



## LETTER TO PROVIDERS OF REFERENCES

You are being asked by a member of the Boy Scouts of America who is applying for the highest rank in their program (Eagle Scout, Quartermaster, Summit Award) to submit a character reference to a review board that will be evaluating their qualifications. In this regard, the applicant has indicated that you know them personally, and are willing to provide a reference on their behalf. The scout was asked to provide you an addressed envelope. Please include your return address and their name on the outside. The contents of your reference will NOT be shown to nor discussed with them. Please respect confidentiality and not provide them a copy.

To achieve the highest rank, more is expected than proficiency in outdoor skills or seamanship and other rank requirements. Outside of scouting activities, daily effort to live by the principles and values of the Scout Oath and Law as a citizen, in the home, place of worship, school, work environment, and community is a foremost requirement.

Thank you for your prompt assistance to the review board. We cannot decide without your support. Please make your observation of the Scout in their daily life the basis of your letter addressed to the Board of Review. It is helpful if you indicate the capacity in which you know them. The Scout Oath and Law along with an explanation of the individual Scout Law taken from Boy Scouts of America documents are provided below for your assistance in preparing this reference. Suggested but not inclusive areas to make your remarks are:

Do they adhere to the values set forth in the Scout Law? Do they do their best to cheerfully help at home, school, place of worship, work, and community? Do they take care of their personal belongings and respect the property of others? Do they take their responsibilities seriously? Do they demonstrate leadership amongst their peers? Do they have any special characteristics or personality traits?

### The Scout Oath

*On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.*

### The Scout Law

A Scout is **Trustworthy**. A Scout tells the truth. A Scout is honest and keeps promises. People can depend on a Scout.

A Scout is **Loyal**. A Scout is loyal to those to whom loyalty is due. A Scout is true to family, friends, Scout leaders, school, local community, nation, and world community.

A Scout is **Helpful**. A Scout cares about other people. A Scout helps others without expecting payment or reward. A Scout willingly volunteers to help others.

A Scout is **Friendly**. A Scout is a friend to all. A Scout offers friendship to people of all races, religions, and nations, and a Scout respects them even if their beliefs and customs are different.

A Scout is **Courteous**. A Scout is polite to people of all ages and positions. A Scout understands that using good manners makes it easier for people to get along.

A Scout is **Kind**. Scouts treat others as they want others to treat them. A Scout knows there is strength in being gentle. A Scout does not harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

A Scout is **Obedient**. A Scout follows the rules of the family, school, and troop. Scout(s) obey the laws of their communities and countries. If a Scout thinks these rules and laws are unfair, then change is sought in an orderly way.

A Scout is **Cheerful**. A Scout looks for the bright side of life. A Scout cheerfully does assigned tasks, and tries to make others happy, too.

A Scout is **Thrifty**. Scouts work to pay their own way and to help others. Scouts save for the future. A Scout protects and conserves natural resources, and is careful with the use of time, money, and property.

A Scout is **Brave**. A Scout faces danger even when afraid. A Scout does the right thing even when doing the wrong thing or doing nothing would be easier.

A Scout is **Clean**. Scouts keep their bodies and minds fit. A Scout chooses friends who also live by high standards. Scouts should avoid profanity and pornography. A Scout helps keep the home and community clean.

A Scout is **Reverent**. A Scout is reverent toward God. A Scout is faithful in fulfilling religious duties. A Scout respects the beliefs of others. It is their duty to respect and defend the rights of others to their religious beliefs even when they differ from their own.

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