

QUALIFICATIONS

These are the requirements for candidates for the Boy Scouts of America participation in the National Science Foundation and BSA scientific project to Antarctica, September 2003 through January 2004.

- 1. The candidate must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- 2. The candidate must have had a minimum of three years' membership in the BSA.
- 3. The candidate must be a high-school graduate and must be at least age 17 1/2 and not yet 21 as of June 1, 2003.
- 4. The candidate must have earned the Eagle Scout rank.
- 5. The applicant must be available for training during the month of September 2003.

APPLICATION FORM

Download an <u>Application Form (28 K)</u> for the 2001-2002 Summer Season. You will need Acrobat[®] Reader to view and print the form. This free software may be downloaded from <u>Adobe</u>.



SUPPORTING MATERIAL

Along with the application form, candidates must provide the following supporting material.

Attachment "A"

The candidate must present a letter of certification from his unit leader and the chairman of the unit committee showing his record as a member of the Boy Scouts of America. It must include length of service, rank, leadership experiences, detailed camping or high-adventure experiences, and his own service in relation to outdoor experiences. The candidate must have had a camping experience of at least one week during each of three years. The certification also shall include the reason for recommending this candidate. Naturally, such a statement will certify as to his practice of the ideals of Scouting and his effort to develop and demonstrate leadership ability.

The candidate must have had a minimum of three years' membership in the Boy Scouts of America. A list of merit badges earned must be submitted. Preference will be given to candidates who hold merit badges in Archaeology, Astronomy, Aviation, Bird Study, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Computers, Cooking, Electricity, Electronics, Emergency Preparedness, Energy, Engineering, Environmental Science, First Aid, Geology, Hiking, Home Repairs, Journalism, Oceanography, Orienteering, Personal Fitness, Photography, Pioneering, Public Speaking, Radio, Snow Sports, Soil and Water Conservation, Surveying, Weather, Wilderness Survival, and Woodwork.

Attachment "B"

The candidate must present a letter of certification written by school authorities, attesting to the candidate's intellectual capabilities as well as interest in and aptitude for the physical sciences. This letter should include his past selection of science courses, participation in science projects and science fairs, academic standing, grades, and class rank.

Attachment "C"

The candidate must submit a statement of 500 to 1,000 words explaining why he wishes to become a member of the expedition and why he feels qualified.

Attachment "D"

The candidate must submit an additional statement outlining his hobbies and interests (other than Scouting) for the past two years. Included should be all non-Scouting-related civic and community involvement.

Attachment "E"

Letters and other evidence should be submitted from persons in his community to testify as to the character of the candidate, his courage, resourcefulness, leadership ability, adaptability, quality of endurance, initiative, industry, and experience and action under stress.

Attachment "F"

A basic statement on the candidate's health should be among the material furnished with this application.

Note: Antarctica is one of the most rigorous places on the earth. One must be capable of physical activity while wearing thirty pounds of cold-weather gear in extremely low temperatures, at altitudes higher than 10,000 feet. Meals may be irregular. Such stressful environmental conditions, potential hazards, and extreme remoteness from major medical facilities make Antarctic physical

screening mandatory to ensure freedom from any disability that might imperil health, restrict activities, or create a burden for one's associates.

SELECTION PROCESS

The application and supporting material must be submitted by February 1, 2003. Finalists will be notified of their selection by April 1, 2003.

If accepted for the national selection process, the candidate must present a complete health history and a physician's certificate of a thorough physical examination. This examination must be of the same level and as detailed as that required of



candidates for the military academies. Medical forms will be mailed to finalists.

The Boy Scouts of America http://www.scouting.org