

Become a Merit Badge Counselor

Written by Administrator

Tuesday, 29 June 2010 20:21 - Last Updated Tuesday, 27 January 2015 17:47



Adult volunteers serving as Merit Badge Counselors must be registered as Merit Badge Counselors with the Boy Scouts of America. They must be men and women of good character, age 18 or older, and recognized as having the skills and knowledge of the Merit Badge subject matter, as well as, the ability to work with youth of Boy Scout age. (

[To find a registered Merit Badge Counselor click here](#)

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Merit Badge Counselors register by completing the Adult Registration Form (No. 524-501A), using Position Code “42.” They are not required to pay the registration fee, if they are only registered as a Merit Badge Counselor. The Counselor must

complete the

[Merit Badge](#)

[Counselor Information form](#)

, with an Adult Leader Application to the Scout Service Center. Merit Badge Counselors must also have completed Youth Protection Training within the last two years.

The Merit Badge Counselor Adult Application (No. 524-501A), Merit Badge Counselor Information form and Youth Protection Training certificate should be submitted to Mrs. Lisa Jones at the Dan Beard Council Office at (513) 577-7682 or email Jones.Lisa@scouting.org for review, background check and entry into ScoutNet.

1. Should the Merit Badge Counselor Adult Application, the Merit Badge Information form or Youth Protection Training be incomplete, Lisa Jones will return the paperwork monthly to the District Advancement Chair including a note describing the missing documentation.
2. Upon completion the documentation should be re-submitted to Lisa Jones.
3. After approval, the “Chartered Organization Copy” of Adult Registration and Merit Badge Information forms are forwarded to the appropriate District Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator for entry into **Doubleknot**, which establishes the accessibility to selection for Merit Badge counseling by Boy Scout youth.

There is no restriction or limit on the number of Merit Badges an individual may be approved to

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counsel, but they must be reviewed by the Unit leadership and the District Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator for reasonability.

All Merit Badge Counselors must be trained ([Merit Badge Counselor Orientation](#)) in the aims of Boy Scouting, advancement procedures and complete Youth Protection on-line training bi-annually

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Guide to Merit Badge Counseling

(Item # 34532) and

Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Circular

(Item # 34542) are valuable resources provided by the District or Council.

Merit Badge Counselors may indicate their interest in counseling primarily within a Unit. They may counsel any youth member, including their own son, ward or relative.