

# Troop 420 Advancement Program and Policies

Troop website: [www.troop420.org](http://www.troop420.org)

- For perspective new Scouts to T420 that are Webelos: They will be invited to Open House and given the “Welcome to Troop 420!!!” brochure/information packet.
- Any other Scout interested in Troop 420 will be given the “Welcome to Troop 420!!!” brochure/information packet.
- Transfer of Scouts from Packs (Crossovers) can be electronically transferred via my.scouting.
- A non-Cub Scout will need to fill out a Youth Application and health form.
- A new Scout needs to be on the roster, and health form sections A and B need to be turned in prior to attending any outings.
- Most Troop policies are outlined in the “Welcome to Troop 420!!!” brochure/information packet.
  - It is expected that families will read and have a basic understanding of these policies.
  - Please inquire with Scoutmaster or other adult leaders with questions or detailed information.
- Troop 420 has a First Year/New Scout Program
  - The schedule will be adhered to as much as possible.
  - This program will be updated for requirements and scheduling of requirements as needed.
  - First Year/New Scout Program has many moving parts that are needed to allow for advancement in a timely manner.
  - For this program a First Year Scoutmaster, youth leadership and active participation of the Scouts, etc. is needed to adhere to the program schedule.
  - Troop 420’s First Year/New Scout Program allows for Scouts to earn First Class rank in 18 months.
  - For most Scouts this will take 24-30 months.
- Ranks after First Class (Star and Life) are more Scout driven and the number of requirements is significantly reduced and instead merit badges are required
  - Eagle required merit badges require a significant amount of work.
  - Eagle required merit badges have trained and experienced Merit Badge Counselors (MBC) in the Troop (See “Troop 420 Merit Badge Counselors” on the Troop Website).
  - T420 has a schedule of merit badge classes offered throughout the year (See “Troop 420 Merit Badge Schedule for Eagle Required Merit Badges” on website) to keep the Scouts on track for advancement.
  - Generally, a group of similar aged Scouts will be put through the merit badge schedule at the same time.
  - The Eagle required merit badges must be instructed by trained, approved, and experienced MBCs.
  - Some Eagle required merit badges will have age and/or school grade requirement.
  - These merit badges require a significant amount of work.
  - Record of the work must be kept by Scout and MBC.
  - Please note that any parent, adult leader, Scout or District/Council/National can object to merit badge and rank earned.
  - Therefore, meticulous records are to be kept for at least seven years per Glacier’s Edge Council policy.

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- Troop 420's Policies for Scouts to take merit badges follows the Scouting BSA *Guidelines for Advancement*
  - Any Scout wanting to take a merit badge must discuss with the Scoutmaster.
  - The Scoutmaster will recommend at least one MBC and give to the Scout a signed Blue Card.
  - The Scout will contact the MBC and arrange meetings with the MBC.
  - Meetings with the MBC will adhere to YPT and Scouting BSA policies.
  - The Scout will complete assignments and plan, demonstrate, show, discuss and write as the MBC instructs and meet with MBC as needed.
  - The Scout will receive the signed Blue Card back from MBC
  - The Scout will meet with Scoutmaster to review merit badge and Scoutmaster will sign blue card which then will be entered into the electronic record.
  - Any partials from summer camp will be first assigned to an MBC in Troop 420 if an approved and registered MBC is available within Troop.
  - One partial left to complete from summer camp or merit badge event may be approved by Scoutmaster.
  - All Eagle required merit badges taken at summer camp will be reviewed by current Troop 420 MBC and will determine which partials to accept and which requirements still need to be completed.
  - Troop 420 website has a generic list of "Merit Badge requirements to complete after Camp Phillips" as a general guideline for Scouts.
- Position of Responsibility Requirement for Star, Life and Eagle ranks
  - The requirement states to "serve actively in your Troop...."
  - The position of responsibility requirement will utilize T420's explanation and policies per the "Elected Troop 420 Leadership Positions" policy guide.
  - It is recognized that not all Scouts would want an overt "Leadership" role such as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader or Patrol Leader.
  - There are many positions of responsibilities available for Scouts not wanting an overt "Leadership" position.
- Eagle Project and Eagle Rank
  - Troop 420 has a dedicated, trained, and experienced Eagle Coach/Mentor that will work with Scouts on Eagle Project and Eagle Rank Application.
  - A Scout may choose to have a different Eagle Coach/Mentor but must have one as there is a great amount of guidance needed to find, plan, perform, lead and report an Eagle Project and Eagle rank application.
  - A Scout must have Family Life and Personal Management merit badges completed prior to planning an Eagle Project.
- Please note that these Troop 420 policies may be changed and be updated per Mohawk District, Glacier's Edge Council and National Scouting BSA policies, guidelines, recommendations, and trainings.
- This "Troop 420 Advancement Program and Policies" will be posted on the Troop 420 website as updated.