

THE HISTORIC TRAILS PROGRAM



Love of America and devotion to our country depend upon a thorough appreciation of the ideals, principles, and traditions that have made our country strong. Historic Trails Award requirements emphasize

cooperation between historic societies and Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scout units. Scouts should establish a close relationship with a local society as soon as possible when planning a historic activity—most communities have such societies.

Reports from many units indicate that these societies have been eager to offer their cooperation by

- Suggesting trails or sites that are suitable for Scout historic activities and exploration
- Providing Scouts with historic information about the trails or sites
- Offering guidance to Scouts during restoration and marking projects
- Financing the cost of materials used by Scouts for restoration and marking projects
- Staging historic pageants and ceremonies with Scout participation
- Directing public attention to Scout historic activities through newspapers, television, and radio

Visit the *Guide to Safe Scouting* for current youth protection policies.

Award Requirements

To earn the award, members of your unit must plan and participate in a historic activity. A unit historic activity requires members to

1. Locate a historic trail or site and study information relating to it. (The information may be obtained from an adult historic society, public library, or people living near the trail or site. You can find BSA Historic Trails here: <https://tap.scouting.org/bsa-historic-trails-index/>.)
2. Hike or camp two days and one night along the trail or in the vicinity of the site. Options include an area hotel or the home of other Scouts.
3. Cooperate with an adult group such as a historic society to restore and mark all or part of this trail or site. (This may be done during the hike or overnight camp.) Or cooperate with such a group to plan and stage a historic pageant, ceremony, or other public event related to this trail or site—such an event should be large enough to merit coverage by the local press. Your unit leader must then file the Historic Trails Award application with your local council service center.

Detach and send the report below to your local council service center.

HISTORIC TRAILS AWARD APPLICATION

(Note: Only chartered units may apply for this award. This award does not apply if any other BSA award is available for this trip.)

To: Local Council Only (Do not send to national office.)

Unit No. _____

District _____

Local Council Action

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

1. Name of historic trail or site covered _____
Give state and nearest town.

From _____ Date _____ to _____ Date _____ (two days and one night required)

2. Type of historic observance, pageant, dedication, etc., in which unit participated _____
OR type of historic project carried out (such as erecting marker, plaque, sign, etc.) _____

(Note: Unit must have done either activity above.)

3. Name of local historic society or association with which the unit cooperated in this event _____

4. Total number of Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, and leaders eligible for the Historic Trails Award _____

5. Enter our order for _____ embroidered awards, No. 188 _____ leather awards, No. 244

(NOTE: Embroidered and leather awards are not worn on uniforms but may be attached to tents, packs, or blankets.)

(Contact your local council service center for current prices.)

Approved _____
Unit or tour leader

Address

Phone