



Eagle Candidate: _____ District: _____ Troop No: _____
Telephone No: _____ E-Mail: _____

CROWDFUNDING QUESTIONNAIRE

The Use of Crowdfunding for Eagle Scout Service Projects in Minsi Trails Council

The growth and prevalence of crowdfunding sites has led many Scouts to wonder whether their Eagle project could benefit from this source of money.

The short answer: Yes, Scouts working on their Eagle project are permitted to use these sites to raise funds for materials, equipment rental, professional services, etc.

The longer answer: The use of crowdfunding sites is allowed but they present several new and unique issues that must be carefully considered and managed to comply with the Eagle Scout Service Project fundraising rules.

Keep in mind that an Eagle project doesn't have to cost a lot to be meaningful. Eagle projects carried out with minimal, if any, expenses are always preferred to those with high price tags. In fact, the Scouts BSA prefers there not be any fundraising at all for an Eagle project. That said, Scouts BSA knows low-price projects aren't always a realistic goal.

If you do choose the crowdfunding route, carefully read the fine print on any site you are considering.

Among the questions prospective Eagle Scouts should consider: **(Write the answers to the questions on lines provided)**

1. What fundraising site was selected? _____
2. Are the website's terms of service in conflict with any Scouts BSA policies? _____
3. What is the minimum age for someone to open an account? _____
4. What is the site's fee structure? _____
5. Do you receive donations even if you don't reach your stated monetary goal? _____
6. How long does it take to get your funds after the donating window closes? _____
7. What is the process to receive your funds? _____
8. Are you required to offer some sort of reward to backers? If so, what will the rewards be?

9. Does the site allow you to donate excess funds raised to the project beneficiary? _____
10. What will you do if you don't reach your goal? _____
11. How will you handle the requirement to provide a Tax ID or Social Security Number, as well as any associated Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reporting? _____

Choosing to use crowdfunding for your fundraising method and complying with the guidelines to crowdfunding and your Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising Application may slow your project approval process. It is also worth noting that traditional fundraising activities often serve as an additional opportunity to demonstrate project leadership and provide more service hours.

If you are in a short window of time to complete your Eagle project prior to your 18th birthday, please take the route that gives you the time needed with some breathing room.

For more information, refer to the BSA *Guide to Advancement*, Section 9.0.2.10.

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Eagle Candidate: _____ District: _____ Troop No: _____

Minsi Trails Council Eagle Scout Service Project Crowdfunding Guidelines

- It is preferred that fundraising not be required for Eagle Scout Service Projects.
- When fundraising is necessary, the Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising Application must be part of your Eagle Project Review and upon approval of your project an appointment must be made with the Executive for your District to get approval for the fund raising. You **may not** do any fundraising until you have the signed approval of your executive.
- If crowdfunding is your method of choice, in addition to the Eagle Scout fundraising form, this form also must be completed and signed.
- When using a crowdfunding website, you are responsible to make sure the details pertaining to the project are clearly explained. In addition, the project beneficiary must be clearly identified and the project cannot appear to represent (1) Scouts BSA, (2) any scout units or (3) Minsi Trails Council as beneficiaries of the funds.
- The crowdfunding site will be monitored by the Eagle Scout candidate, the beneficiary, and the Troop committee chairman or his/her representative of the Troop the candidate belongs to. This form will be signed by all three.
- It is preferred that the project beneficiary sign any contracts, use their email address, bank account and set up crowdfunding donation opportunities. If this is not an option, the Troop Committee Chairman or his/her representative will do so on behalf of the project beneficiary. If the beneficiary or Troop personnel do not wish to do this the Scout will have to find another source. If neither the beneficiary nor the Troop personnel wish to do this, the Scout will have to find another source. Personal accounts of the Scout's family may not be used, and in no case may a scout or family be recipient of any direct crowd sourcing funds.
- Once the goal amount is reached, the crowdfunding page is to be shut down and no further donations collected. As with any donations to an Eagle Project, money raised and not used is the property of the beneficiary and must be turned over to the benefiting organization once the project is completed.
- An accounting of the funds raised and funds spent must be part of the final report for the project that is presented with the Eagle candidates' application.
- The beneficiary agrees that the money raised will be used first in financial support of the specified Eagle Scout Service Project. Upon completion of the Project and all financial obligations have been satisfied, then the remaining funds are for the Beneficiary's use as it sees fit.

Beneficiary:

Name of Individual Creating Donation Account:

Project Name:

Crowdfunding Source:

Please print name, include primary phone number and sign name and date form.

Eagle Scout Candidate:

Name: _____

Tel No: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Beneficiary Representative:

Name: _____

Tel No: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Troop Committee Chairman or his/her representative:

Name: _____

Tel No: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

District Executive Approval: _____ Date: _____

After the District Executive approves both the “Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising Application “ and the “Crowdfunding Guidelines”, he/she will (1) sign both forms, (2) make a copy of each, and (3) provide signed copies of each to the registrar at Minsi Trails Council to file in the Eagle candidate’s Troop file.

2/19/2020