

2017-18
DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE (DCS)
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE

Completion of the Doctor of Commissioner Science Degree (DCS) requires completion of the Bachelor of Commissioner Science [BCS] Degree and the Master of Commissioner Science [MCS] Degree from any College of Commissioner Science. The Candidate for Doctor of Commissioner Science [CDCS] certificate must be earned from the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science (PACCS) if the candidate wishes to earn the Doctor of Commissioner Science Degree from PACCS.

CANDIDATE FOR DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER (CDCS) CERTIFICATE Requirements:

1. Attend a minimum of three (including the CDCS) annual sessions of a College of Commissioner Science.
2. Hold the Master of Commissioner Science (MCS) Degree.
3. Be an active, registered Commissioner (or adult leader) with at least one year of active Commissioner service since receiving the MCS degree.
4. Satisfactorily complete the CDCS coursework.
5. Select a suitable research study or project topic for approval by the PACCS Doctoral Candidate Review Board.

DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE (DCS) DEGREE Requirements:

1. Hold the Candidate for Doctor of Commissioner Science (CDCS) certificate from PACCS.
2. Be an active, registered Commissioner (or adult leader) with at least one year of active Commissioner service since receiving the CDCS certificate.
3. After completing the CDCS Certificate:
 - a. Identify a Scouting problem in your Unit, District, Council, or National organizations or programs.
 - b. Determine how a Commissioner can solve, impact, or reduce this problem.
 - c. Do a research study or action project that deals with the problem. Use the Guidelines on the following pages.
 - d. Present a written report (see guidelines below) describing your research or project.

- e. If the written report is not completed and accepted within four years of last completing the CDCS class, the candidate must retake the CDCS class. The PACCS Doctoral Candidate Review Board reserves the right to require all candidates to retake all or a portion of the CDCS class should requirements for the research and/or written dissertation change since the candidate last took the class.
4. Serve on the Staff of the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science before receiving your Doctor of Commissioner Science degree.

STUDY RESEARCH GUIDELINES:

In order for the Doctoral paper to show evidence of thoughtful study selection, careful research, and adequate development, your study must contain the following elements:

1. Study Statement and Problem Definition

- a. You will select a research topic by the end of the CDCS course.
- b. The Faculty of the CDCS course will handle initial topic approval and consideration of duplicate ideas. A member of the Doctoral Candidate Review Board will be selected as your advisor.
- c. You will apply for final topic approval from your advisor by July 1 following the end of your CDCS course.
- d. Your application for topic approval will include:
 - i. Your name, Council, and District, and dates of Commissioner College attendance.
 - ii. Title of project.
 - iii. Study statement about the problem.
 - iv. Problem definition or defense of your study.

2. Study Statement Criteria

- a. Briefly describe the problem you have identified.
- b. State your concept for solution of the problem. Your study may:
 - i. Explain why some Scouting organization or activity works, does not work, or how it can be improved.
 - ii. Develop some concept or theory that would help other Commissioners.
- c. Briefly outline how you will research your problem.

3. Research

- a. To develop and explain your study or project you must collect and analyze facts and/or viewpoints.
- b. These facts may come from books, pamphlets, magazine articles, speeches, or other sources of ideas and information. Use sources beyond BSA literature.
- c. Facts may come from surveys, questionnaires, or interviews of knowledgeable people or those with opinions about your topic.

4. Outline

- a. A one-page outline of your research must be sent to your advisor by August 15 following the end of your CDCS course.
- b. This outline deadline encourages you not to wait to start on your research and provides an opportunity for your advisor to provide assistance to you.

5. Written Report

- a. This is a report of your research. The final paper is due by May 1 before the Commissioner College session when you expect to receive your Doctor of Commissioner Science degree.
- b. This report should describe the Scouting problem, your study, your methods of research, your analyses, conclusions, and recommendations, and the bibliography of literature you used.
- c. See the Written Report Guidelines for further details.

ACTION PROJECT GUIDELINES:

In order for the Doctoral report to show evidence of thoughtful project selection, careful planning, and achievement of goals, your project must contain the following elements:

1. Project Description and Problem Definition

- a. You will select a project topic by the end of the CDCS course.
- b. The Faculty of the CDCS course will handle initial topic approval and consideration of duplicate ideas. A member of the Doctoral Candidate Review Board will be appointed as your advisor by the Chairman of the Doctoral Candidate Review Board.
- c. You will apply for final topic approval from your advisor by July 1 following the end of your CDCS course.

- d. Your application for topic approval will include:
 - i. Your name, council, and district, and dates of Commissioner College attendance.
 - ii. Title of project.
 - iii. Brief project description.
 - iv. Problem definition or need for your project.

2. Project Description Criteria

- a. Briefly describe the problem you have identified.
- b. State how your project or event can be a solution for the problem. Your project may:
 - i. Improve some Scouting organization or activity.
 - ii. Develop a new event or activity that would help Scouting.
 - iii. Your project must be helpful and of real significance to other Commissioners with similar problems or needs.
- c. Briefly outline how you will accomplish your project.

3. Project

- a. You must develop, plan, and give leadership to a valuable project or event.
- b. To schedule, plan, and advertise the project.
- c. To organize the work, supplies, and manpower.
- d. To direct the project to completion, but involve others in its accomplishment.

4. Outline

- a. A one page outline of your research project must be sent to your advisor by August 15 following the end of your CDCS course.
- a. This outline encourages you not to wait to start on your project and provides an opportunity for your advisor to provide assistance to you.

5. Written Report

- a. This is a paper about your project. The final paper is due by May 1 before the Commissioner College session when you expect to receive your Doctor of Commissioner Science degree.

- b. This report should describe the Scouting problem, your project, how the project was done, what it accomplished, your conclusions or recommendations, and the bibliography of literature you used.
- c. See Written Report Guidelines for further details.

WRITTEN REPORT GUIDELINES:

Your report must be typed, double-spaced, on white 8-1/2 x 11-inch paper. The original and two copies must be submitted with each bound in a non-permanent binder. **The body of the paper (items 3 through 9 below) should be at least 20 pages.**

The report should have the following parts (use template provided):

1. Title page showing research title, author's name, Council, District, and month and year of expected graduation.
2. Signature page for approval by the Doctoral Review Board.
3. Abstract – This is a one- to two-page summary of your work.
4. List of Tables and Figures – Each table and figure should be placed in the body of the document immediately after being referenced for the first time. Table and figure numbering (Table 1. ; Figure 1. Followed by a descriptive title.) should be in order of appearance in the body of the text. The Table # or Figure # with title should appear above the table or figure.
5. Introduction – A description and background of the Scouting problem you sought to solve and a statement of your study or brief description of your project. If appropriate, state why you chose your method of solving the problem.
6. Methods – Provide a detailed description of your research techniques or project planning and preparations. Refer to examples of questionnaires or other documents you used that should be in an Appendix.
7. Results – Describe the results of your research, the proof of your hypothesis, or the accomplishment of your project. Include tables, summarize surveys, or list materials or costs. Graphs may be useful display information. Include pictures of your project.
8. Conclusions – Analyze the meaning of the research you have done or the accomplishment of your project. Suggest recommendations, if appropriate. Discuss the value of your work to Scouting at the local, regional, or national level. How can others use your work?
9. References/Bibliography/Literature cited – Cite reports, books, speeches, and other publications that you used so others can also refer to the same sources of information.
10. Appendices – Include here any questionnaires, letters of inquiry, or other data-collection forms and maps, plans, or detailed information about your project. Try not to interrupt the

flow of your main text with information that the reader does not need to see immediately except for tables and figures referenced in the body of the text. Put information in the Appendix that would help someone else use your idea in his or her district or council.

Your goals are to complete the CDCS course on **June 3, 2017** where you will select a research topic. By **July 1**, submit your final title to your advisor for approval. You will be notified of approval by **July 15**. By **August 15**, submit an outline of your research. Submit a *rough draft* of your research report to your adviser no later than **January 1, 2018**. Then, by **March 1, 2018**, submit your written report for review by the entire Doctoral Review Board. After the Board has read your report, you may be asked to make some improvements and you will be notified by **April 1** if your paper is accepted. If your paper is not received by the **March 1** deadline, it will be considered for award of the degree the following year. If approved, bring **three bound copies** of your *final paper* to the college for signatures by all members of the Doctoral Candidate Review Board (one for college archives, one for your advisor if so desired, and one for you).

Remember, you also must have served on the staff of the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science at least one year in order to receive your Doctoral Degree.

Your written report becomes the property of the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science, which serves the Blue Ridge, Coastal Carolina, Daniel Boone, Great Smoky Mountain, Palmetto, Piedmont, and Sequoyah Councils of the Boy Scouts of America. If your paper is cited, reproduced, or published, you and the College will be given full credit for the work.

You should make all necessary effort to **attend the entire weekend of PACCS the year you plan to graduate.** Another requirement for graduation is a 5-minute presentation on your dissertation at the Saturday night campfire program. Doctoral neckerchiefs, slides and certificates will be presented at graduation ceremonies on Sunday morning following the worship service.