

2010 Centennial Quality Commitment and Achievement of Unit Award Interpretation of Criteria

“To improve the QUALITY of program in every unit in America!”

Use this information to guide your understanding of the criteria. Use actual numbers from the previous year to guide your improvement as you establish your goals. The unit leadership should meet with the district leadership to discuss what the unit wants to accomplish. Together, you can develop an action plan for excellence. (If any of the criteria are at an agreed-upon number, then the goal might be to maintain them for this year.) Additional details and other resources in support of the Centennial Quality Awards program can be viewed by going to www.scouting.org.

After you have completed the form, submit it to the council for recording and filing. The first page is the council copy; the second page is the commissioner/district representative copy; and the third page is the unit copy.

1. We will have ____ percent of our direct-contact leaders qualify as “trained” leaders for their position. “Trained” means the following:

All leaders: Fast Start, Youth Protection, and This Is Scouting.

In addition:

Cub Scout: Cub Scout leader specific.

Boy Scout: Boy Scout leader specific and Introduction to Outdoor Skills.

Venturing: Venturing leader specific.

Direct-contact adult leaders include: Cubmaster, den leaders, Webelos leaders and all assistants; Scoutmaster and assistants; Varsity coach and assistants; crew Advisor and associates. These are adults who meet with youth regularly. If in the fall a new leader is registered within the past two months, their training status will not keep the unit from qualifying. To help with this achievement, each unit should have a **unit trainer** to work with all adults who need training. The position description can be found on the Web site under the Centennial Quality Awards program details. The national standard calls for 60 percent trained direct-contact leaders. Units should strive to achieve this and more.

- 2. We will provide excellent programs to achieve our youth membership goal of ____ percent retention, recharter on time, and recruit ____ new members.** The youth retention goal and the number of new youth should be set with the commissioner and unit leadership at the beginning of the calendar year. You should also work with your commissioner to recharter on time. The national retention standard is 70 percent for traditional units. The national standard for gain in traditional youth members is 3 percent. Unit leaders should plan on recruiting enough new members to reach a recommended standard of a net gain in youth membership over the previous year.
- 3. In the spirit of the National Parent Initiative, we will recruit ____ new parents/adults to assist our unit program.** The purpose of the National Parent Initiative is for each unit to involve more parents/mentors with their unit’s program. Every parent should be asked to help with at least one specific task. Go to www.scoutparents.org for more details and tools available to support these efforts. Other adults who do not have children in the unit can also be recruited as mentors. Units should strive for parental involvement from at least 50 percent of their families to be registered as leaders, committee members, or Scout parents.
- 4. We will have ____ percent of our youth earn advancement awards.** This includes the basic rank awards in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Varsity Scouting. For Venturing, this includes the earning of individual core requirements and electives in the Ranger, Quest, Trust, Bronze, Gold, Silver, and Quartermaster awards, as well as completion of the Venturing Leadership Skills, Kodiak, Kodiak X, or SEAL courses.
- 5. We will have ____ percent of our youth participate in at least ____ outdoor experiences or group activities.** Specify in advance the events that will be used and how many are required to qualify. For Cub Scouting, this could include pack meetings. For Boy Scouts or Varsity Scouts, the emphasis is outdoor activities, not meetings. The types of outdoor activities may vary for each type of program. Venturing crews can develop an activity schedule centered on their planned programs of emphasis. The focus is to measure participation in activities and meetings for packs, outdoor activities for troops, and crew activities. A comparable national standard for this item is camp attendance. Therefore, 70 percent participation can serve as a recommended standard for all unit programs.
- 6. We will conduct an annual program-planning conference, develop an annual budget, and provide the financial resources to deliver a quality program to all members.** Your unit should develop an annual program plan and 12-month budget, and share it with all members. The unit develops a budget of expenses and a plan to provide the finances to achieve quality programs, through unit fund-raisers and member dues.

Additional goals: When commissioners meet with unit leaders as part of the **annual action planning meeting**, they can review other important areas. Use the **unit self-assessment** tools as a part of this process. To include, but not limited to: 100 percent of families subscribing to *Boys’ Life*, all boys working on the 100th Anniversary Year of Celebration, Century of Making a Difference patch program, two-deep leadership, active committee, youth training for Boy Scouting and Venturing, use of patrol method for Boy Scouting, and other important items.

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