



Dr. Albert Einstein

Venturer Supernova Award Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the Venturer Nova Awards Guidebook.

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Venturer to make notes for discussing the item with his counselor, not for providing the full and complete answers. Each Venturer must do each requirement.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in the Venturer Nova Awards Guidebook (Pub. 34031).

The requirements were issued in 2012 • This workbook was updated in April 2015.

Venturer's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Phone No.: _____

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Send comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **Nova Award** to: Program.Content@Scouting.Org

Third-Level Supernova Award for Venturers

- 1. Earn either the Thomas Edison Supernova Award while a registered Boy Scout or the Wright Brothers Supernova Award while a registered Venturer.
 - Thomas Edison Supernova Award
 - Wright Brothers Supernova Award
- 2. Complete FOUR additional Supernova activity topics, one in each of the four different STEM areas. (Note: The intent is that upon completion of the Dr. Albert Einstein Supernova Award the Venturer will have completed two Supernova activity topics in each of the four STEM areas for a total of eight.)
 - Science
 - Technology
 - Engineering
 - Mathematics
- 3. Create and propose a new Nova awards topic for any program (Cub Scout, Webelos, Boy Scouts, or Venturing) comparable to the existing Nova awards topics at that program level. Prepare a written outline for this proposed Nova awards topic and submit it to your mentor
- 4. With guidance from your mentor, select an area of current STEM-related concern and develop a research project or experiment related to that area. This research project or experiment should be challenging and should require a significant investment of time and effort on your part. (A guideline would be approximately 100 hours.) If your mentor is not a specialist in the area of your project or experiment, he or she will solicit assistance from a specialist who to serve as a STEM consultant. Execute the project or experiment. Prepare a complete and well-documented written report AND an oral presentation. Present both to your mentor and your local council Nova committee.
- 5. Submit an application to the national Nova committee for approval.

Important excerpts from the [‘Guide To Advancement’](#), No. 33088:

The ‘*Guide to Advancement*’ (which replaced the publication ‘*Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures*’) is the official Boy Scouts of America source on advancement policies and procedures.

- [**Inside front cover, and 5.0.1.4**] — **Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program**
No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. (There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with disabilities. For details see section 10, “Advancement for Members With Special Needs”.)
- [**Inside front cover, and 7.0.1.1**] — The [‘Guide to Safe Scouting’](#) Applies
Policies and procedures outlined in the ‘*Guide to Safe Scouting*’, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects. [Note: Always reference the online version, which is updated quarterly.]
- [**7.0.3.1**] — **The Buddy System and Certifying Completion**
Youth members must not meet one-on-one with adults. Sessions with counselors must take place where others can view the interaction, or the Scout must have a buddy: a friend, parent, guardian, brother, sister, or other relative—or better yet, another Scout working on the same badge—along with him attending the session. When the Scout meets with the counselor, he should bring any required projects. If these cannot be transported, he should present evidence, such as photographs or adult certification. His unit leader, for example, might state that a satisfactory bridge or tower has been built for the Pioneering merit badge, or that meals were prepared for Cooking. If there are questions that requirements were met, a counselor may confirm with adults involved. Once satisfied, the counselor signs the blue card using the date upon which the Scout completed the requirements, or in the case of partials, initials the individual requirements passed.
- [**7.0.3.2**] — **Group Instruction**
It is acceptable—and sometimes desirable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings. This often occurs at camp and merit badge midways or similar events. Interactive group discussions can support learning. The method can also be attractive to “guest experts” assisting registered and approved counselors. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material.

There must be attention to each individual’s projects and his fulfillment of *all* requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and *personally*—completed them. If, for example, a requirement uses words like “show,” “demonstrate,” or “discuss,” then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms *watching* demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions. Because of the importance of individual attention in the merit badge plan, group instruction should be limited to those scenarios where the benefits are compelling.