



Religious Emblems Coordinator (REC)

*A New Position at the
Council, District, and Unit Levels*



PURPOSE:

- Encourage all youth to earn the emblem of their faith
- Promote religious emblems usage like BSA promotes other youth advancement
- Establish goals and track the number of religious emblems completed each year

WHY:

Baden-Powell stated, *“No man is such good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So Every Scout should have a religion...Religion seems a very simple thing: First, Love and Serve God. Second, Love and serve your neighbor.”* (**Scouting for Boys**, 1908)

- Religious Emblems reinforce BSA values
- Improve relationships with religious chartered organizations
- Establish relationships with potential religious chartered organizations

COUNCIL Religious Emblems Coordinator (CREC patch: SKU #614660)

- Is appointed by the Vice President of Program
- Disseminates information to District REC's
- Disseminates information through:
 - Trainings
 - Professional staff
 - College of Commissioner Science
 - University of Scouting
 - New Leader Training
 - Program at Summer Camp and Day Camp
- Works with the Council Religious Relationships (RR) Committee
- Recognizes that the RR Committee is the group that works directly with the faith community to:
 - Recruit chaplains
 - Coordinate the council calendar with religious holidays
 - Sponsor religious emblems retreats
 - Identify religious representatives from the various faith groups
 - Strengthen ties with local congregations and chartered organizations
- If the Religious Relationships Committee works primarily with the faith community, the Religious Emblems Coordinator focuses specifically on raising awareness of religious emblems and increasing usage.
- The REC can learn through the RR Committee which Faith Committees are sponsoring religious emblems retreats and which congregations are offering religious emblems classes.

DISTRICT Religious Emblems Coordinator (DREC patch: SKU #614645)

- Is appointed by the District Program Chair
- Sets goals with District Program Chair
- Encourages every unit to appoint a **Unit Religious Emblems Coordinator (UREC)**
- Disseminates information to Units through: Re-charter packets, Roundtables, Camporees
- Encourages Unit Committees to set goals (i.e., number of religious emblems that will be earned that year)

- Helps UREC's recruit "presenters" to make presentations on religious emblems, including clergy of chartered organizations, unit leaders that promote religious emblems, Chaplains, etc.

UNIT Religious Emblems Coordinator (UREC patch: SKU #618744)

- Is appointed by the Unit Committee Chair and serves on the Unit Committee
- Acquaints all youth with the religious emblems program and emblems available for their faith.
- Provides Scout families and clergy with an orientation to the religious emblems program and encourages their involvement
- Urges all youth to earn the religious emblem(s) of their faith
- Disseminates information about any district or council religious emblems activities, retreats, camps, classes, etc.
- Promotes religious emblems usage like BSA promotes other youth advancement
- Coordinates establishment of goals and tracks the number of emblems completed each year
- Serves as the unit's liaison to the District Religious Emblems Coordinator

SAMPLE GOALS

- Number of emblems completed (by religion, unit, district, council, etc.)
- Number of religious presentations made to Scouts, parents, clergy, etc.
- Number of congregations offering religious emblems classes
- Number of trainings offered on religious emblems

RECRUITMENT OF REC's

- Establish communication with the RR Committee; ask them to help
- Ask clergy of chartered organizations
- Ask leaders of units that promote religious emblems usage

HOW TO PROMOTE USAGE OF RELIGIOUS EMBELMS

- Gather information of religious emblems programs and promotion resources available to you
- Educate Unit leaders about these resources
- Recognize religious emblems recipients

SHARING DATA

- Collect data on religious emblems usage
- Post information on Council, District, and Unit websites
- List recipients in the council newsletter
- Recognize leaders, units, and districts that do an outstanding job
- Market your data by posting it on the websites

RESOURCES

- Online: www.scouting.org/Awards/ReligiousAwards.aspx; www.praypub.org/rec
- Webinars / workshops / tutorials: www.praypub.org/learningcenter
- Clickable resources . . .



[religious emblems chart]



[free webinar registration]



[REC resource page]



[Unit REC resource page]