






UNIT EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

The Great Rivers Council Unit Excellence Program is designed to recognize excellence while providing clear, achievable benchmarks for unit success. By outlining expectations in planning, program delivery, leadership, membership growth and retention, and marketing, these standards define what a strong and sustainable unit looks like.

Units that meet or exceed the program standards will be recognized and celebrated. Other units might receive guidance, coaching, and targeted resources to support improvement. The goal is not evaluation, but alignment around a shared commitment to delivering a high-quality Scouting experience for youth and families within the Great Rivers Council.

The quality unit program promotes:

-  **Positive Recognition** for units that meet and exceed the standards
-  **Youth-Focused Outcomes** centered on quality program delivery
-  **Year-Round Focus** on recruiting, retention, training, and communication with families
-  **Commissioner Support** with coaching and resource deployment
-  **Continuous Improvement** by helping units address challenges and set priorities



RECOGNITION - UNIT EXCELLENCE AWARD

Units achieving the established program may be recognized at appropriate district or council events, such as a volunteer recognition reception, highlighted in the Council Annual Report, and presented with a special ribbon for the unit flag signifying the achievement.



UNIT EXCELLENCE 2026



PLANNING

- Unit Budget**
Our budget was developed and approved by the Unit Committee and includes a fundraising plan utilizing Council approved product sales (e.g. popcorn, Burgers' products)
- Annual Calendar**
Our unit committee maintains and makes available to leaders and families at least a 6-month program and meeting calendar
- Unit Renewal**
Our unit renewed its charter on time.



PROGRAM

- Training**
A minimum of 65% of unit leaders are fully trained for their position
- Advancement**
90% of Cub Scouts earn 8 Adventures (Packs) or 60% of Scouts BSA advancing in rank (Troops)
- Outdoor Adventure**
Our youth and leaders participate in Day Camp, Family Camp, and/or Summer Camp
- Family Engagement**
Our unit hosts at least two family-inclusive events per year (e.g., family campouts, picnics, Blue & Gold, Courts of Honor, etc.)
- Community Engagement**
Each youth participates in a minimum of two community engagement events per year (e.g. parades, service projects, flag ceremony, etc.)



LEADERSHIP

- Unit Commissioner**
My unit has an assigned Unit Commissioner who maintains engaged connections and provides regular, proactive support to the unit
- Membership Volunteer**
My unit has a designated, registered New Member Coordinator to support recruitment and onboarding
- Leaders**
Our unit has Den leaders for each grade level represented (Packs) and key leadership positions filled (Troops)



OUTREACH

- Marketing**
Our unit has at least one social media page with regular updates (e.g. Instagram, Facebook, etc.)
- Communication**
Our unit provides regular communication to families (e.g., monthly newsletter, calendar updates, texting, or meeting recaps)



MEMBERSHIP

- Membership**
Increase in total members over the prior year and a commitment to year-round recruiting with a target size of a minimum 20 Cub Scouts per Pack and 12 Scouts per Troop



We certify that, as Scout leaders, 10 of 14 of the Unit Excellence Award have been completed.

Unit Type & # _____ Unit Leader _____

Committee Chair _____

This form should be turned in to the Scouting Adventure Center by January 10, 2027.