

Troop 135 Advancement Timetable

The following are advancement objectives, developed from many years of teaching Scouting skills to the various age groups:

- Sixth grade: earn Scout rank (page 4 of Handbook) - the Scout learns basic Scouting concepts and principles.
- Sixth grade: earn Tenderfoot Rank (page 32 of Handbook) – the Scout learns the basics of camping, cooking, Patrol organization, simple frequently used knots, safety skills, importance of fitness, simple first aid. Completion of Tenderfoot assures Troop leadership that the Scout is capable of successfully participating in outdoor activities.
- Sixth grade: earn Totin' Chip – permits the Scout to carry an approved "Scout" knife as well as safely handle/use Troop axes, hatchets and saws.
- Sixth grade: earn Second Class (page 64 of Handbook) – the Scout learns basic wilderness navigation skills, broadens his camping, cooking and first aid skills. The Scout is also introduced to the importance of community service, the American flag and DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education).

By the completion of sixth grade and one year in Scouting (approximately 9 campouts and 27 Troop meetings) the Scout should be:

1. capable of properly packing and unpacking his camping gear before, during and after a campout
 2. carrying a backpack to and from a campsite
 3. aware of his outdoor surroundings and location (compass and map reading skills, wildlife and plant identification)
 4. capable of safely handling camping equipment (axes, knives, hatchets, stoves, fuel, tents, tarps, patrol and troop gear)
 5. capable of using knots, first aid kit, cooking implements
 6. earned Swimming merit badge
- Seventh grade: earn First Class (page 112 of handbook) – the Scout develops advanced skills in compass, map reading, meal/menu prep, knots/lashings and first aid. The Scout also learns about US citizenship and obligations and improves his swimming skills.

By the completion of seventh grade and a total of two years of Scouting (approximately 18 campouts, 54 troop meetings, one week of summer camp) the Scout should be:

1. Fully aware of Troop policy and procedures
 2. Fully capable of camping and backpacking
 3. Fully capable of assisting new Scouts to learn new skills
 4. Fully aware of his responsibilities and obligations to Troop and community
 5. Achieved a position of responsibility within the Troop (see page 444, requirement #5)
 6. Responsible for his own future plan of advancement
 7. Earned Citizenship in the Community and Nation, Camping, Family Life and First Aid merit badges
- Eight grade: earn Star Rank (page 117 of Handbook) – the Scout is comfortable in the outdoors and with his own advancement within Scouting. At this point the Scout splits from the standard "rank" development. The Scout must now earn Merit Badges. Primary objectives of this rank are:
 1. Earn Communications, E Science and E Prep/Lifesaving merit badges
 2. Earn other elective merit badges
 3. Maintain a Troop position of responsibility
 4. Train and assist younger Scouts
 5. Develop leadership skills
 6. Strengthen the Scouts awareness of service to community and nation
 - High School: The early high school years are fully of many distractions from Scouting. Many Carlisle scouts have successfully managed (with parental participation) both high school academics, athletics, extra-curricular activities and Scouting. The High School Scout will earn Life and Eagle rank.
 1. He will also complete the following Eagle required merit badges (requiring mental and physical maturity typical of a developing high schooler): Citizenship in the World, Personal Fitness, Personal Management
 2. He will maintain a Troop position of responsibility (typically Troop Guide)
 3. He will "mentor" younger scouts and be challenged with higher levels of responsibility by Troop adults

The above is a "Guideline of Advancement" that correlates the Scouts developing maturity and knowledge with the requirements of scouting.