Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class - Notes

Changes were made to two notes which apply to each of these ranks. The note changes are as follows:

The requirements for a registered Boy Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks may be worked on simultaneously; however, these ranks must be earned in sequence.

Alternative requirements for the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class/First Class rank are available for Scouts with physical or mental disabilities if they meet the criteria listed in the Boy Scouts BSA Requirements book.

Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class - Alternative Requirements

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

A Scout with a permanent physical or mental disability or a disability expected to last more than two years or beyond the 18th birthday and who is unable to complete all of the requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, or First Class rank may, with his parent or her parent or guardian, submit a request to the council advancement committee to complete alternative requirements. Below are the procedures for applying for alternative requirements. To help facilitate this process, use the Individual Scout Advancement Plan, No. 512-936, which can be found at www.scouting.org/advancement. For more detailed information about alternative requirements, see the Guide to Advancement.

1. Do as Many Standard Requirements as Possible. Before applying for alternative requirements, a Scout must complete as many of the standard requirements as possible. He must do his very best to develop himself to the limits of his abilities and resources.
2. Prepare a Request for Alternative Requirements. Once the Scout has done his or her best to the limit of the Scout's abilities and resources, the unit leader or a troop committee member submits to the council advancement committee a written request for alternative requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks. It must show what has been completed and suggest the alternatives for those requirements the Scout cannot do.
3. Secure a Medical Statement and Provide Supporting Documents. The request must be accompanied by supporting letters from the unit leader, a parent or guardian, and medical (if possible), as well as a written statement from a qualified health professional related to the nature of the disability. This may be a physician, neurologist, psychiatrist, psychologist, etc., or, when appropriate, an educational administrator (or a person involved with education who has special needs. To make a fair determination, can help the committee determine whether the Scout is involved with professionals professionals involved with... possible). Statements must describe the disability; cover the Scout's capabilities, limitations, and prognosis; and outline what requirements cannot be completed. Additional information such as Individualized Education Plans (IEP) provided to parents by schools, and various treatment summaries and reports, may help an advancement committee make an informed decision.
4. The Advancement Committee Reviews the Request. The council advancement committee reviews the request, utilizing the expertise of professionals involved with... possible). The committee's decision is then recorded and delivered to the Scout and the unit leader.

Star, Life, Eagle, and Eagle Palms (Note)

Changes were made to a note which applies to each of these ranks. The note changes are as follows:

For Venturers working on Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class/First Class rank are available for Scouts with physical or mental disabilities if they meet the criteria listed in the Boy Scouts BSA Requirements book.

Eagle Scout Rank Alternative Requirements

Changes were made to this topic, the changes were as follows:

The Eagle Scout rank may be achieved by a Boy Scout or a qualified Venturer or Sea Scout who has a physical or mental disability by completing the Application for Alternative Eagle Scout Rank. The Boy Scouts BSA, No. 512-730, and by qualifying for alternative merit badges. This does not apply to individual requirements for merit badges. Merit badges are awarded only when all requirements are met as stated. See the Guide to Advancement, topic 10.2.2.3, for details.

** No changes were made to the requirements for these awards

** Changes to Introductory Material

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** No changes were made to the requirements for these awards
Changes to Rank Requirements

Scout

A change was made to requirement 5. In addition, gender neutrality changes were made to requirements 1c, 2, 2b, and 2c, plus the changes to two notes as described above. The requirement changes are as follows:

1. c. Demonstrate the Scout sign, salute, and handshake. Explain when they should be used.
2. After attending at least one Scout troop meeting, do the following:
   a. Describe the four steps of the Scout advancement.
   b. Describe the four steps of the Scout advancement.
   c. Describe what the Scout Scout BSA ranks are and how they are earned.
3. Demonstrate your knowledge of Tell what you need to know about pocketknife safety.

Second Class

A small change was made to requirement 8e, and a gender neutrality change was made to requirement 1a, plus the changes to two notes as described above. The requirement changes are as follows:

1. a. Since joining the Boy Scouts BSA, participate in five separate troop/patrol activities, at least three of which must be held outdoors. Of the outdoor activities, at least two must include overnight camping. These activities do not include troop or patrol meetings. On camping, spend the night in a tent that you pitch or other structure that you help erect, such as a lean-to, snow cave, or tepee.

3. b. Using the menu planned in First Class requirement 2a, make a list showing a budget and the food amounts needed to feed three or more Scouts. Secure the ingredients.

First Class

Gender neutrality changes were made to requirements 1a, 2b, and 10, plus the changes to two notes as described above. The requirement changes are as follows:

1. a. Since joining the Boy Scouts BSA, participate in 10 separate troop/patrol activities, at least six of which must be held outdoors. Of the outdoor activities, at least three must include overnight camping. These activities do not include troop or patrol meetings. On camping, spend the night in a tent that you pitch or other structure that you help erect, such as a lean-to, snow cave, or tepee.

2. b. Using the menu planned in First Class requirement 2a, make a list showing a budget and the food amounts needed to feed three or more Scouts. Secure the ingredients.

3. c. Provide information on how to join, or encourage the inactive Scout to become active. Share your efforts with your Scoutmaster or other adult leader.

Star

A gender neutrality change was made to Requirement 5 and a change was made to footnote 6, plus the changes to a note as described above. The requirement and footnote changes are as follows:

5. While a First Class Scout, serve actively in your troop for four months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a Scoutmaster assigned leadership project to help the troop):

- Patrol leader,
- assistant patrol leader,
- senior patrol leader,
- troop guide,
- Order of the Arrow troop representative,
- den chief,
- scribe,
- librarian,
- historian,
- quartermaster,
- bugler,
- junior assistant Scoutmaster,
- chaplain aide,
- instructor,
- webmaster, or
- outdoor ethics guide

- President,
- vice president,
- secretary,
- treasurer,
- den chief,
- historian,
- guide,
- quartermaster,
- chaplain aide, or
- outdoor ethics guide

Sea Scout ship,
- boatswain's mate,
- quartermaster,
- yeoman,
- storekeeper, or
- crew leader,
- media specialist,
- specialist,
- den chief, or
- chaplain aide

Lone Scout.

Leadership responsibility in your school, religious organization, club, or elsewhere in your community.

6 Assistant patrol leader is not an approved position of responsibility for the Star to Eagle rank.

Life

Gender neutrality changes were made to Requirements 5 and 6, plus the changes to a notes as described above. The requirement changes are as follows:
5. While a Star Scout, serve actively in your troop for six months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a unit leader-assigned leadership project to help the troop):

- Patrol leader,
- assistant senior patrol leader,
- senior patrol leader,
- troop guide,
- Order of the Arrow troop representative,
- den chief,
- scribe,
- librarian,
- historian,
- quartermaster,
- bugler,
- junior assistant Scoutmaster,
- chaplain aide,
- instructor,
- webmaster, or
- outdoor ethics guide.

6. While a Star Scout, use the Teaching EDGE method to teach another Scout (preferably younger than you) the skills from ONE of the following choices, so that in the Scout is prepared to pass those requirements to their Scoutmaster's satisfaction.

- Tenderfoot - 4a and 4b (first aid)
- Second Class - 2b, 2c, and 2d (cooking/camping)
- Second Class - 3a and 3d (navigation)
- First Class - 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d (tools)
- First Class - 4a and 4b (navigation)
- Second Class - 6a and 6b (first aid)
- First Class - 7a and 7b (first aid)
- Lone Scout.

Leadership responsibility in your school, religious organization, club, or elsewhere in your community.

---

**Eagle Scout**

Gender neutrality changes were made to Requirements 4 and Footnotes 12 and 13, plus the changes to a note as described above. The requirement and numbered footnote changes are as follows:

4. While a Life Scout, serve actively in your troop for six months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility:

- Patrol leader,
- assistant senior patrol leader,
- senior patrol leader,
- troop guide,
- Order of the Arrow troop representative,
- den chief,
- scribe,
- librarian,
- historian,
- quartermaster,
- junior assistant Scoutmaster,
- chaplain aide,
- instructor,
- webmaster, or
- outdoor ethics guide.

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12 **APPEALS & EXTENSIONS**

If a Scout believes he has completed all the requirements for the Eagle Scout rank, and a board of review has denied advancement, the Scout may appeal in accordance with the Eagle Scout Guide to Advancement, topic 8.0.3.2. If a Scout believes he has been awarded the Eagle Scout rank, he may appeal in accordance with the Eagle Scout Guide to Advancement, topic 8.0.4.0.

If a Scout who foresees that, due to no fault or choice of his own, he will not be able to complete the Eagle Scout rank requirements before age 18, he may apply for a limited time extension in accordance with the Eagle Scout Guide to Advancement, topic 8.0.4.0. These are rarely granted and reserved only for work on Eagle.

13 **AGE REQUIREMENT ELIGIBILITY.**

Merit badges, badges of rank, and Eagle Palms may be earned by a registered Eagle Scout or a qualified Venturer or Sea Scout. Eagles may earn these awards until their 18th birthday. Any Venturer or Sea Scout who has achieved the First Class rank as an Eagle Scout in a troop or as a Lone Scout may continue working up to their 18th birthday toward the Star, Life, and Eagle Scout ranks and Eagle Palms.

An Eagle Scout board of review may occur, without special approval, within three months after the 18th birthday. Local councils must reapprove those held three to six months after the 18th birthday. Local councils must reapprove those held three to six months after the 18th birthday. If you have a permanent physical or mental disability, or a disability expected to last more than two years or beyond age 18, you may become an Eagle Scout by qualifying for as many required merit badges as you can and qualifying for alternative merit badges for the rest. If you seek to become an Eagle Scout under this procedure, you must submit a special appeal to your local council service center. Your application must be approved by your council advancement committee before you can work on alternative merit badges.

A Scout, Venturer, or Sea Scout with a disability may also qualify to work toward rank advancement after reaching 18 years of age if he meets the guidelines outlined in section 10 of the Guide to Advancement are met.

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**Eagle Palms**

Changes were made to the introductory paragraph, and Gender neutrality changes were made to Footnote 16, plus the changes to a note as described above. The changes are as follows:

After successfully completing your Eagle Scout board of review on or after Aug. 1, 2017, and being validated as an Eagle Scout by the National Service Center, you will be entitled to receive an Eagle Palm for each additional five merit badges you completed before your Eagle board of review beyond those required for Eagle. In addition, all current Scouts who have completed their Eagle board of review and who had not passed their 18th birthday before Aug. 1, 2017, are also entitled as well to receive Eagle Palms. For these Palms only, it will not be necessary for you to complete the requirements stated below.

16 Merit Badges earned any time since becoming an Eagle Scout joining Scouts BSA may be used to meet this requirement.

---

**Introduction to Merit Badges**
REVISED Merit Badges

American Business

Requirements 1 and 2 were changed and requirements 3-6 were completely replaced. The changes are as follows:

1. Do the following:
   a. Explain four features of the free enterprise system in the United States. Tell its benefits and responsibilities. Describe the difference between freedom and license. Tell how the Scout Oath and Law apply to business and free enterprise.
   b. Describe the Industrial Revolution. Tell and tell about the major developments that marked the start of the modern industrial era in the United States. Discuss three people who had a great influence on business or industry in the United States and describe what each did.
   c. Identify and describe to your counselor the five primary areas of business.
   d. Explain the five major labor unions in the United States and the importance of labor unions and employers working together. Identify two major labor unions currently in existence.
   e. Discuss with your counselor how business impacts the local, national, and global economy.

2. Do the following:
   a. Pick two or more stocks from a financial newspaper. Ask the financial editor for assistance. Tell what the financial editor has told you. Discuss the three basic types of financial statements (income statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flows). Discuss with your counselor how each statement can help business leaders make better decisions.
   b. Explain how changes in interest rates, taxes, and government spending affect the flow of money into and out of business and industry.
   c. Explain the place of profit in business.
   d. Explain the place of profit in business.
   e. Explain the place of profit in business.
   f. Name five kinds of insurance useful to business. Describe their purposes.

3. Do the following:
   a. Pick two or more stocks from the financial pages of a newspaper. Request the annual report or prospectus from one of the companies by writing or visiting its website (with your parent’s permission). Discuss the financial statements of the company and analyze the company’s annual report and prospects. Discuss the financial statements of the company and analyze the company’s annual report and prospects. Discuss the financial statements of the company and analyze the company’s annual report and prospects.
   b. Explain the place of profit in business.
   c. Explain the place of profit in business.
   d. Explain the place of profit in business.
   e. Explain the place of profit in business.
   f. Explain the place of profit in business.

4. Discuss the difference between operating a brick-and-mortar business versus an online business.

5. Describe the rule of the U.S. Department of Labor. Discuss two of the following topics with your counselor:
   a. Discuss the relationship between federal and state labor laws.
   b. Discuss how federal labor acts can affect the business community.
   c. Discuss the relationship between federal and state unemployment agreements.
   d. Discuss the impact of federal laws on business practices.
   e. Discuss the relationship between federal laws and labor relations.
   f. Discuss the relationship between federal laws and labor relations.

6. Choose a business and research how it applies each of the primary areas of business (accounting, finance, economics, marketing, and management). Share what you have learned with your counselor.

Begin by researching the business you have selected.

Choose one of the primary areas of business and identify three career opportunities. Select one and research the education, training, and experience required for this career. Discuss this with your counselor and explain why this interests you.

b. Choose three products from your favorite grocery store or mall and discuss how each product would be improved upon so that it has less impact on the environment.
Select a business leader and interview this individual to learn more about his or her company and career path. Discuss the role ethics plays in making business decisions. Share what you have learned with your counselor.

A change was made to requirement 1. The change was as follows:

1. Using resources available to you, learn about working people and work-related concerns. List and briefly describe or give examples of at least EIGHT concerns of American workers. These may include, but are not limited to, working conditions, workplace safety, hours, wages, seniority, job security, equal opportunity employment and discrimination, guest workers, automation and technologies that replace workers, unemployment, layoffs, outsourcing, and employee benefits such as health care, child care, profit sharing, continuing education, and retirement benefits.

Changes were made to requirements 1c, 3b, 5-Option A-f1d and f3, and 5-Option B-f1d and f3, and requirement 4f was deleted. The changes are as follows:

1. Tell about your local and state laws for owning and using archery equipment.
2. Explain the following terms: cast, draw weight, string height, dimensio, aiming, spine, mechanical release, freestyle, and barebow.
3. OPTION A
   1. A World Archery/USA Archery indoor round I and make a score of 80 points.
   2. As a member of the USA Archery Junior Olympic Archery Development Program (JOAD), achieve the level of green, purple, and gray stars as part of a JOAD Club indoor round event with your chosen style and type of archery equipment. earn your indoor or outdoor green, purple, and gray achievement award pins using a recurve bow or longbow.
4. OPTION B
   1. A World Archery/USA Archery indoor round I and make a score of 90 points.
   2. As a member of the USA Archery Junior Olympic Archery Development Program (JOAD), achieve the level of green, purple, and gray stars as part of a JOAD Club indoor round event with your chosen style and type of archery equipment. earn your indoor or outdoor green, purple, and gray achievement award pins using a compound bow.

Changes were made to requirements 1, 3, and 3a, new requirements 3d, 6, 10, and 11 were added, and requirements 6-8 were renumbered as 7-9. The changes are as follows:

1. Explain the need for bird study and why birds are useful indicators of the quality of the environment. Describe how birds are part of the ecosystem.
2. Demonstrate that you know how to properly use and care for binoculars, a spotting scope, or a monocular.
   a. Explain what the specification numbers on the binoculars mean, mean on binoculars, a spotting scope, or a monocular.
   d. Describe when and where each type of viewing device would be most effective.
3. Describe to your counselor how certain orders of birds are uniquely adapted to a specific habitat. In your description, include characteristics such as the size and shape of the following:
   a. Beak
   b. Body
   c. Leg and foot
   d. Feathers/plumage
4. Explain the function of a bird's song. Be able to identify five of the 20 species in your field notebook by song or call alone. For each of these five species enter a description of the song or call, and note the behavior of the bird making the sound. Note why you think the bird was making the call or song that you heard.
5. Do ONE of the following:
   a. Explain the differences between extinct, endangered, and threatened.
   b. Identify a bird species that is on the endangered or threatened list. Explain what caused their decline. Discuss with your counselor what can be done to reverse this trend and what can be done to help remove the species from the endangered or threatened list.
   c. Gather information from news sources and books about a current business leader. Write a two-page biography about this person or make a short presentation to your counselor. Focus on how this person became a successful business leader.
   d. Do ONE of the following. For the option you choose, describe what birds you hope to attract, and why.
5. Describe how birds are part of the ecosystem.
6. a. Build a bird feeder and put it in an appropriate place.
   b. Build a birdbath and put it in an appropriate place in your yard or another location.
   c. Build a birdhouse and put it in an appropriate place.
   d. Build a bat cage and put it in an appropriate place.
   e. Build a bird bath and put it in an appropriate place.
   f. Build a bird bath and put it in an appropriate place.

Changes were made to requirement 7, and a change was made to requirement 1d. The changes are shown below.

1. c. In a small-group setting, meet with other scouts or with friends. Have them share personal stories about significant events in their lives that affected them in some way. Take note of how each scout participates in the group discussion and how effectively each Scout communicates their story. Report what you have learned to your counselor about the differences you observed in effective communication.
2. d. List as many ways as you can think of to communicate with others (face-to-face, by telephone, letter, e-mail, text messages, social media, and so on). For each type of communication discuss with your counselor an instance when that method might not be appropriate or effective.

Disabilities Awareness

A gender neutrality change was made to requirement 3a as shown below. This change was not noted in the listing on the inside front cover.

3. a. Talk with a Scout who has a disability and learn about the Scout's experiences taking part in Scouting activities and earning different merit badges. Discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

Family Life

Changes were made to requirement 7 as shown below. These changes were not noted in the listing on the inside front cover.

7. Discuss the following with your counselor.
Scouts BSA Advancement Changes - Effective January 1, 2019

• Your understanding of what makes an effective father and why, and your thoughts on the father’s role in the family.

• Your understanding of the responsibilities of a parent.

Discuss with your counselor your understanding of what makes an effective parent and why, and your thoughts on the parent’s role and responsibilities in the family.

First Aid

Changes were made to requirements 1, 5, and 8. The changes are as follows:

1. **Suicide.** Demonstrate to your counselor that you have current knowledge of all first aid requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.

5. Prepare a first-aid kit for your home. Display and discuss its contents with your counselor.

Do the following:

a. Prepare a first-aid kit for your home. Display and discuss its contents with your counselor.

b. With an adult leader, inspect your troop’s first-aid kit. Evaluate it for completeness. Report your findings to your counselor and Scout leader.

8. Show how to apply a bandage strip for a minor cut or wound. Show how to apply a compression bandage to control a minor bleeding site. Show how to apply a sleeve bandage to control bleeding of the arm or leg.

Do the following:

a. Show the steps that need to be taken for someone who has a large open wound or cut that is not bleeding severely.

b. Show the steps that need to be taken for someone who has a large open wound or cut that is severely bleeding.

c. Tell the dangers in the use of a tourniquet and the conditions under which its use is justified.

Fly Fishing

Changes were made to requirements 3 and 9. Requirement 10 was split into requirements 10 and 11 with some wording added to requirement 11. The changes were as follows:

3. Demonstrate how to tie proper knots to prepare a fly rod for fishing:

a. Tie a backing to the **arbor** of a fly reel spool using the **arbor knot**.

b. Attach a loop to the fly line using a **nail knot**.

c. Attach a leader to the fly line using the **Improved Clinch Knot** or a **loop-to-loop connection**.

d. Add a tippet to a leader using the **Surgeon’s knot** or a **loop-to-loop connection**.

9. Discuss what good aquatic sportmanlike behavior is and how it relates to anglers. Tell how the Outdoor Code of the Boy Scouts of America relates to a fishing enthusiast, including the aspects of littering, trespassing, courteous behavior, and obeying fishing regulations.

10. Catch at least one fish. Regulations and health concerns permit clean and cook a fish you have caught. Otherwise, acquire a fish and cook it.

11. **If regulations and health concerns permit, clean and cook a fish you have caught. Otherwise, acquire a fish and cook it. (You do not need to eat your fish.)**

Forestry

Requirement 2c was revised as shown below:

2. c. Find and examine two types of animal, insect, or disease damage to trees. In the field notebook you prepared for requirement 1, identify the damage, explain how the damage was caused, and describe the effects of the damage on the trees. Photograph or sketch each example.

Geocaching

Requirements 5e and 5d were removed, and requirements 7 and 8 were revised. The changes are shown below.

5. c. Explain the UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) system and how it differs from the latitude-longitude system used for public geocaches.

5d. Explain the difference between a UTM map projection and a GRS projection for their area with a GRS web map.

7. With your parent’s permission*, go to www.geocaching.com. Type in your counselor’s **city and state** to locate public geocaches in your area. Share the posted information about three of those geocaches with your counselor. Then, pick one of the three and find the cache.

*To fulfill this requirement, you will need to set up a free user account with www.geocaching.com. Ask your parent for permission and help before you do so.

8. c. Set up and hide a public geocache, following the guidelines in the Geocaching merit badge pamphlet. Before doing so, share with your counselor a three-month maintenance plan for the geocache where you are personally responsible for all repairs. After setting up the geocache, with your parent’s permission, follow the logs online for 30 days and share them with your counselor.

Golf

Requirements 1 and 7b were revised, as shown below.

1. Discuss safety on the golf course. Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while golfing, including **lightning**, heat reactions, dehydration, blisters, sprains, and strains.

7. **Driver** played from a tee.

Law

Requirement 11d was revised as shown below.

11. d. **Space travel and satellites entering the earth’s atmosphere** Immigration

Lifesaving

Changes were made to requirements 1a (Second Class 5e and 5d), and gender neutrality changes were made to requirements 11, and 13. The changes are as follows:

1. **Second Class**

   (5c) Demonstrate water rescue methods by reaching with your arm or leg, by reaching with a suitable object, and by throwing lines and objects. **Explain why swimming rescues should not be attempted when a reaching or throwing rescue is possible.**

   (5d) Explain why swimming rescues should not be attempted when a reaching or throwing rescue is possible. Explain why and how a rescue swimmer should avoid contact with the victim.

11. Perform the following non-swimming rescues for a conscious practice subject three feet from shore. Begin in the water from a position near the subject. Speak to the subject to determine his or her condition and to provide instructions and encouragement.

13. Perform the following rescues for an unconscious practice subject at or near the surface 30 feet from shore. Use a proper entry and strong approach stroke. Speak to the subject and splash water on him.
the subject to determine his or her condition before making contact. Quickly remove the victim from the water, with assistance if needed, and position for CPR.

Motorboating

Requirements 4h and 4i were added, changes were made to requirements 5, 5e, 5f, and 5g, and requirement 6 was deleted. The changes are shown below:

4. Explain the difference between powering and controlling a boat trailer by using direct current, and powering and controlling a model railroad using digital command control.

5. Discuss how the price of shares changed from one day to the next, and how these affects the result of your investment exercise.

Personal Management

Changes were made to requirements 2a, 2b, 2d, 4c, 4d, 5a, 10a, and 10b. Requirement 5 was deleted. Requirement 6 was revised and renumbered as 5. New requirements were added as 2b3, 2b4, 4d, 4e, and 6. The changes are as follows:

2. a. Explain the difference between powering and controlling a model railroad by using direct current, and powering and controlling a model railroad using digital command control.

Railroading

A new Requirement 6A was added. The new requirement is shown below:

8. a. Discuss the concepts of basic interest and compound interest and how these affects the result of your investment exercise.

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Requirements 8a and 8b were revised as shown below.

8. a. Explain the difference between powering and controlling a model railroad by using direct current, and powering and controlling a model railroad using digital command control.
Rifle Shooting

Changes were made to requirements 1f, 2-OPTION C-b, and 2-OPTION C-h. The changes are shown below:

1. f. Successfully complete a state hunter education course or obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state, then do the following: Explain the main points of hunting law in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns and ammunition.
   a. List the kinds of wildlife that can be legally hunted in your state.
   1. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns and ammunition.
   2. List the kinds of wildlife that can be legally hunted in your state.
2. OPTION C
   b. Identify principal parts of percussion and flintlock rifles and discuss how they function.
   c. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a muzzle-loading rifle on a range, including range procedures. Explain what a misfire, hangfire, and squib fire are, and explain the procedures to follow in response to each.

Rowing

A change was made to the text of requirement 2, and a gender neutrality change was made to requirement 7, as shown below.

2. Before doing the following requirements, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test. Jump feet first into water over your head in depth. Level off and swim 25 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke. The 50 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include, at least, one change in stroke. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

7. Alone in a rowboat, push off from the shore or a pier. Row 20 yards to a swimmer. While giving instructions to the swimmer, pivot the boat so that the swimmer can hold on to the stern. Tow him the swimmer to shore.

Scouting Heritage

Changes were made to requirement 2, including addition of a sixth name to the list of choices. The changes are shown below.

2. Give a short biographical summary of any TWO of the following, and tell of their roles in how Scouting developed and grew in the United States prior to 1940.
   1. Daniel Carter Beard
   2. William D. Boyce
   3. Waite Phillips
   4. Ernest Thompson Seton
   5. James E. West
   6. “Green Bar Bill” Hillcourt

Search and Rescue

A change was made to the note about unauthorized and restricted activities. This change was not noted in the listing on the inside front cover.

A Note About Unauthorized and Restricted Activities
The BSA’s Guide to Safe Scouting states under “Unauthorized and Restricted Activities” that flying in aircraft as part of a search and rescue mission is an unauthorized activity for youth members. For complete information, see http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety.aspx.

Soil and Water Conservation

A new requirement 4e was added in 2017 but omitted from the 2018 edition of Boy Scout Requirements. It has been included in the 2019 edition of Scouts BSA Requirements, and is shown below.

4. c. Explain what an aquifer is and why it can be important to communities.

Note that, in addition to this change, we have found a number of differences between the requirements in the Soil and Water Conservation merit badge pamphlet and the 2019 edition of Scouting BSA Requirements. Click here to see those differences.

Theater

Gender neutrality changes were made to requirement 4d. These changes were not noted in the listing on the inside front cover.

4. d. You are at a camp with a new Scout. You try to help him pass a cooking test. The Scout learns very slowly.

Welding

Changes were made to requirement 2a, as shown below. These changes were not noted in the listing on the inside front cover.

2. a. With your counselor, discuss general safety precautions and Material Safety Data Sheets related to welding. Explain the importance of the MSDS SDS.

Woodwork

Changes were made to requirement 5, Requirement 6a was revised and split into 6a, 6b, and 6c. Requirement 6b was renumbered as 6d and 66c was renumbered as 6e and revised. The revisions are shown below shown below.

5. Create your own woodworking project. Begin by making working drawings, list the materials you will need to complete your project, and then build your project.
   Keep track of the time you spend and the cost of the materials.

6. Do any TWO of the following:
   a. Make working drawings of a project needing beveled or rounded edges.
   b. Make working drawings of a project needing curved or incised cuttings and build it.
   c. Make working drawings of a project needing miter, dowel, or mortise and tenon joints and build it.
   d. Make a cabinet, box, or something else with a door or lid fastened with inset hinges.
   e. Help make and repair wooden toys for underprivileged children OR help carry out a woodworking service project approved by your counselor for a charitable organization.

Merit Badges with differences between
the current merit badge pamphlet
and the 2019 Scouts BSA Requirements book

In the following discussions, text that appears in the Scout BSA Requirements book, which has been replaced or deleted in the merit badge pamphlet, is shown in red italic lettering, while the replacement or new text that appears in the merit badge pamphlet is shown in large green lettering.

**Camping**

The wording of requirement 9b1 in the Camping merit badge pamphlet is different than the wording in Scouts BSA Requirements.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in the 2016 edition of the Camping merit badge pamphlet is as follows:

9. b. 1. Hike up a mountain where, at some point, you are at least 1,000 feet higher in elevation from where you started.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in Scouts BSA Requirements is as follows:

9. b. 1. Hike up a mountain, gaining at least 1,000 vertical feet.

**Fire Safety**

In the 2016 edition of the Fire Safety merit badge pamphlet, what was formerly requirement 3 was renumbered as 3a, and the text of a new requirement was added as 3b.

The changes adding this new requirement as they appear in the 2016 edition of the Fire Safety merit badge pamphlet are as follows:

3. Do the following:
   a. Name the most frequent causes of fire in the home and give examples of ways they can be prevented. Include a discussion about fires caused by smoking in the home, cooking, candles, fireplaces, and electrical appliances.
   b. Determine if smoke detectors are required in all dwellings within your municipality. If so, explain which specific types are required. Tell your counselor what type of smoke detectors your house has or needs.

12. Choose a fire safety-related career that interests you and describe the level of education required and responsibilities of a person in that position. Tell why this position interests you.

In the Scouts BSA Requirements book, the new text appears as requirement 12, and the previous requirement 12 is numbered as 13.

The changes to the requirements (as they appear in the Scouts BSA Requirements book) are as follows:

3. Name the most frequent causes of fire in the home and give examples of ways they can be prevented. Include a discussion about fires caused by smoking in the home, cooking, candles, fireplaces, and electrical appliances.

12. Determine if smoke detectors are required in all dwellings within your municipality. If so, explain which specific types are required. Tell your counselor what type of smoke detectors your house has or needs.

13. Choose a fire safety-related career that interests you and describe the level of education required and responsibilities of a person in that position. Tell why this position interests you.

**Fish and Wildlife Management**

The last sentence of requirement 7c has read “You may visit ...” in the Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge pamphlet, and “You must visit ...” in the Boy Scout Requirements and Scouts BSA Requirements books since it was added in 2004.

**Inventing**

The wording of requirement 4 in the Inventing merit badge pamphlet is different than the wording in Scouts BSA Requirements.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in the 2016 edition of the Inventing merit badge pamphlet is as follows:

4. Discuss with your counselor the types of inventions that are appropriate to share with others without protecting and explain why. Tell your counselor about one unpatented invention and its impact on society.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in Scouts BSA Requirements is as follows:

4. Discuss with your counselor the types of inventions that are appropriate to share with others without protecting and explain why. Tell your counselor about one nonpatented invention and its impact on society.

**Personal Fitness**

When a new Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet was issued in 2013, it contained information on a “Body Composition Evaluation” which was to replace the former “Body Composition Test”, and new wording for requirements 6 and 8. Since then, the Requirements books have had different wording (unchanged from the earlier requirements) for requirements 6 and 8 than what appears in the merit badge pamphlet.

The wording of requirements 6 and 8 in the Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet is as follows:

6. Before doing requirements 7 and 8, complete the aerobic fitness, flexibility, and muscular strength tests, along with the body composition evaluation as described in the Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet. Record your results and identify those areas where you feel you need to improve.

8. Complete the physical fitness program you outlined in requirement 7. Keep a log of your fitness program activity (how long you exercised; how far you ran, swam, or biked; how many exercise repetitions you completed; your exercise heart rate; etc.). Repeat the aerobic fitness, muscular strength, and flexibility tests every two weeks and record your results. After the 12th week, repeat all of the required activities in each of the three test categories, record your results, and show improvement in each one. For the body composition evaluation, compare and analyze your preprogram and postprogram body composition measurements. Discuss the meaning and benefit of your experience, and describe your long-term plans regarding your personal fitness.

The wording of requirements 6 and 8 in the Scouts BSA Requirements book is as follows:

6. Before doing requirements 7 and 8, complete the aerobic fitness, flexibility, muscular strength, and body composition tests as described in the Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet. Record your results and identify those areas where you feel you need to improve.

8. Complete the physical fitness program you outlined in requirement 7. Keep a log of your fitness program activity (how long you exercised; how far you ran, swam, or biked; how many exercise repetitions you completed; your exercise heart rate; etc.). Repeat the aerobic fitness, muscular strength, and flexibility tests every two weeks and record your results. After the 12th week, repeat the three tests, record your results, and show improvement in each one. For the body composition test, compare and analyze your preprogram and postprogram body composition measurements. Discuss the meaning and benefit of your experience, and describe your long-term plans regarding your personal fitness.

The requirements for the Flexibility, Aerobic Fitness, and Strength tests and for the Body Composition Evaluation which involves a calculation of the BMI percentile, which are all specified in requirements 6 and 8, are defined in the current Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet.

The Physical Fitness Tests specified for requirements 6 and 8 are as follows:

- Aerobic Fitness Test
Record your performance on one of the following tests:

1. Run/walk as far as you can as fast as you can in nine minutes

OR

2. Run/walk one mile as fast as you can

- **Flexibility Test**
  - Using a sit-and-reach box constructed according to specifications in this merit badge pamphlet, make four repetitions and record the fourth reach. This last reach must be held steady for 15 seconds to qualify. (Keep to the knees down.)

- **Strength Tests**
  - Sit-ups. Record the number of sit-ups done correctly in 60 seconds. The sit-ups must be done in the form explained and illustrated in the merit badge pamphlet.
  - Pull-ups. Record the total number of pull-ups completed correctly in 60 seconds. Be consistent with the procedures presented in the merit badge pamphlet.

- **Push-ups.** Record the total number of push-ups completed correctly in 60 seconds. Be consistent with the procedures presented in the merit badge pamphlet. Click here to see the test procedures presented in the merit badge pamphlet.

*Sit and Reach Box for the Flexibility Test:*

To see instructions for building the Sit and Reach Box, click here.

The illustration shows dimensions for constructing the reach box in inches, while the requirement table in the pamphlet stipulates measuring the Scout’s reach in centimeters (cm). Either attach a tape measure calibrated in both inches and cm to the top panel, or mark the top panel in cm. The measuring scale should extend from 0 at the front edge of top panel to 53 cm at a point 0.34 cm before the back edge. That should place the 23 cm point 0.14 cm behind the face of the foot panel.

**Body Composition Evaluation (Calculating Your BMI):**

- **Step 1** - Multiply your weight in pounds by 703.
- **Step 2** - Divide the figure you get in No. 1 above by your height in inches.
- **Step 3** - Divide the figure you get in No. 2 above by your height in inches to get your BMI.
- **Step 4** - Use the chart in the Personal Fitness merit badge pamphlet to determine the BMI percentile for your age.

As an example, if you are 15 years old, your weight is 130 pounds, and your height is 5’8” (68”), then:

1. \[130 \times 703 = 91390\]
2. \[91390 / 68 = 1344\]
3. \[1344 / 68 = 20.\]

This means your BMI is 20. From the chart in the pamphlet, you are at the 50th percentile.

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**Small Boat Sailing**

There is an editorial error in the Scouts BSA Requirements book, in requirement 1b, "... while canoeing;" should read "... while sailing;"
The correct wording appears in the Small-Boat Sailing merit badge pamphlet.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in the 2016 edition of the Small-Boat Sailing merit badge pamphlet is as follows:

1. a. Review prevention, symptoms, and first-aid treatment for the following injuries or illnesses that can occur while sailing: blisters, cold-water shock and hypothermia, dehydration, heat-related illnesses, sunburn, sprains, and strains.

**Soil and Water Conservation**

A number of changes to the text of the requirements for this merit badge were first published in the Soil and Water Conservation merit badge pamphlet (33291A) issued in 2004. The revised requirements were also included in the version of the pamphlet issued in 2008 (335952) and in the 2010 revision of the 2004 edition (335952 - SKU: 610016) and each printing of each of those editions. However, the revised text was not included the 2005 edition of the merit badge pamphlet. The revised requirements also have the word "purposes" added to the basin requirements.

The wording of this requirement, as it appears in Scouts BSA Requirements is as follows:

1. **b.** Review prevention, symptoms, and first-aid treatment for the following injuries or illnesses that can occur while canoeing: blisters, cold-water shock and hypothermia, dehydration, heat-related illnesses, sunburn, sprains, and strains.

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**Traffic Safety**

A new Traffic Safety merit badge pamphlet with revised requirements was issued in 2016. There were changes to requirements 5b and 5d which have not been made to the text in Scouts BSA Requirements.

The wording of these requirements, as it appears in the 2016 edition of the Traffic Safety merit badge pamphlet is as follows:

5. a. Using the Internet (with your parent's permission), visit five websites that cover safe driving for teenagers. Then in a group session with at least three teenagers and your counselor, discuss what you have learned.

b. Accompanied by an adult and a buddy, pick a safe place to observe traffic at a controlled intersection (traffic signal or stop sign) on three separate days and at different times of the day, for 30 minutes on each visit. At this intersection, survey violations that might occur. These violations could include (but are not limited to) running a red light or stop sign, speeding, using a cell phone while driving, or occupants not wearing their seat belts. Count the number of violations. Record in general terms the approximate age of the people you observed. Keep track of the total number of vehicles observed so that you can determine the percentage of compliance vs. violations. Discuss the findings with your merit badge counselor.

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Scouts BSA Advancement Changes - Effective January 1, 2019
Special Opportunities

Deleted

BSA Lifeguard

Extensive changes to the requirements for the BSA Lifeguard Award were made in 2017. Those changes were not shown in the 2018 edition of Boy Scout Requirements, and are no longer included in the Scouts BSA Requirements book. The current requirements can be found here: Application for BSA Lifeguard (430-033WB - 2017 Revision)

Modified Requirements

50 Miler Award

Changes were made to requirements 1 and 4, as shown below.

1. Make complete and satisfactory plans for the trip, including the possibilities of advancement, conservation, leadership, and service.
4. Unit or tour leader must then file a the 50-Miler Award application with the local council service center. This application gives additional details about planning the trip.

Boardsailing BSA

There were no changes to this award.

BSA Standup Paddleboarding

Changes were made to requirement 5, as shown below.

5. Describe the correct appropriate type of leash to wear in the appropriate different water venues.

Complete Angler

There were no changes to this award.

Cyber Chip

A change was made to requirement 5 for Scouts in grades 9-12, as shown below.

5. As an individual or patrol, use the EDGE method and the Teen Volunteer Student Project Kit to teach Internet safety rules, behavior, and "netiquette" to your troop or another patrol. You are encouraged to use any additional material and information you have researched. Each member of the patrol must have a role and present part of the lesson. (www.NetSmartz.org/scouting)

Den Chief Service Award

Gender neutrality changes were made to requirements 7 and 11h and changes to requirements 8 and 11f, as shown below.

7. Be a friend to the Cub Scouts in the den.
8. Take part in weekly meetings or as often as the den meets, for a minimum of six months.
11. f. Recommend to your Scoutmaster, Skipper, or Venturing Adviser another Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer to be a den chief.

Firem'n Chit

Gender neutrality changes were made to the requirements, as shown below.

This certification grants a Scout the right to carry fire-lighting devices (matches, lighters, etc.) and to build campfires. The Scout must show his or their Scout leader, or someone designated by his or their leader, an understanding of the responsibility to do the following:

1. I have read and understand use and safety rules from the BSA Scout BSA Handbook.
6. I will make sure that water and/or a shovel is readily available. I will promptly report any wildfire to the proper authorities.

The Scout’s “Firem'n Rights” can be taken away if they fail in their responsibility.

Historic Trails Award

Changes were made to requirements 1 and 3, as shown below.

1. Locate a historic trail or site and conduct research-—or a combination of the two—using council-provided pamphlets, web-based resources, local historic societies, or the library.
3. Cooperate with an adult group or an historic society to create and mark off as part of this trail or site. This may be done during the hike or overnight camp. Or cooperate with such a group to plan and conduct a substantial service project or trail/site restoration under the supervision or permission of the owner or sponsoring agency of the trail or site.

An alternative to a project can be a historic pageant, ceremony, or other public event related to this trail or site. Such an event should be large enough to merit coverage by the local press.

Interpreter Strip

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3/23/2019, 11:32 PM
A change was made to the instruction on where the patch is worn, as shown below.

UNIFORM INSIGNIA WORN CENTERED ABOVE “BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA” or “SCOUTS BSA” STRIP

Morse Code Interpreter Strip

No changes were made, other than the change listed for the Interpreter Strip above.

Kayaking BSA

A gender neutrality change was made to requirement 4c, as shown below.

4.  c.  Show how to approach a capsized paddle in your kayak and tow them to shore.

Mile Swim BSA

There were no changes to this award.

National Medal for Outdoor Achievement

Changes were made to the title and introduction and the Heroism Medal was added as item 3, with items 3-5 renumbered as 4-6, as shown below.

The National Medal for Outdoor Achievement is the highest recognition that a Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn for exemplary achievement, experience, and skill in multiple areas of outdoor endeavor. As is the case for the National Outdoor badges, outdoor activities completed as part of an approved Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Sea Scouting, Venturing, or Exploring program may be used if they meet the requirements. In order for a youth to earn the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement, the youth must complete the following requirements:

1. Earn the BSA First Class rank, or complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1–6.
2. Plan and lead, with the approval of your unit leader, an outing for another Scout troop, Sea Scout ship, or Venture crew. Include in each outing a service element addressing recreational impacts resulting from that type of activity. With the approval of your unit leader, you may plan and lead the outings for another Cub Scout pack, Sea Scout troop, or Venturing crew.

3. Heroism Medal.
   Has demonstrated heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at minimal personal risk.

4. Medal of Merit.
   Has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

   Has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of national recognition. Note: If the action is deserving of merit but does not qualify for a national award, the Scout may be eligible for the Local Council Certificate of Merit, No. 606760.

   The situation does not meet the criteria for a National Court of Honor award but the act is deserving of recognition. The case is not extraordinary, did not call for unusual skill and was not exceptional in nature but was of outstanding service and did reflect the high ideals of Scouting.

National Court of Honor - Lifesaving, Meritorious Action, and Heroism Awards

Changes were made to the title and introduction and the Heroism Medal was added as item 3, with items 3-5 renumbered as 4-6, as shown below.

Lifesaving, and Meritorious Action, and Heroism Awards

National awards for lifesaving and meritorious action and Heroism are made only for outstanding and unusual acts that demonstrate unusual heroism, skill or bravery and reflect Scouting ideals, based on the following criteria:

3. Heroism Medal.
   Has demonstrated heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at minimal personal risk.

4. Medal of Merit.
   Has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

   Has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of national recognition. Note: If the action is deserving of merit but does not qualify for a national award, the Scout may be eligible for the Local Council Certificate of Merit, No. 606760.

National Outdoor Awards for Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure

Gender neutrality changes were made to the introduction and requirement 1 for each of the badges, and changes were made to the introduction, and the following requirements: Camping 4, Hiking 3, Aquatics 2, 3, 4, & 5, and Conservation 2 & 3a, and the footnote to Hiling requirement 3 was deleted. The changes were as follows:

Camping

A Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Camping upon successfully completing the following requirements:
1. Earn the BSA First Class rank, or complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Complete 25 days and nights of camping—(Sea Scouts may be on a boat)—including six consecutive days (five nights) of camping.

Hiking

A Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Hiking upon successfully completing the following requirements:
1. Earn the BSA First Class rank, or complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
3. Complete the requirements for one of the following:
   - Pathfinding merit badge, or
   - Orienteering merit badge, or
   - Scouting merit badge.
Venturing Ranger Land Navigation core requirement.

Only the Scout who has already earned the First Aid merit badge during Scouting's centennial celebration in 2010 and first quarter of 2011 can receive credit for this requirement. This badge has been discontinued since then, and can no longer be earned.

Aquatics

**A Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Aquatics upon successfully completing the following requirements:**

1. Earn the Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer merit badge or complete Venturing First Class requirements.
2. Demonstrate the safety use of five of the following conservation tools: pick or pickaxe, shovel or spade; ax; bow saw; cross-cut saw; prybar; sledge hammer; loppers or shears; fire rake or McLeod; and/or Polaski. Discuss the ethical use of the tools you chose.
3. Environmental Science merit badge or Sustainability merit badge or both Venturing Ranger Conservation core and Ecology elective.

**Riding**

**A Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Riding upon successfully completing the following requirements:**

1. Earn the Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer merit badge or complete Venturing First Class requirements.
2. Complete at least 50 hours of on-the-water time, applying the skills that you learned in the merit badge or Ranger elective.
3. Complete at least 50 hours of any combination of swimming, canoeing, fishing, fly-fishing, kayaking, rowing, scuba, small-boat sailing, stand up paddleboarding, water sports, or whitewater activity under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including time spent in requirements 2 through 4.

**Conservation**

**A Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Conservation upon successfully completing the following requirements:**

1. Earn the Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer merit badge or complete Venturing First Class requirements.
2. Complete 20 hours of any combination of swimming, canoeing, fishing, fly-fishing, kayaking, rowing, scuba, small-boat sailing, stand up paddleboarding, water sports, or whitewater activity under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including time spent in requirements 2 through 4.

**Adventure**

**A Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Adventure upon successfully completing the following requirements:**

1. Earn the Boy Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer merit badge or complete Venturing First Class requirements.
2. Complete at least 25 hours of on-the-water time, applying the skills that you learned in the merit badge or Ranger elective.
3. Complete at least 25 hours of any combination of swimming, canoeing, fishing, fly-fishing, kayaking, rowing, scuba, small-boat sailing, stand up paddleboarding, water sports, or whitewater activity under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including time spent in requirements 2 through 4.

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**National Park Service - Resource Stewardship Scout Ranger**

Changes were made to requirement ___, as shown below.

2. a. With your counselor, discuss general safety precautions and MSDS Safety Data Sheets related to welding. Explain the importance of the MSDS.

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**Nova and Supernova Awards**

Gender neutrality changes and other general changes were made to the description of the Nova and Supernova Awards in the requirements booklet. We have not reproduced that information in its entirety, but have incorporated much of the material on our website.

In addition, five new Nova Awards have been added, one for Cub and Webelos Scouts, two for Scouts BSA, and two for Venturers and Sea Scouts. The titles and subject areas are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts</th>
<th>Scouts BSA</th>
<th>Venturing and Sea Scouts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cab Scouts Can Code (Computers)</td>
<td>Mendel's Mutants (Genetics)</td>
<td>What a Light (Biology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts Can Code (Computers)</td>
<td>Hello, World (Computer Programming)</td>
<td>Execute (Programming)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Outdoor Ethics Action Award**

Changes were made to each requirement, as shown below.

1. Do the following:
   a. Learn. Unless already completed, earn the Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award.
   b. Complete the BSA outdoor ethics orientation or the BSA Leave No Trace 101 course. 
   c. Explain how each of the four points of the Outdoor Code (www.scouting.org/outdoor/programs/outdoor-ethics) guides your actions when outdoors.

2. Do the following:
   a. Read the Boy Scout Handbook Chapter 7 of the Scouts BSA handbook on outdoor ethics.
   b. Teach a skill related to the Outdoor Code or Leave No Trace to another Scout in your troop or another Scouting unit.
   c. Complete one of the following:
      a. Successfully complete a term as your troop outdoor ethics advisor or complete the BSA Leave No Trace 101 course. 
      b. Participate in an outing that emphasizes the complete set of Leave No Trace (http://lnt.org/learn/7-principles) or Tread Lightly! (www.treadlightly.teachable.com/p/online-awareness-course) principles. All members of the troop participating in the outing should practice the specific outdoor ethics and the specific skills needed to minimize impacts from their use of the outdoors.

4. Follow the Outdoor Code, Leave No Trace, and Tread Lightly! principles on three outings. Write one or more paragraphs about the three outings. Include a paragraph on each outing explaining how you followed the Outdoor Code, Leave No Trace, and Tread Lightly! Discuss what you learned with your unit leader and provide a specific example of how you demonstrated the principles. Share it with your unit leader or an individual who has completed the BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 course, the Leave No Trace Master Educator course, the Leave No Trace Trainer course, the Tread Lightly! Master Tread Trainer course, or the Tread Lightly! Tread Trainer outdoor ethics orientation course.

5. On a troop outing, help your troop on a service activity that addresses recreational impacts related to the type of outing. The project should be approved in advance by the landowner or land manager and lead to permanent or long-term improvements.

6. Participate in a report at a court of honor or similar family event on the service activity conducted to complete the requirement.

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**Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award**

The URLs in requirements 1.2, 3, and 4 were corrected, a gender neutrality change was made to the introduction, and changes were made to requirements 4 and 5. The revisions are as follows:

- **Learn** Scouts interested in learning more about outdoor ethics and Leave No Trace should begin by exploring the Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award. The requirements are as follows:
  1. Recite from memory and explain the meaning of the Outdoor Code (www.scouting.org/outdoor/programs/outdoor-ethics).
  2. Watch the National Park Service Leave No Trace video (www.nps.gov/napa/planyourvisit/leave-no-trace-video.htm).
  3. Complete the Leave No Trace online course (http://hr.org/learn/online-awareness-course). Print the certificate.
5. Participate in an outdoor ethics course, workshop, or training activity facilitated by a person who has completed the BSA Leave No Trace 101 course or the BSA outdoor ethics orientation course OR by or is a BSA outdoor ethics trainer or master who has completed one of the following: the Leave No Trace Master Educator course, the Leave No Trace Trainer course, the Tread Lightly! Master Tread Trainer course, or the Tread Lightly! Tread Trainer course.

Paul Bunyan Woodsman

Changes were made to the introduction, new requirements 1, 2, and 5 were added and old requirements 1, 2, and 3 were revised and renumbered as 3, 4, and 6. The changes are shown below.

Study the Boy Scout Handbook Scouts BSA handbooks and the Camping merit badge pamphlet, and demonstrate to your Scoutmaster or other qualified person the following:

1. Explain the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in camping activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
2. Show that you know first aid for Injuries that could occur while using woods tools.
3. Show that you have earned Earn the Totin’ Chip.
4. Help a Scout or patrol earn the Totin’ Chip, and demonstrate to him (them) the value of proper woods-tools use on a troop camping trip.
5. Be familiar with the proper and safe use of woods tools including:
   a. Axe
   b. Hatchet
   c. Loppers
   d. McLeod
   e. Pulaski
   f. Saw
   g. Shovel
6. With official approval and supervision, do ONE of the following: using woods tools, spend at least two hours doing one of the following conservation oriented projects:
   a. Clear trails or fire lanes.
   b. Trim a downed tree, cut into 4-foot lengths, and stack; make a brush pile with the branches.
   c. Build a natural retaining wall or irrigation way to aid in a planned conservation effort.

Religious Emblems

Changes were made to the information for a number of the religious organizations. See the appropriate web page for more information.

Scuba BSA Award

A Change was made to the Note following the requirements, as shown below.

NOTE: The counselor for Scuba BSA must hold an instructor rating and be in current teaching status with PADI, NAUI, SSI or RSTC member organization, another member of the RSTC in accordance with BSA scuba policies. Instruction must meet the minimum training standards for introductory scuba experiences set by the RSTC and guidelines provided in the Scuba BSA Brochure, No. 13-971. BSA scuba policies are provided in that brochure and also in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Snorkeling BSA

There were no changes to this award.

Totin' Chip

Gender neutrality changes were made to requirement 1 and the text before and after the requirements, as shown below.

This certification grants a Scout the right to carry and use woods tools. The Scout must show his Scout leader, or someone designated by his leader, that he understands his responsibility to do the following:

1. Read and understand woods tools use and safety rules from the Boy Scout Handbook Scouts BSA handbooks.

The Scout’s "Totin’ Rights" can be taken away if they fail in their responsibility.

Whitewater Rafting BSA

There were no changes to this award.

William T. Hornaday Awards

Some gender neutrality changes were made and Sea Scouts were identified as being eligible for the awards. We replaced the webpage on our site with text that includes the current text.

World Conservation Award

The requirements in the Scouts BSA Requirements 2019 book was updated to add Sustainability as an alternative to Environmental Science in requirement 1. However, the application form for this badge has an additional requirement that is not listed. The changed requirement is shown below, along with the requirement which was not in the book.

1. Environmental Science OR Sustainability merit badge.

AND participate in a conservation project as part of an approved Scouting program totaling at least three hours that addresses a conservation need common to more than one country.