

BSA Troop 400

Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award Program

Eligibility and Application Procedures

Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must have attained the rank of Eagle Scout (under the BSA guidelines) on or after August 1, 2002.
- Applicant must have attained the BSA rank of Star Scout, Life Scout and Eagle Scout while a member of BSA Troop 400 (Mars, PA).
- Applicant must have no outstanding debts (monetary or equipment) with Troop 400.
- Applicant must be enrolled in one of the following post-secondary institutions:
 - An accredited college or university;
 - An accredited post-secondary business school; or,
 - An accredited post-secondary trade school.
- Applicant must begin his post-secondary coursework before his twenty-second birthday.
- Applicant must complete a Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award Program application form.

Eagle Award Program Committees

Two committees will administer the Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award program. No one person may be permitted to be a member of both committees at the same time. The committees are as follows:

Fund Raising Committee

The sole purpose of the Fund Raising Committee is to solicit funds for the award. All committee members must be either a registered Troop 400 leader, a registered Troop 400 committee member, or an elected member of the Mars Area Boy Scouting Association.

The Fund Raising Committee will solicit funds in various methods, *including solicitation of individual benefactors, recycling, dinners, garage sales, etc.* **No** solicitation from businesses or corporations will be used to fund this award.

All funds collected for the Award will be deposited into a separate Award Program account. The Troop 400 Treasurer will maintain the Award account. All operating costs will be taken from this separate Award account. With the exception of the Award distribution, at least a two-thirds quorum vote by the Troop Committee must be completed to approve any expenses in excess of \$100.

Award Selection Committee

The function of the Award Selection Committee is to identify the scouts that are eligible for the award. This committee will consist of three people. The members of the Award Selection Committee will be the Troop 400 Scoutmaster, the Troop 400 Committee Chairperson, and the Mars Area Boy Scout Association President.

An Award Selection Committee member must recuse himself/herself from the committee when his/her son's application is being processed and, potentially, bestowed. The recused member must be replaced by a like, registered member. That is, a registered Troop 400 Assistant Scoutmaster will be substituted for a recused Scoutmaster. A registered Troop 400 Committee Member will be substituted for a recused Committee Chairperson. An elected Association member will be substituted for a recused Association President. (The remaining two Selection Committee members will appoint the substitute.)

Award Size

Each Eagle Scout will be eligible to receive a minimum of \$1,000 for his post-secondary education. However, the amount of the annual award will be based on the amount of money collected for award purposes. To receive the entire minimum \$1,000 award, an eligible Eagle Scout may need to apply over a number of school years. For award purposes, a school year will be from August to July of the following year. (**NOTE:** The Award funds will **not** be used to offset any outstanding debts the Scout incurred while a member of the Troop.)

The amount of the Award distribution will be based on the August 1 balance of the Eagle Award account. The total Award amount each Scout will receive will be based on the account balance for his first year of post-secondary education eligibility. The amount each Scout will receive over the duration of his post-secondary education is as follows:

If the Eagle Award August 1 Account Balance is	The Scout is eligible to receive \$1,000 for	The Maximum Amount the Scout may receive is
*Less than \$20,000	the First Year of post – secondary education	\$1,000
\$20,000 - \$39,999	the First and Second year of post – secondary education	\$2,000
\$40,000 - \$59,999	the First, Second and Third year of post – secondary education	\$3,000
\$60,000 - \$79,999	the First, Second, Third and Fourth year of post – secondary education	\$4,000

**If the Award account balance is less than \$20,000, the boy may need to re-apply over multiple years to receive the entire \$1,000 award.*

If the August 1 account balance is in excess of \$80,000, the existing Troop 400 Committee will enhance the existing Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award Program.

Award Calendar

The Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award will be processed on an annual basis subject to the following calendar:

<i>August 1</i>	<i>Base amount for the Award Year is determined from the balance in the Howard & Neil Croop Eagle Award account</i>
<i>September 1 – October 1</i>	<i>Application and school tuition payment receipt accepted from eligible Eagle Scouts</i>
<i>October 1 – October 21</i>	<i>Applications reviewed by Award Selection Committee</i>
<i>November 1</i>	<i>Checks mailed to eligible Eagle Scouts</i>

NOTE: *For Award purposes, a school year will be from August to July of the following year.*

Purpose of the Award

The purpose of the award is to reward all Troop 400 scouts who achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. The award money will be used to supplement the funds each scout obtains for his post-secondary education. The award should not be used to reduce the amounts of any other scholarship, grant, loan, or any other financial support attained independently by the recipient. To this end, the award funds will be presented to each eligible scout one week before the start of the eligible scout's school year. The recipient may use the award funds for anything he needs to further his education.

Repayment Terms

There are no repayment terms for the Eagle Award. The Eagle Award is a gift to each Troop 400 Eagle Scout that desires to attain a post-secondary degree. However, if a recipient is financially capable at some point in his lifetime, he is encouraged to replace the amount of the award he received into the Howard Croop Eagle Award fund. This "funds recycling" will help future Troop 400 Eagle Scouts attain their goals of post-secondary education. (This "funds recycling" message will be included on the Award certificate.)

Dispute Resolution

There should be no disputes. If a boy meets **all** of the basic eligibility requirements, he is entitled to the award. If a boy does not meet **one** requirement, he is not entitled to the award money. However, if a dispute arises, the decision of the Award Selection Committee will be final.