

Connecticut Rivers Council Eagle Reference Letter Policy

REQUIREMENT 2. As a Life Scout, demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life and tell how you have done your duty to God. List the names of individuals who know you personally and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf.

In addition to listing the references you are required to request written references from all four. Requested references should be returned to the Scout in a **sealed** envelope or sent to a designated unit adult. These letters are to be submitted with your Eagle application.

If after diligent effort four recommendations are not received, the board of review can go forward without them. If the Scout chooses to go forward, the board may ask about their efforts, but may not deny advancement based only on lack of references.

Completed reference responses of any kind are the property of the council and are confidential, and only review-board members and those officials with a specific need may see them. **The responses are not to be viewed by or returned to the Scout.**

All letters of reference will be treated with strict confidence and destroyed after the National Advancement Program Team confirms the Eagle rank has been earned by the Scout.

Who Can Be a Reference?

The Guide to Advancement states that the references may be from Scout leaders, teachers, employers, coaches, other Scouts, etc. While it does not specifically say it, references could also be from religious leaders, classmates, neighbors, mentors, friends or anyone else who knows the candidate well and can attest to their character. References do not need to be 21 or older. Parents and other relatives are strongly discouraged from serving as references. The current unit leader and committee chair are not eligible to serve as references; their signature on the application is their endorsement.

Is a Religious Reference Required?

A religious reference is not required. If one of your four references can speak to “how you have done your duty to God.” they can include it in their reference letter.

[Eagle Rank Application](#)
[Guide to Advancement](#) sections 9.0.1.3 and 9.0.1.7