



# Silver Award Requirements

## I. Venturing Bronze Award

### Introduction

One of the strengths of the Venturing program is its ability to meet the interests of all Venturers. Sometimes, Venturers like to investigate new, different areas, such as an arts and hobbies crew going whitewater rafting or learning first aid. Variety in a crew always seems to make it more fun to go to meetings and weekend outings. Also, you as an individual Venturer probably have many interests or would like to have more. Because of that desire on your part and to give you a pathway to many different experiences, the Venturing Bronze Award is wide open to you. You can earn your crew specialty's Bronze Award, pick out a different one you like, or even earn them all. It's up to you!

The Venturing Bronze Awards are

- [Sports](#)
- [Religious Life](#) (Formerly "Youth Ministries")
- [Arts and Hobbies](#)
- [Outdoor](#) (Half of Ranger Award is needed for Silver Award credit)
- [Ordinary](#) (Half of Sea Scouting Quartermaster Award is needed for Silver Award credit.)

### Requirement:

Earn at least one of the five [Venturing Bronze Awards](#).

## II. Venturing Gold Award

### Introduction

The Gold is available to all Venturer members of the Boy Scouts of America.

The purpose of the Gold Award is to:

- Recognize achievement by young adults.
- Encourage personal growth through exposure to activities related to the six experience areas of Venturing.
- Offer challenging and stimulating opportunities for young adults to develop and achieve personal goals in leadership, character development, and personal fitness.
- Provide a favorable image of Venturing among youth, parents, schools, and communities.

### **Background**

Venturers should have the opportunity to work toward tangible, challenging goals, and to be recognized for their efforts.

The Gold Award program has been developed to recognize a significant accomplishment in a young person's life; it requires outstanding performance in a broad spectrum of activities related to Venturing's six experience areas (citizenship, service, fitness, social, leadership, and outdoor). The program was developed to challenge and to motivate young people over an extended period of time.

### **Qualification**

Candidates for the Venturing Gold Award must submit a written petition to their crew Advisor, in which they should outline their plans and ambitions for their projects to achieve the award. Advisors are encouraged to have a conference with each candidate to ensure that the Venturer developed a well-conceived plan, and that he or she has specific goals in mind.

The program is designed to challenge young men and women with interests that cover a wide variety of Venturing activities. Several requirements must be met to qualify for the Gold Award; the requirements are listed separately below.

The Gold Award will be presented only to young adults whose personal conduct is in keeping with the principles of the Venturing Oath and the Boy Scouts of America.

### **Requirement:**

Earn the [Venturing Gold Award](#).

## **III. Emergency Preparedness**

## Introduction

Being prepared has always been one of the key tenets of Scouting. Being prepared continues to be important for today's action-oriented, can-do-anything Venturers. Venturers must be prepared to take care of themselves as well as be ready to serve others when called. When faced with an emergency situation, people react in various ways. Some people leave, some panic, some do nothing at all, and some respond. Venturers should be prepared to respond!

## Requirements:

1. **Become certified in Standard First Aid or equivalent course.** If you choose the American Red Cross Standard First Aid version of the course, the curriculum includes how to recognize an emergency and overcome the reluctance to react; how to recognize and care for breathing and cardiac emergencies in adults (training to care for infants and children is optional); and how to identify and care for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness, and injury. The course is approximately 6½ hours. Your Standard First Aid certification will expire three years from the date of issue. Your CPR certification will expire one year from the date of issue. If you hold an unexpired certification in this or a higher course, you can receive credit for this requirement. However, you must be currently certified at the time of your Silver Award crew review. You are encouraged to get certified as soon as possible and stay certified. For this requirement, you are not required to seek a higher certification, but you are encouraged to get certifications in higher-level course such as First Aid -- Responding to Emergencies or Emergency Response. You will be even more prepared.

[Note: If you need help finding an American Red Cross instructor in your area, call your local Red Cross chapter. For literature, call toll-free 1-800-667-2968).

- **Become certified in CPR.** You can take a stand-alone CPR course or take it as part of another course such as Standard First Aid. Please remember that CPR certification lasts for only one year, at which time you will need a refresher course. Like Standard First Aid, it is good to always be current in your CPR certification. You most likely will get an opportunity to use your skill in saving a life.
- **Complete the BSA Safe Swim Defense training course.** In this course, you will learn how each of the eight points of the Safe Swim program affects safe crew swimming activities. You will learn that qualified supervision and discipline are the two most important points, upon which the other points rely. You will also learn how to set up a safe swim area. Any BSA aquatics resource person, your crew Advisors, or other council-authorized individual can provide the training course for you. Use Safe

Swim Defense, No. 34370, and Safe Swim Defense Training Outline, No. 19-417.

- **Either lead or participate in a group swim using BSA Safe Swim Defense.** Swimming can be a great way for you and your crew members to stay fit and to just have fun. To ensure that you and your friends will continue to do just that, always insist you use Safe Swim Defense.

## **IV. Leadership**

### **Introduction**

Leadership is a cornerstone of the Venturing Silver Award. As you work on the Silver Award, you will experience many new things, learn many new skills, and learn to serve others. But to effectively take advantage of all those newly-learned skills and experiences, you must know how to effectively lead. It is true that some people are born with some natural leadership ability, but the best leaders develop leadership skills and continue to expand and hone these skills throughout their lives.

We all get the opportunity to be followers and leaders. It takes skill to be a good follower, too, but in this section, you will concentrate on developing leadership skills and implementing those skills as a leader.

### **Requirements:**

1. **Successfully complete the Venturing Leadership Skills Course.**
2. **Successfully serve for at least six months in an elected or appointed crew, district, or council leadership position.** Since leadership is a form of service to others, don't be afraid to ask your followers, those you serve, how you are doing. If you don't have an occasional assessment of your progress, you might not improve. Learn to value the opinion of others. This must be in addition to the leadership requirement in the Venturing Gold Award.

## **II. Ethics in Action**

### **Introduction**

Another cornerstone of the Venturing Silver Award is learning through experience. While you are working on your Venturing Silver Award requirements, you will have many experiences. You will enjoy experiences that let you interact with your peers, learn decision-making skills, evaluate and reflect so that you can learn from your successes and failures, and discuss conflicting values and form your own value system. Experience can be a powerful learning tool!

### **Requirements:**

1. **Participate in at least two Ethical Controversies Activities from chapter 9 of the *Venturing Leader Manual*.** These activities are scenarios that will put you and those who do the activities with you into challenging, problem-solving situations. In a constructive way, these activities will help you develop the following personal skills:
  - a. Promoting productive conflict resolution
  - b. Polite disagreement
  - c. Listening to new ideas
  - d. Understanding other people's perspectives
  - e. Working toward a solution that the group involved will support and implement
2. **Either organize and lead, or help to organize and lead, an Ethics Forum for your crew, another crew, school class, or other youth group.** An Ethics Forum is simply another, more formal, way of gathering information about ethics. You will invite two or more adults to form a panel for your crew or group to ask questions about ethics in their personal or professional lives. You can even invite adults related to your crew's specialty; if you are in a sports crew, you could invite a sports doctor, a coach, and a professional athlete. You can even invite guests such as family members and friends to join you. You can even use the information gathered from the Ethics Forum to develop your own Ethical Controversies activities.

### **III. Silver Award Review**

After completing all requirements, the candidate should prepare evidence of completion of work. It should be submitted to the crew Advisor along with the completed and personally signed Silver Award Progress Record and Application. The crew president, in conjunction with the crew Advisor, should then appoint a review committee of four to six people including Venturers and adults. The review committee should review the candidate's written documentation and interview the candidate to determine whether the candidate complete all work and grew as a result of the pursuit of the Silver Award. The application is then approved by the crew Advisor and crew committee chairman and submitted to your council service center.



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U.S. SCOUTING SERVICE PROJECT -- HTTP://USSCOUTS.ORG

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**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Elected or appointed crew, district, or council leadership position: \_\_\_\_\_

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  - e. Working toward a solution that the group involved will support and implement

#1

Location of Ethical controversy: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject of  
it: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#2

Location of Ethical controversy: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject of  
it: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Location of Forum: \_\_\_\_\_

Group name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject of the Ethics  
Forum: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Did you organize and lead or help organize and lead?  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Advisor signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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