






Boy Scouting – Recent Changes Resource Page

- ✿ **Notes on Transitioning to the New Requirements in 2016** 
(http://www.scouting.org/filestore/program_update/pdf/Transitioning_New_Requirements_2016.pdf)
- ✿ **2016 Boy Scout requirements—parallel comparison** 
(<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/2016BoyScoutRequirements.pdf>)
The 2016 Boy Scout rank requirements are now available for viewing. This document gives a parallel comparison of existing requirements and requirements that will be effective Jan. 1, 2016.
- ✿ **Latest New Merit Badge News and Counselor Resources**
(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/GuideforMeritBadgeCounselors.aspx>)
- ✿ **Program Features for Troops, Teams, and Crews** 
(http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33110_Cover_Appendix.pdf)
The new *Program Features for Troops, Teams, and Crews* replaces the *Troop Program Features*. Volume 1 (SKU 616351) is now available at www.scoutstuff.org. Volume 2 (SKU 616352) will be available in early fall. Each volume will have 16 program features with a mix of topics: outdoor, sports, health and safety, citizenship and personal development, STEM, and arts and hobbies. Leaders and youth members can use these to plan exciting programs, help facilitate advancement and personal growth, and keep youth members engaged.
- ✿ **Troop Leader Guidebook, Volume 1** 
([http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-150_Appendix\(15\)_WEB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-150_Appendix(15)_WEB.pdf))
This new resource, which replaces the *Scoutmaster Handbook*, gives new and relatively inexperienced troop leaders an introduction to the Boy Scout program. However, leaders of all experience levels will find this resource helpful. The *Troop Leader Guidebook, Volume 1* (SKU 616729) is available at www.scoutstuff.org. The appendix in itself is a valuable collection of resources and is available to download here.
- ✿ **Roundtable Planning Guide**
(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Commissioners/roundtable.aspx>)
The new *Roundtable Planning Guide* is now available to help roundtable commissioners provide leaders with program ideas and information on policy and events, as well as training opportunities.
- ✿ **Guide to Advancement—New Edition Now Available**
(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/GuideToAdvancement.aspx>)
The 2015 edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is now available from www.scoutstuff.org . A **PDF** also is available online.
- ✿ **Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook**
(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/EagleWorkbookProcedures.aspx>)
This resource for Eagle Scout candidates is available online. The workbook can be downloaded for PC or Mac users—just follow the download instructions.
- ✿ **New! Interactive Digital Merit Badge Pamphlets**
(<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/05/23/rollout-of-interactive-digital-merit-badge-pamphlets-begins/>)
The *Cooking*, *Robotics*, *Animation*, and *First Aid* merit badge pamphlets are now available in a new and exciting interactive digital format. These electronic versions of the pamphlets can be downloaded to your tablet or smartphone. Experience cutting-edge technology such as video clips, quizzes, sound bites, and other supplemental information. *Digital Technology*, *Communications*, *Family Life* and *Personal Fitness* are scheduled to launch in July, with the remaining Eagle-required merit badges available later in 2015. For a current list of interactive digital merit badge pamphlets, go to www.boyslife.org/meritbadges.

Transitioning to the 2016 Boy Scout Requirements

Based on the work of the Strategic Plan Goal 411 Task Force, a new set of Boy Scout requirements will become effective on January 1st, 2016. Timing for the release and implementation of the new requirements will be as follows:

May 2015	New Boy Scout requirements released (at National Annual Meeting)
Summer 2015	New requirements will be reviewed in detail in Philmont Training Center conferences (schedule TBA)
Fall 2015	New requirement information and interpretation shared via <i>Advancement News</i> , roundtables, etc.
January 2016	2016 <i>Boy Scout Requirements</i> book released 2016 <i>Boy Scout Handbook</i> released New requirements become effective

The release of the new requirements in May 2015 is to allow unit leaders adequate time to plan their Scouts' transition. Beginning work in the new requirements will be determined by the Scout's joining date or current rank as of January 1, 2016:

For 2016:

- Boys joining on or after Jan. 1, 2016 **MUST** use the new requirements.
- Boys who have joined prior to Jan. 1, 2016:
 - Who are working on the Scout badge **MAY** continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon completion of the Scout badge.
 - Who are working on Tenderfoot through First Class **MAY** continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon attaining First Class.
 - Who have completed First Class **MAY** complete the rank they are currently working on in the existing requirements, but then **MUST** convert to the new requirements for subsequent ranks.

For 2017: All Scouts **MUST** use the new requirements regardless of rank.

Questions related to transition timing or process may be directed to either of the following:

411@scouting.org or advancement.team@scouting.org.

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