

THE MESSENGERS OF PEACE

COUNCIL PROGRAM GUIDANCE



Messengers of Peace

THE MESSENGERS OF PEACE PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS

Since 2011, the Messengers of Peace Award has represented the Boy Scouts of America's commitment to community service and the idea of working to better a global community. Those who have earned the Messengers of Peace Award in the past have completed thousands of hours of community service in the areas of personal growth, community development, and collective results. The **Messengers of Peace (MoP)** program has evolved to empower Scouts to live out the values of peace every day — through **action, attitude, and advocacy**. Rooted in the Sustainable Development Goals, MoP invites Scouts to take the lead in building a better world. The **Messengers of Peace Program** is meant to help scouts recognize and frame their goals and projects towards this end, and to help scouts foster peace and community involvement through leadership, peacebuilding and environmental action. **MoP is not just about counting hours. It's about how Scouts live out peace — at home, in school, and in service.**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SCOUTS FOR SDGs GLOBAL INITIATIVE [HERE](#).

COMPLETE ALL THE REQUIREMENTS

Confirm that the requirements listed in the **PROGRAM GUIDE** have been completed. There are no age restrictions when earning the Messengers of Peace Awards. The **MESSENGER OF PEACE ADVOCATE** award (purple-edged ring) is approved by the Unit leader and can be entered in ScoutBook for recognition. The award is unrestricted and can be purchased in any scout shop. For consideration of the **CHAMPION** and **AMBASSADOR** Messengers of Peace Awards, approval must be received from your **Messengers of Peace Project Advisor**, and the Council's **International Representative** OR their designee, and the **Scout Executive**. A candidate for these awards must be registered members of Scouting America.

PREPARE THE MOP PROGRAM WORKSHEET

The most current worksheet must be used. It can be found in the **PROGRAM GUIDE**. The worksheet assists the Scout to organize their project information and shows the project process was approved and then properly accepted by all parties when finished. Ideally, it will be a proud reminder of a significant accomplishment.



**As stated in the Scouts for SDGs Final Evaluation report.*

COMPLETE THE APPLICATIONS

The Scout must complete the official application for the Messengers of Peace award level that is appropriate (**ADVOCATE**, **CHAMPION**, **AMBASSADOR**). No other form or application method is permitted. The applications can be found [HERE](#). Careful review and thorough proofreading will help prevent delays. Unnecessary delays can be avoided by working with the unit advancement coordinator and/or Council International Representative.

1. **Dates:** All applicable date fields will be verified by the council.
2. **Signatures:** Applicant, Advisor, International Representative (OR Representative), and Scout Executive.
3. **Attachments:** Service project worksheet and any other relevant attachments.

COMPLETE ALL THE REQUIREMENTS

The advisor and International Representative OR designee signatures represent approval for the candidate to move forward with the application process for both the **CHAMPION** and **AMBASSADOR** awards.

SUBMIT TO COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER

A copy should be made of the application; service project worksheet; and other pertinent materials. Once copies are in safekeeping, the originals should be delivered to the council service center.

COUNCIL VERIFIES APPLICATION

Everything is checked against Scouting America records. If information in the Scouting America system or council files are incomplete, the Scout or Unit will be asked to provide certificates or other means of verification of information given. The regular use of ScoutBook for reporting advancement and service hours will help expedite this process.

If everything is correct, the council International Representative OR designee will provide a verification signature and send the original with the service project worksheet and other items to the Scout Executive for their approval.

At the council, the Scout Executive signs the application, certifying proper procedures were followed. The application is then entered into the Scouting America system and filed locally for Messengers of Peace **CHAMPION** and **AMBASSADOR** Awards.

Once the **CHAMPION** and **AMBASSADOR** award application is approved, Council may award the recipient with the appropriate MoP ring and certificate which can be obtained through National Supply by Council directly.

The **MOP DISTINGUISHED PROJECT OF THE YEAR** Award nomination must be forward to the Scouting America International Committee for selection AFTER it has been approved for forwarding by the nominee's Council. The Scouting America International Committee will choose a maximum of 5 (*no minimum*) awards per year and will directly award the recipient with a certificate, patch and medal in coordination with the recipient's council. Councils should make every effort to recognize these recipients at an appropriate venue or Court of Honor to promote the program and further recognize the recipient in their own community.



OBTAINING MESSENGERS OF PEACE AWARDS FOR PRESENTATION

Following the council's receipt of validation of all applications received the unit advancement chairperson or their designee may place an order through the council service center for the appropriate Messengers of Peace recognition.

The general Messengers of Peace **ADVOCATE** Award (SKU 615442 EMB MoP Ring) is available at the local council service center. To obtain recognitions for the Messengers of Peace **CHAMPION**, **AMBASSADOR** orders must be placed through the local service center using the following SKU's:

- 660067 EMB MoP Ring Champion
- 660068 EMB MoP Ring Ambassador

Messengers of Peace Award recognitions are to be worn around the World Crest.

**Messengers of Peace Distinguished Project Award emblem (6600069 EMB MoP Ring Distinguished) is a restricted item and can only be obtained through the International Committee. This award is limited to five per year. Recipients are selected by the International Committee and the award will be presented by the International Committee as well, council does not need to procure the award for the recipient - it will be sent directly from the International Committee.*



MOP ADVOCATE:

The Messenger of Peace Advocate award (purple ring) is the main award of Scouting America's Messengers of Peace program. This award is earned by Scouts across the world who take part in MoP projects, activities, and initiatives.



MOP CHAMPION:

The MoP Champion (blue ring) is unique to Scouting America. This award recognizes our members who not only actively participate in serving their local communities but also organize and inspire those around them to do the same.



MOP AMBASSADOR:

The MoP Ambassador (yellow ring) is the highest award in Scouting America's MoP program. Ambassadors are Scouts who show great commitment and outstanding service towards the Messenger of Peace goals. In Scouting America, this award recognizes members who go above and beyond to serve their local communities and promote a culture of peace.

THE MESSENGERS OF PEACE PROGRAM – AN OVERVIEW



- Which of the **FIVE LEARNING PATH(S)** are you interested in exploring?
- Your project can be related to **ONE, MORE** or **ALL** of the paths.
- Each path represents an area that helps foster peace in the world

WHAT SHOULD MY PROJECT FOCUS ON?

1 CHOOSE YOUR LEARNING PATH(S)

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Advocate for solutions to issues you are passionate about

| | |
|---|---|
| 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE |
| 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES | 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES |
| 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS |

CULTURE & HERITAGE

Create a sense of belonging, persevering cultural heritage, and respecting other cultures

| | |
|---|---|
| 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES | 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES |
| 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION | 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS |

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Appreciate diversity and standing for inclusion for all

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 5 GENDER EQUALITY | 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES |
| 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | |

PEACEBUILDING

Take action to contribute to a more peaceful society

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES | 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES |
| 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | |

HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Support others during times of need and crisis

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 NO POVERTY | 2 ZERO HUNGER |
| 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES |
| 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | 13 CLIMATE ACTION |

2 CHOOSE AN AWARD LEVEL

3 FOLLOW THE FOUR STEP PROCESS:

LISTEN
ACKNOWLEDGE
RESPOND
COLLABORATE

MOP ADVOCATE

PERSONAL
starts with me

REQUIREMENTS - Page 10

MOP CHAMPION

COMMUNITY BASED
in my community

REQUIREMENTS - Page 11

MOP AMBASSADOR

COLLECTIVE RESULT
when working together

REQUIREMENTS - Page 12

MOP DISTINGUISHED PROJECT OF THE YEAR

NOTE: This is NOT an earned award, Scouts must be nominated, Council must approve the nomination, and a national committee chooses the recipient. Read more on page 14.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Scouting America
International web page



Scouting America
International Facebook



World Scouting
web page



Scouting America
MoP web page



Scouting America
MoP Facebook



Scouts for SDGs
web page

