



GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT

Venturing Supplement 2015



BSA Mission Statement

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The Aims of Scouting

“Every Scouting activity moves boys toward three basic aims: character development, citizenship training, and mental and physical fitness.”

—Scoutmaster Handbook

“Advancement is one of the eight methods used by Scout leaders to help boys fulfill the aims of the BSA.”

—Scoutmaster Handbook

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GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT Venturing Supplement 2015



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* replaces any previous editions and the publication *Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures* and is the official Boy Scouts of America source on advancement procedures.

Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program

No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs."

Mandated Procedures and Recommended Practices

This publication clearly identifies mandated procedures with words such as "must" and "shall." Where such language is used, no council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to deviate from the procedures covered, without the written permission of the national Advancement Team.

Recommended best practices are offered using words like "should," while other options and guidelines are indicated with terms such as "may" or "can." Refer questions on these to your local district or council advancement chairs or staff advisors. They, in turn, may request interpretations and assistance from the national Advancement Team.

The Guide to Safe Scouting Applies

Policies and procedures outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting* apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects.

What Does "Unit Leader" Mean?

Throughout this publication the term "unit leader" refers only to a Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Varsity team Coach, Venturing crew Advisor, or Sea Scout Skipper. "Unit leadership" is sometimes used as a generic reference to any adult leader in a unit and as such would include the unit leader along with any other adult leaders.

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Introduction

This Venturing supplement to the *Guide to Advancement* provides the policies and procedures for the new Venturing advancement awards program. It is the official source for administering advancement in the Venturing program, and replaces or adds details to the Venturing information that appears in the *Guide to Advancement* 2013 edition.

The National Advancement Committee is currently in the revision process for the next edition of the *Guide to Advancement*, which is expected to release during the first half of 2015. The Venturing material covered in this supplement will appear in that new edition.

4.3.1.0 Advancement in Venturing

The purpose of the Venturing awards program is to provide a pathway for accomplishment in the ALPS model. Advancement is accomplished when an active program emphasizes it and pays attention to the four steps in the process: preparation, learning, qualification, and recognition. Four awards make up the Venturing advancement track: Venturing, Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit. Other awards not part of the advancement program are also described below. Venturers must complete award requirements before their 21st birthday.

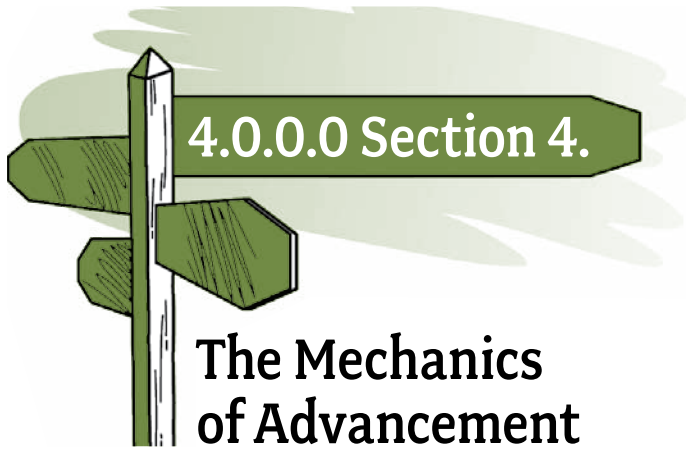
For detailed requirements and more information on Venturing advancement or recognition, see the *Handbook for Venturers*, No. 33494; *Venturing Awards and Requirements*, No. 34784; and the *Venturing Advisor Guidebook*, No. 34655. Each award is progressively more challenging, designed to help Venturers learn and practice new skills and to track their success. Each challenge met puts Venturers closer to the next award, providing a well-rounded program and a path forward as they progress.

Unless otherwise stated, Venturers may work on requirements for the Venturing, Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit awards, and other Venturing recognitions at any time after joining a crew. Requirements for an award may be completed even if the preceding award has not been fully earned, but the Advisor conferences and boards of review must be done in order.

4.3.1.1 The Venturing Awards

Venturing Advancement Awards

The following awards are part of the Venturing advancement track.



4.0.0.0 Section 4.

The Mechanics of Advancement

4.0.0.0 Changes to Requirements

The following Venturing topics will appear in section 4 of the *Guide to Advancement* 2015.

4.3.0.0 Mechanics of Advancement: In Venturing

Venturing is for young men and women who are 14 through 20 years old, or who are 13 and have completed the eighth grade. It offers young people adventure with a purpose that serves to build character, promote citizenship, and develop personal and mental fitness. The experience helps participants mature into responsible, caring, and dependable leaders for tomorrow. Each Venturing crew is responsible for achieving these aims by designing a program that appeals to its members. Thus, Venturing is a catalyst: It brings together adults and young people, and incredible things happen. It is all about asking themselves and one another what is possible, and then setting out to plan and do that.

4.3.0.1 Venturing Areas of Emphasis

The four areas of emphasis in Venturing are known as the ALPS model:

- **Adventure.** Mentoring, leading, and participating in crew-led adventures.
- **Leadership.** Ongoing leadership development through training, mentoring, and hands-on leadership.
- **Personal Growth.** Goal-setting in support of personal growth.
- **Service.** Leading and participating in community service.

Each requirement for the Venturing advancement awards falls under one of these areas of emphasis.

Venturing Award. This is the beginning of the Venturing experience. The new member learns about the program, what a crew does, and what to expect from the experience and the adventures, and makes a commitment to the principles of Venturing. No board of review is involved.

Discovery Award. Participation and preparing for leadership are the key elements here. The Discovery Award is designed to encourage members to design and lead an active program of continuous adventure and service. Venturers who achieve the Discovery Award will have taken part in two crew activities, and as they become more active, they discover talents and learn skills that will help them lead and serve others. In doing so, personal growth will result, and they will gradually recognize the wide variety of opportunities awaiting them.

Pathfinder Award. In earning the Pathfinder Award, a Venturer should begin to establish a reputation as a skilled leader. The award seeks to engage Venturers more deeply in the program by delivering further on the ALPS model. One of the key requirements involves leading a crew adventure. The type of adventure—whether an extended bicycle or canoe trip, or even 10 days visiting the museums of Washington, D.C.—is up to the award candidate and the crew. The value in the adventure comes from learning how to lead and demonstrate skills through action. Pathfinder Award candidates will also continue to deliver service to others, including to the crew, to ensure it remains strong and viable. Goals set and achieved will continue to help the Venturer grow as an individual.

Summit Award. While the Pathfinder Award requires a member to lead an adventure, the Summit Award—Venturing’s highest—moves a young person into the role of servant leader. The Venturer will serve the crew as a leader—both formally and informally—and become a mentor to others. Additionally, Summit Award candidates are challenged to carry out a significant and valuable service project, where they will apply many of the lessons they’ve learned along the way. A crew’s program should be built upon a program of continuous, youth-led adventure, leadership, personal growth, and service. Each award level challenges Venturers to dig deep as they consider the question of who they are. In doing this, their climb to the Summit will be more likely to truly develop and enhance their skills and confidence to complete the requirements. To the Summit Award recipient, servant leadership and community service are the cornerstones.

Venturing Recognition Awards

The awards described below are available to all Venturers, but are not considered part of the advancement track and do not involve boards of review.

Ranger Award. High adventure and the outdoors have always been emphasized in the Boy Scouts of America, and Venturing is no different. The Ranger Award encourages a high level of achievement and proficiency in outdoor skills. It exemplifies challenge. Eight core requirements and at least four of the 18 electives must be completed. The crew Advisor or a pre-approved consultant approves completed requirements.

Quest Award. The Quest Award is about fitness and sports. Candidates learn about nutrition, exercise plans, and what is required for a healthy life. They may be introduced to an enjoyable sport helpful toward that end. As with other Venturing awards, members share with others what they have learned. This can be done through presentations or even sports clinics. Five core requirements and at least one of the five electives must be completed. The crew Advisor or a pre-approved consultant approves completed requirements.

TRUST Award. The TRUST (Tending, Respecting, Understanding, Serving, Transforming) Award helps Venturers learn about themselves, their communities, and religion and culture. It recognizes that trust is an essential part of relationships, and that learning to understand one another—especially those from different backgrounds and nationalities—represents a good start. The five core requirements are Tending Your Faith, Respecting the Beliefs of Others, Understanding Other Cultures, Serving Your Community, and Transforming Our Society. The crew Advisor or a pre-approved consultant approves completed requirements.

4.3.1.2 Past Credit for Venturers

Work on all Venturing award requirements must be done as Venturers. For example, even though a young man earned the Backpacking merit badge as a Boy Scout, before he became a Venturer, he must pass the Ranger backpacking elective once registered as a Venturer. Some requirements may call for certification such as Scuba Open-Water Diver, American Red Cross Standard First Aid, or BSA Lifeguard. Any such certifications that are still current may be used regardless of the program in which they were earned.

4.3.1.3 Multiple Credit for Venturers

Venturers may receive multiple credit for requirements. In the above example, if the Backpacking merit badge was earned while the member was also a Venturer, the effort could also count toward the Ranger elective. Further, experiences such as the Red Cross Emergency Response course could be used for the Ranger first aid requirement and the first aid and lifesaving electives. Venturers may not receive multiple credit for something like a tabletop

display or a presentation. These must be done separately and relate directly to each situation requiring them.

4.3.1.4 Boy Scout Advancement in Venturing and Sea Scouts

Venturers and Sea Scouts who earned First Class rank as registered Boy Scouts or Varsity Scouts are qualified until their 18th birthday to continue with Boy Scout advancement. If desired, they may maintain multiple registration in more than one unit; for example, a troop, team, or ship, in addition to the crew; and work on Boy Scout ranks in any of those units. Wherever the member is registered, the Scoutmaster or Coach and crew Advisor or ship's Skipper decide with the young man which one will oversee his advancement. If the Advisor or Skipper does so, but is unfamiliar with Boy Scouting, the district advancement committee should identify an experienced Scouter to assist. It is important for Venturing and Sea Scout leaders to understand that Boy Scout advancement procedures must be followed.

With the exception of the Eagle, Quartermaster, and Summit Award service projects, any work done *while a Venturer or Sea Scout* can count toward Boy Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout advancement at the same time. The Eagle, Quartermaster, and Summit Award service projects must be separate and distinct from each other.

Position of responsibility requirements for Boy Scout ranks may be met by the Venturer or Sea Scout serving in crew or ship positions as outlined in the current *Boy Scout Requirements* book. The Advisor or Skipper conducts the unit leader conference. All Boy Scouting boards of review must be administered according to section 8 of the *Guide to Advancement*, topics 8.0.0.1 through 8.0.4.1. Adults from the crew or ship committee who are at least 21 years of age hold Star and Life boards of review. Eagle Scout boards are conducted at the unit, district, or council level according to the local council's established procedures.

4.3.1.5 Applying Previous Venturing Experiences to the New Award Requirements

The new Venturing award requirements were designed to reflect what Venturers of successful crews do. Members of active, adventurous crews will notice they have already completed many of the Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit award requirements. If a registered Venturer has fulfilled the new requirements, as written, through participation under the previous awards program, then the requirements are considered completed.

The following requirements are open to past credit if the requirements were completed as a Venturer before June 1, 2014.

Discovery. Venturers may receive credit for requirements 1–3 and 5–6.

Pathfinder. Venturers may receive credit for requirements 1, 3–6, and 8. The "Since earning the Discovery Award" portion of requirements 3 and 4a are waived for Venturers who completed these requirements before June 1, 2014.

Summit. Venturers may receive credit for requirements 1 and 4. The "Since earning the Pathfinder Award" portion of requirement 4a is waived for Venturers who completed these requirements before June 1, 2014.

All other requirements must be completed after June 1, 2014.

4.3.1.6 Discovery and Pathfinder Service Requirements

Requirement 6 for the Discovery Award calls for a total of at least 24 hours of service, up to half of which may be delivered on a personal basis by the Venturer. The rest must be delivered through crew service activities. Note that the Venturer has the option of delivering *all* of the service through participation in crew service activities, or as little as half of the service through crew activities, with the rest—up to half—delivered through personal efforts. The corresponding requirement 6 for the Pathfinder Award, calling for 36 more service hours, is handled in the same way.

Service that a Venturer delivers "personally" could include, for example, service performed as part of a school, religious, or even a Scouting or Venturing event, even if other crew members decide to participate as well. Personally delivered service could also include assistance with a Boy Scout's Eagle service project. For service to count as a crew service activity, the service must be delivered through the efforts of the Venturer's own crew with an expectation for crew participation. Crew participation in a community service event would count as crew-delivered service, too, if the crew planned and organized the participation.

For Venturers to fulfill these two service requirements they are dependent upon crew-organized efforts for at least half of the service, as the crew develops an ethic of service to others.

There is no requirement for Advisor approval of service delivered personally, though the "how and why" of the service may be a good topic for an Advisor conference.

Service to the crew—such as for Pathfinder Award requirement 5—is a separate service requirement for the benefit of the crew and its members and does not count toward service hours for Discovery or Pathfinder service requirement 6 described above.

4.3.2.0 The Venturing Summit Award Service Project

Since earning the Pathfinder Award, plan and conduct a service project as described in the Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook. Before you start, have the project proposal form from the workbook completed and approved by those benefiting from the effort, your Advisor, and another Venturer designated by your crew leadership. This project must be a different project than one carried out for the Eagle Scout Award, the Sea Scout Quartermaster Award, or the Girl Scout Gold Award.

—Venturing Summit Award requirement 8

A Venturing Summit Award service project must provide a valuable service that meets a need, and it must represent a significant personal growth experience through some combination of its scope and complexity, leadership of others, or a connection to a personal future life-goal related to the Venturer's education, career, or other interest. The *impact* of a project—the extent to which it makes a meaningful difference—is the most important consideration.

4.3.2.1 Service Project Focus Areas

To determine whether a Venturing Summit Award service project is acceptable, the following four focus areas are considered:

Service. A valuable action, deed, or effort carried out to meet a need.

Scope and complexity. The scale of the project; the level of effort and planning involved.

Leadership. Leading others toward a shared vision.

Personal goal connection. Making the most of the experience, including what is important to the Venturer.

All four focus areas are considered together. Every Summit Award project must provide a service, but no particular level of scope or complexity is required. The crew Advisor and a designated crew member must agree that a project fulfills what is required. The other two focus areas, leadership and personal goal connection, are not absolutely required, but will add great value and depth to

the project. While the leadership and personal goal connection focus areas are optional, one or the other, or both, may help to compensate for a project that requires little in terms of planning and execution. Leadership of others and a personal goal connection may also be important to Venturers who wish to provide a project report to a prospective employer or college admissions board.

Councils and districts do not play a role in reviewing or approving Venturing Summit Award service projects.

4.3.2.2 Restrictions and Other Considerations

There are no required minimum hours for a project. Leadership of others is not required for the Venturing Summit Award service project, though projects that include leadership may compensate in cases where scope and complexity are relatively simple.

Routine labor is not normally appropriate for a project. This might be defined as a job or service provided as part of daily life, or a routine maintenance job normally done by the beneficiary (for example, pulling weeds on the school football field).

Any limitations on projects for a business are not meant to disallow work for community institutions, such as museums and service agencies (like homes for the elderly, for example), that by their very nature exist to provide a valuable service to the community.

Projects must not be of a commercial nature, and they must not be efforts that primarily raise money, even for a worthy charity. Fundraising is permitted only for securing materials and facilitating a project, and it may need to be approved by the local council. See the "Summit Award Service Project Fundraising Application" in the *Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook*.

Topic 9.0.2.10, "Fundraising Issues," in the Guide to Advancement also applies to Summit Award service projects.

No more than one Summit Award candidate may receive credit for working on the same Summit Award service project. It is permissible, however, to have projects that are related, as long as each project can be conducted and evaluated independently.

Summit Award projects must not include service to the BSA, its councils, districts, units, or properties.

This project must not be the same as one a Venturer used to fulfill requirements for the Eagle Scout rank, the Sea Scout Quartermaster rank, or the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The following topics in the Guide to Advancement that apply to Eagle Scout service projects also apply to Summit Award service projects:

9.0.2.14, "Risk Management and Eagle Scout Service Projects"

9.0.2.15, "Insurance and Eagle Scout Service Projects"

9.0.2.16, "Eagle Scout Service Projects and Messengers of Peace"

4.3.2.3 Evaluating the Summit Award Service Project After Completion

After completing the project, the Summit Award candidate completes the service project report found in the project workbook. The project beneficiary should be the first to provide an approval. This approval is simply an agreement that the project was carried out to the beneficiary's satisfaction.

The crew Advisor must then determine if the project meets "What Is Required," found in the Venturing Summit Award Service Project Proposal form in the workbook. A thorough review of the four focus areas described in the proposal will provide helpful information, as will a careful review of topic 4.3.2.1, "Service Project Focus Areas," above.

The Summit Award board of review will have the opportunity to review the service project as well. It should be rare, however, that a project acceptable to a beneficiary and the crew Advisor would be rejected by a board of review.

4.3.3.0 Time Extensions for Earning the Summit Award

If a Venturer foresees, that, due to no fault of his or her own, the requirements to complete the Summit Award are

not achievable before age 21, he or she may apply for a limited time extension. These are rarely granted, and reserved only for work on the Summit Award. The tests that apply and the procedures to follow are the same as those outlined for an extension of time to earn the Eagle Scout rank. See topic 9.0.4.0, "Time Extensions." Note that references to age 18 in the Eagle Scout procedure would relate to 21 in Venturing, and that extension requests are sent to, and approved by, the National Advancement Team. Local councils do not approve extensions of time.

4.3.4.0 Submitting the Summit Award Application

A copy should be made of the application and the service project workbook. Once copies are in safekeeping, the originals should be delivered *promptly* to the council service center. The candidate should not be delayed. Timeliness is especially critical if the Venturer is approaching, or has already turned, 21. Sending materials late can imply the work continued afterward. If possible, everything should be hand-delivered. Otherwise it should be sent by registered or certified mail. There is no requirement that the application must be completed or submitted before the 21st birthday. Councils do not have the authority to reject applications submitted on or after the birthday.

At the council service center the application is checked against council records. This can be done more efficiently if the crew's records in the BSA system have been kept up to date. If everything is correct, the council provides a verification signature, files a copy of the application, and sends the original with the workbook to the board of review chair or other designated volunteer. The board is scheduled only after the council-verified application is received.

After the board of review, an approved application is returned to the council service center and the workbook is returned to the Venturer. If the board of review denies approval, both the application and the workbook are returned to the council service center.

After the council Scout executive signs the board of review-approved application, the Summit Award is reported through Internet Advancement or other official BSA portals for reporting advancement. The Summit Award certificate and award are obtained through National Supply Group.



8.0.0.0 Section 8.

Boards of Review: An Overview for All Ranks

The following Venturing topics are effective now, and will appear in section 8 of the *Guide to Advancement 2015*.

8.0.5.0 Venturing Boards of Review

The topics below cover board of review procedures that apply to the Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit awards. They are followed by 8.0.6.0, "Particulars for the Discovery and Pathfinder Awards," and 8.0.7.0, "Particulars for the Summit Award."

8.0.5.1 Purpose and Timeliness of Venturing Boards of Review

After completing the requirements for the Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit awards, Venturers appear before a board of review. They must not be denied this opportunity. The purpose is to review the quality of the candidate's experience, and through discussions and stories about the fun, adventure, and benefits of Venturing, to decide whether the Venturer has fulfilled the requirements for the award.

8.0.5.2 Conducting the Venturing Board of Review

Upon completion of the Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service requirements, a Discovery, Pathfinder, or Summit award candidate participates in an Advisor conference. Then a board of review is scheduled.

The Venturing Advisor conference is conducted under the same general policies and procedures as that of the Boy Scouting Scoutmaster conference. See 4.2.3.5, "Unit Leader (Scoutmaster) Conference." For example, a conference required for an award must not be denied, and the conference is neither a retest of requirements nor a pass or fail event. In Venturing, however, the conference takes place after all the other requirements for an award have been fulfilled.

The board of review chair works with all involved parties to set the date, time, and place of the review. The place may be at the crew meeting site or another convenient and comfortable location.

The crew Advisor, associate Advisor, or a member of the crew committee should coach the Venturers on boards of review ahead of time to ensure the reviews are enjoyable experiences devoted to discussions and stories about activities and adventure. Each review should be an opportunity to take pride in accomplishments and to recount the events and activities in which the candidate has participated. This is the best way for the board members to hear what they need to hear about the quality of the experience and how the Venturer fulfilled the requirements. The stories may also inspire ideas for more fun and adventure in the future that will help crew officers improve the program.

Crew committee members, Advisors, associate Advisors, or other adults who may be present at a Discovery or Pathfinder board of review have a different role than they do in Boy Scouting. The adults are not members of the Discovery and Pathfinder boards, and are not there to ask the questions. They are there to answer them, and to provide coaching, guidance, and perspective. It is up to the Venturers to guide the discussion and the subject matter of the stories. To assure their complete understanding, all adults present at Venturing boards of review should study the *Venturing Board of Review Guide*, No. 512-940, and complete the Venturing Awards and Requirements Training once it is released.

8.0.5.3 What Should Be Discussed at a Venturing Board of Review

A Venturing board of review shall become neither a retest or "examination" nor a challenge of a Venturer's knowledge. Instead, we use an approach involving discussions and stories about the fun, adventure, and benefits of the program.

After their adventures, it is natural for young people to want to tell the world about what they have done. A board of review gives Venturers an opportunity to relive the thrills, their accomplishments, and lessons they have learned—and to get excited about them all over again! In listening to these stories, the board of review will uncover how the candidate achieved the award requirements, gaining insight into not only the participant's progress and growth but also the unit's program.

The board should try and touch on each of the elements in the ALPS model (Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service). The questions and guidance examples found in the *Venturing Board of Review Guide*, No. 512-940, will help the members bring out the desired stories and discussions, but they are free to come up with their own approach based on the case at hand.

8.0.5.4 Majority Vote Is Required for Approval of Venturing Advancement

After the board of review for the Discovery, Pathfinder, or Summit award, the Venturer waits outside the room or out of hearing range while the board deliberates. A majority vote is required for the approval of advancement. The chair is a voting member. In the event of a tie, the chair's vote is the deciding vote. Every effort should be made to deliberate with careful consideration of each board member's perspective, and in sufficient detail as to avoid factual misunderstanding. It is appropriate to call the candidate back if additional discussion may provide clarification.

8.0.5.5 After the Venturing Board of Review

If board of review members vote to approve advancement, the candidate is called in and congratulated. The board of review date becomes the award's effective date.

If the board decides that the candidate has not fulfilled all the requirements, he or she must be so informed and told what to do to pass the board. The candidate shall not be told any specifics about the board's deliberations. If it is thought that a Venturer could properly complete the requirements before his or her 21st birthday, the board may adjourn and reconvene at a later date. If this is done, it is best, if possible, that the same members reassemble. In all cases when advancement is denied, a follow-up letter must be sent promptly to Venturers who have been turned down. It must suggest actions that could help them successfully complete the requirements. In the case of the Summit Award, the letter must also explain the appeal procedures that may be followed.

Negative decisions of a Summit board of review may be appealed. The procedure is the same as described in topics 8.0.4.0, "Appealing a Decision," 8.0.4.1, "Filing and Processing an Appeal," and 8.0.4.2, "Appeal Board Must Research the Case." Simply replace the Boy Scouting references with those related to Venturing. Adverse decisions regarding the Discovery and Pathfinder awards are not appealable.

8.0.6.0 Particulars for the Discovery and Pathfinder Awards

The particulars below pertain only to the Discovery and Pathfinder awards.

The board of review is chaired by the crew president*. There is no required number of Venturers for the board, but a group of three—the chair and two members—is considered most appropriate. Fewer than that does not fully reflect the importance of the award milestones. The chair selects the other board members from the crew.

Two adults registered with the crew—preferably members of the crew committee—must be present during the board of review in a nonvoting advisory capacity. The crew Advisor and associate Advisors are not members of the board of review, but may be present as observers. They may serve as one or both of the registered adults present.

At no time should there be more adults than Venturers present at a board of review.

The chair conducts review meetings according to BSA procedures and reports results to the crew Advisor and advancement coordinator.

The review should take approximately 30 minutes, and should give the candidate and review board members a chance to explore the subjects being discussed.

The award shall not be presented until the advancement report is submitted to the local council.

The Venturer's parents, relatives, or guardian should not be in attendance in any capacity.

8.0.7.0 Particulars for the Summit Award

The Venturing Summit Award board of review must consist of at least five, but no more than six, members. At least one half of the members, excluding the chair, must be Venturers currently participating in the program. The composition of the board shall be as follows.

*If the crew president is the subject of the board of review, then a crew vice president becomes the chair.

Chair. The chair shall be an adult at least 21 years of age who is a Venturing-certified* member of the local council or district advancement committee or their designated Venturing-certified representative. He or she is selected according to local council practices.

Venturer membership. The board of review shall include at least two Venturers, at least one of whom shall be from the candidate's crew.

Other Venturing members of the board of review should be selected from the following list:

- Current holders of the Summit Award or Silver Award
- Venturers who are member of the council, area, or region Venturing Officers Association, or equivalent
- Venturers who currently hold a Venturing elected office
- Eagle Scouts, Sea Scout Quartermasters, or Girl Scout Gold award recipients who are active Venturers

If the chair determines no Venturer is available who meets one of these qualifications, the crew president may nominate another Venturer from the candidate's crew to serve on the board of review.

Adult representation. The board of review shall include at least one adult, in addition to the chair, who is registered with the BSA—preferably in the Summit Award candidate's crew—and works regularly with the Venturing program at any level.

Community representative. It is recommended that the board of review also involve at least one well-respected adult representative of the community, who need not be affiliated with the BSA.

The candidate's crew president and the board of review chair must agree upon the final membership of the board of review. If the candidate is the crew president, the crew's vice president of administration must be in agreement with the chair. If the chair and crew president (or vice president of administration) cannot agree, the candidate's crew Advisor will make the final determination, considering the potential members previously discussed by the crew president and chair.

A board of review shall not occur until after the local council has verified the Summit Award application.

The members should convene at least 30 minutes before the scheduled board of review to review the Summit Award application and service project workbook.

Summit Award boards generally last 45 minutes or somewhat longer. This is the highest award a Venturer may achieve; there should be a discussion of the candidate's successes, experiences, and future plans. It is acceptable for the review to last somewhat longer if the discussions are positive and enjoyable.

The Summit Award candidate may have only one board of review (though it may be adjourned and reconvened). Subsequent action falls under the appeal process. See 8.0.5.5, "After the Venturing Board of Review," 8.0.4.0, "Appealing a Decision," 8.0.4.1, "Filing and Processing an Appeal," and 8.0.4.2, "Appeal Board Must Research the Case." In those topics covering Boy Scouting board of review appeals, simply replace the Boy Scouting references with those related to Venturing.

The Summit Award medal or patch must not be sold or otherwise provided to any crew or to the Venturer, nor should the court of honor be scheduled until after the certificate is created at the council service center.

8.0.7.1 Initiating Summit Award Boards of Review Under Disputed Circumstances

A board of review under disputed circumstances is available for the Venturing Summit Award. Volunteers from the candidate's crew are not involved. It is indicated when a crew Advisor or committee chair does not sign the application, if a crew Advisor conference is denied, if it is thought a crew will not provide a fair hearing, or if the crew Advisor or project beneficiary refuses to sign final approval for what might be considered a satisfactorily completed service project. A board of review under disputed circumstances in Venturing is subject to the same policies and procedures as one for an Eagle Scout candidate. See topic 8.0.3.2, "Initiating Eagle Scout Board of Review Under Disputed Circumstances."

8.0.7.2 Summit Award Boards of Review Beyond the 21st Birthday

A Summit Award board of review may occur, without special approval, within six months after a Venturer's 21st birthday. If a board of review is to be held more than six months afterward, the local council must preapprove it. To initiate approval, the candidate, crew Advisor, or a crew committee member attaches to the application a statement explaining the delay.

*Becoming Venturing-certified includes studying the *Venturing Board of Review Guide*, No. 512-940, and completing the Venturing Awards and Requirements Training (when it is released), and developing a basic knowledge of Venturing.



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512-939
2015 Printing