

Module 15: Volunteer Recognition Program

**Video time
allowed**

2:23 minutes

Facilitator

Council president or other key council officer, with assistance from the Scout executive

**Learning
objectives**

This module explains the various recognition programs that the Boy Scouts of America has established for different levels of volunteers. It shows that volunteers are valued by the organization, and introduces them to the different awards, as well as how nominees and recipients are chosen.

After completing this module, board members should

- Have a working knowledge of the Silver Beaver Award, including how a Scouter is nominated, and what the award looks like.
- Have a working knowledge of the Silver Antelope Award and who it recognizes.
- Have a working knowledge of the Silver Buffalo Award and who it recognizes.
- Understand that the Whitney Young Jr. Award is awarded for reaching youth in underserved areas.
- Know about religious awards programs for youth and adults.
- Know that there are awards for lifesaving and meritorious action.
- Know that both national and local council certificates of merit are available to recognize acts of service on both levels.
- Understand that many additional district- and unit-level awards are available as well.

Materials needed

- Laptop, projector, and screen
- Council executive board handouts or binders—one for each participant—that can be printed in advance locally from the [online appendix](#)
- Whiteboard, flip chart, or overhead projector to facilitate discussion and presentation
- Duty to God brochure, No. 512-879 (from the [online appendix](#))

Introduction of Module 15

- The Scout executive explains that as a volunteer driven, professionally guided organization, the Boy Scouts of America relies heavily on its volunteers for its success.
 - To recognize the outstanding contributions our volunteers make on a national, regional, district, council, and unit level, we have devised a comprehensive award program with a number of very prestigious honors.
 - Most of our volunteers are involved in the program because they want to make a difference.
 - They recognize the value of Scouting and the way the program continues to help mold the youth of America into future leaders in our community.
 - Here are some of the ways the Boy Scouts of America recognizes those contributions.
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Show [Module 15](#).

Any questions?

- Ask if there are any questions and address them.
- Discuss the religious awards program and reference the Duty to God brochure.

(Estimated discussion time will vary, based on the board level of experience and participation.)

Local Recipients

- Share stories about various people in your council, district, or unit who have received one of these awards.
- (If honorees are in the room or currently on the board, recognize them.)