



Path from Life to Eagle



Obtain Required Approvals

As you are working on a project proposal, visit as frequently as needed with those in your support network -- your beneficiary, the troop Life to Eagle Mentor, Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chair, and others who can offer suggestions, resources, guidance, and questions to help you think through what you will do. Some of these adults have experience with many Eagle projects and can help you select a meaningful project and calibrate the project scope to be a suitable challenge that you can successfully complete.

You do not *have* to get the first three approvals in a specific order. However, order below usually works best. Each approval step involves a discussion, not just a quick signature. Be prepared to talk about your project, listen to constructive input, and take notes.

1 Once you've prepared the project proposal, the first signature required is that of the beneficiary. By getting this approval, you're establishing a contract for what you will deliver. You should alert the beneficiary to the possibility that you will get additional guidance as you seek other approvals, and you will return to discuss it further if any substantive changes are called for. When the project is complete, you will return to the beneficiary to review whether you delivered what was agreed upon, and to get a signature confirming the project is done.

2 The second approval you will seek is that of your Scoutmaster. He will ask you to give an overview of your project scope and plan, and also to explain why you have chosen to serve the beneficiary in this way. A good understanding of your beneficiary's work and needs is essential to delivering a meaningful project.

3 Your Troop Committee Chair is the next stop. Again, you'll share highlights of your proposal and plan, and discuss how to ensure that your project will meet the five tests listed in the Eagle project. The Committee Chair will scan a copy of your signed proposal for the troop's records.

4 The last stop is the district Eagle coordinator. When this final approval is obtained, you may begin execution of the project. Substantive changes in the project scope after this approval must be brought back for further discussion and acceptance.