



VENTURING · BSA®

2015 Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award

Council name _____ No. _____

Region _____ Area _____

Core Requirements

1. **Building Venturing:** Growth in Venturing membership and/or Venturing crews.

No loss in membership OR Venturing crews	100 points
Positive growth in membership OR crews	200 points
Positive growth in membership AND crews	300 points
2. **Governance:** Council has a governing Venturing officers' association (VOA).

Council has a VOA president and VOA Advisor	25 points
Council has a full VOA cabinet and Advisor group	75 points
Council has a full VOA AND a council Venturing committee	200 points
3. **Recognition:** Council utilized the Venturing Leadership Award to honor exceptional service.

Council actively promoted the Venturing Leadership Award	50 points
Council presented one Venturing Leadership Award	100 points
Council presented two or more Venturing Leadership Awards	200 points
4. **Activities:** In the past year, Venturers have participated in two or more activities conducted by the council or a district.

Activities planned by the district program/camping committee	50 points
Activities planned by the council program/camping committee	100 points
Activities planned by the council VOA	200 points
5. **Promotion:** Venturing awards and achievements given high visibility. (See FAQs for more information.)

Council promoted the Venturing awards as part of the advancement plan	50 points
VOA presented awards at a Venturing awards banquet	100 points
Council presented Venturing awards at the council awards banquet	200 points
6. **Reporting:** The VOA gives regular reports to the council governing bodies. (See FAQs for more information.)

VOA gives one status report to the council Scout executive and board president	50 points
VOA gives two status reports to the council Scout executive and board president	100 points
VOA gives three status reports to the council Scout executive and board president	200 points
AND gives a formal report to the council Executive Board	

Electives

7. A Venturing representative from the council participates (either physically or via electronic media) in area Venturing meetings/trainings/events.

One meeting	20 points
Two meetings	30 points
Three or more meetings	50 points
8. Council creates and maintains an electronic council Venturing social media presence. (See FAQs for more information.)

VOA social media presence (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	20 points
Bronze AND Venturing presence on the council website	30 points
Silver AND unique council Venturing website	50 points
9. Youth Venturing members earned more Venturing recognition since last year. (See FAQs for more information.)

_____ Awards earned in current year	_____ Awards earned in previous year	
5 percent increase		20 points
10 percent increase		30 points
15 percent increase		50 points
10. Council promoted Venturing-specific Youth Protection Training (Y02) to districts and units. (See FAQs for more information.)

75 percent trained	20 points
80 percent trained	30 points
90 percent trained	50 points

11. More Venturing adults have taken higher-level leadership training than the previous year.
(See FAQs for more information.)
- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| _____ Participants in current year | _____ Participants in previous year | |
| Advisor specific and/or crew committee | | 20 points |
| 5 percent growth | | 30 points |
| 10 percent growth | | 50 points |
12. The council hosted/conducted a Venturing-specific training/leadership course. (Refer to FAQs for list of courses.)
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| One adult/youth training course | 20 points |
| Two adult/youth training courses | 30 points |
| Four adult/youth training courses | 50 points |
13. At least one member of the council VOA participated in an NYLT, NAYLE, Wood Badge, or Leadership Academy course (as a participant or staff).
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| One person | 20 points |
| Two or three people | 30 points |
| Four or more people (or entire VOA) | 50 points |

POINT BREAKDOWN

Bronze: 465–1056 points

Silver: 1057–1649 points

Gold: 1650+ points

Reviewed and submitted by:

_____ Council VOA President

_____ Council Venturing Volunteer Advisor

_____ Council Scout Executive

For National Use Only

Qualified for 2015 Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award: Yes _____ No _____

_____ National Venturing Staff Advisor

_____ Date

Send the completed form by February 15 to:

Boy Scouts of America
Attn: Regional Operations–Venturing
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

Email: venturing.nationalofficers@scouting.org
Email is preferred.

We ask that you submit a completed form even if your council does not qualify for the award.



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2015 Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award Information and Frequently Asked Questions

Core Requirements

5. **Promotion**

50 points: Council and district advancement committees help promote the Venturing awards.

100 points: The VOA has a Venturing awards banquet where the Venturing awards are presented.

200 points: Venturing awards are presented at the council awards banquet with the Silver Beaver recipients.

6. **Reporting**

Reporting can be done in writing or orally, and in person, via phone, or via Skype.

Electives

8. Council Venturing programs are encouraged to have a viable social media presence (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) to promote Venturing internally and externally as a way to give back to the council (the nature of being a servant leader). The quickest way for Venturing crews to find information about your council Venturing program is to have an easily accessible Internet presence with links to your council website, as well as other major Venturing websites both regional and national (www.scouting.org/venturing).
9. Requirements can be found in the *Venturing Awards and Requirements* book. Please contact your council Venturing staff advisor for award records.
10. Please contact your council Venturing staff advisor for YPT numbers.
11. Higher level leadership training includes (but is not limited to): Wood Badge, Powder Horn, Kodiak, Philmont Training Center courses, etc. Adult leaders returning to staff these courses may also be counted.
12. The following are considered to be Venturing adult-specific trainings: Venturing Youth Protection (YO2), Advisor Position-Specific Training, and Crew Committee Challenge. Venturing Youth trainings: Leadership Skills for Crews, Goal Setting and Time Management, Project Management, and Mentoring for Venturing. Please use the specific training manuals for reference as well as <http://www.scouting.org/Training/adult.aspx>.

What is a VOA?

The Venturing Officers Association is a youth-run organization with elected or appointed officers. The purpose of the VOA is to provide a forum for Venturing crews at the council level, model effective crew operations, provide a resource for youth and adults interested in learning about Venturing, promote councilwide Venturing activities and opportunities, assist with Venturing training, provide recruitment ideas, and develop new Venturing programs and activities.

Who completes the Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award form and when?

The council Venturing Officers Association or VOA president, council Venturing volunteer Advisor, and Scout executive must complete and submit the form no later than February 15 of the following year. For example, the 2015 form should be submitted no later than Feb. 15, 2016.

When will councils earn the award?

When all of the requirements are completed, a council will be eligible to earn the award. The Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award is determined based on successfully achieving the 2015 criteria between Jan. 1, 2015, and Dec. 31, 2015.

How will councils be recognized, and when will the recognition items be available?

Recognition consists of a certificate presented at the BSA's National Annual Meeting and a mention on www.scouting.org/venturing.

Where is Powder Horn and Wood Badge participation recorded?

Contact your council or area training chair. They have records that include the adults who may have completed the courses. Youth ages 18 and over can be participants in these courses.

Where are the Venturing awards and recognitions recorded?

Check with your council's advancement committee and/or registrar to determine year-to-year comparisons. Encourage all of your crews and ships to record their awards and recognitions with the council promptly so accurate tracking is possible.

What is the submission process?

Fill in the council information at the top of the form, mark the requirements that have been completed, and secure the requested signatures.

Send the completed form by February 15 to:

Boy Scouts of America
Attn: Regional Operations—Venturing
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

OR

Email: venturing.nationalofficers@scouting.org

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