

## Managers share why they hired Scouting alumni

January 26, 2017 by [Bryan Wendell](#) in Scouting Magazine



✿ David R. has landed four different jobs just because he's an Eagle Scout. One time, after the words "Eagle Scout" were uttered, "the manager went right to, 'what will it take for you to work for me?'" he says.

✿ I was working as a contractor for a new nuclear facility that was being built. When my contact was coming to an end, a Manager, who is an Eagle Scout and heard about my contract ending; asked me to come work for him. He told me after the "interview" process that because of my experience as an Eagle Scout, he knew that I could get the work done, wherever I was assigned. – Thomas F

✿ My son—who is an Eagle—has gotten hired because he was an Eagle, gotten an immediate raise because he was an Eagle and given more responsibilities at work usually reserved for more experience employees. He's heard the phrase "You're an Eagle, you can figure it out" several times at work. And he has. – Doug D.

✿ Several years ago I was laid off when my employer went bankrupt. We were provided with a career counselor to help with resume writing, interview preparations and career goals. When he first reviewed my resume he suggested I remove Eagle Scout as an accomplishment; he said that was a childhood achievement. I told him there was no way that would be removed, especially as the first achievement on the list. I was eventually hired by a major international corporation. My manager explained that he wanted someone with maturity, independent decision making skills, and above all else integrity. Eagle Scout meant a lot to him, the company and our clients. Lyndon Johnson signed my Eagle Scout certificate, and my son is also an Eagle Scout. – Wade D.

✿ In my senior year of high school (1970) I applied for a NROTC scholarship, during my medical and interview my father asked a Navy Lt what were my chances of receiving the scholarship. When my father mentioned that I was an Eagle Scout the Lt said, "If he is an Eagle and made it this far, he has the scholarship." When I learned of this conversation on the drive home, I thought that was a nice thing for the Lt to tell my "old man." Years later when assigned to Navy Recruiting, I asked the question how significant Eagle Scout was in any application, the answer was extremely significant! Now retired after 21 years of active duty and 22 years as a NJROTC instructor, I tell that story often. Every time I buy Girl Scout cookies, the girls have to listen to my story. I always emphasize that I AM an Eagle, not that I was an EAGLE. – Tommy A.

✿ This is how I got my first job in college. I applied at a Burger King; the manager sat down with me, saw Eagle Scout on the application, and hired me on the spot. Other than talking about how her son benefitted from the Scouts and when I could start, that was the entirety of the interview. I've also had it come up in numerous career-track interviews. Ryan H.

## What do the hiring managers say?

- ✿ **Convenience store manager:** “I have employed many Eagle Scouts and Venturing Silver Award recipients in my convenience stores because I had worked with them throughout the years in Scouting. Huge difference between Scouts/other hires in terms of honesty, problem solving, customer service and following through with responsibility.” – Sherry M.
- ✿ **Pump manufacturing company manager:** “I interviewed several candidates for an engineering position. The final decision came down to three candidates, two of whom were Eagle Scouts. I ultimately hired one of the Eagles for the position due to his decision making and leadership background. Side note: inquiring about their Eagle project was a great icebreaker and seemed to ease any anxiety of the interview for them.” – Chris K.
- ✿ **Best Western manager:** “Combing through apps, I saw Eagle Scout. I hired him on the phone interview. The owners asked why I felt confident; I said, ‘he’s an Eagle Scout!’ That was the end of the conversation. He was an amazing employee!” – Danelle E.
- ✿ **Retail store manager:** “I took a new position with the company as a store manager. I went to Scout camp and hired all of the staff that was attending the local university in my new town. Most stayed with me till graduation. Best group of males and females I had in my 19 years at the location. They had great work habits and dedication to me and the company. I would do it all over again.” – David P.
- ✿ **Emergency Skills Inc. manager:** “I hired a former Scout and adult Scoutmaster because of his honesty and loyalty. Additionally, I knew he had a passion to help people.” – Sarah G.
- ✿ **U.S. Navy:** True story of how a US astronaut began his career as a Navy officer: A young sailor with three years experience stood before a review board on his application for a college scholarship program leading to an officer’s commission. The seaman was newly posted to this base, so the board officers did not know him. The chairman focused on an indiscretion from the teen days of the sailor’s career, and would not let it go, grilling him about it time and again. While the other officers asked questions, the chairman studied the rest of the young man’s record, then suddenly looked up. “You’re an Eagle Scout?” he asked. “Yes, sir,” the sailor answered. The chairman slammed the file closed and announced, “We’re done. The application is approved.”

Sign up your child and learn more at  
[www.DelMarVaCouncil.org](http://www.DelMarVaCouncil.org)