



MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR APPLICATION

Position Code 42

(Please type or print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Date of Birth ___/___/___

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email address _____ Currently registered as a Merit Badge Counselor? Yes/No

Current scouting position _____ District _____ Unit _____

To Qualify as a Merit Badge Counselor (MBC), you must:

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Be of good character.
- Be able to work with Scout age boys.
- Have "skills and education" in merit badges you are counseling.
- Be registered with BSA as MBC (an Adult Registration Form with position MBC, Position Code 42, and three references listed must accompany this application, unless you are already registered specifically as a MBC).
- Be certified as a qualified counselor by your District Advancement Committee before you start counseling.
- District Adv. Committee (not Council) must receive application, record it, and review qualifications.
- Application will NOT be approved without applicant's signature on back.

| Merit Badges (Suggest limit of 7) | Is this MB related to: A. Work/profession B. Hobby C. Special training | Explain your qualifications. Describe the "skills and education" which qualify you to counsel these badges. |
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**THE MERIT BADGE PROGRAM IS ONE OF SCOUTING'S BASIC
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT TOOLS.**

- This is accomplished by putting boys in contact with as many different counselors as possible, with whom they may not be acquainted. (Remember the Scout must bring a buddy to each meeting).
- Counselors must be actively involved in the merit badges they counsel.
- You must renew your merit badge certification each year. All counselor registrations expire December 31st. Your District Advancement Committee should contact you to confirm your continued commitment for another year.
- Child Abuse is a serious problem in our society. BSA has established youth protection guidelines to protect both the youth and adults involved in Scouting. As a counselor, you must give each Scout individual attention. However, you must not work alone with him. A Scout must have a buddy (another Scout, friend, or parent), and it is recommended that the counselor have a member of his or her own family or another scout visibly present at all times.

AS A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR, I AGREE TO:

1. Include on my Adult Application my Social Security Number for the purpose of a background check.
2. Follow the requirements in the merit badge pamphlet, ensuring that the advancement standards are FAIR and UNIFORM for all Scouts.
3. Make sure that the Scout has a merit badge application card SIGNED by his UNIT LEADER before he starts the badge.
4. Require that the Scout does **EXACTLY** what is stated in the requirements---**NO MORE---NO LESS**. If it says "show or demonstrate", that is what he must do. Just telling about it is not enough. The same holds true for "make", "list", "in the field", "collect", "identify" and "label."
5. Group counseling for more than one Scout at a time is allowed. The counselor should be sure that each scout has successfully met the requirements before the counselor signs off of the merit badge. Group counseling includes Merit Badge College, unit meetings where a merit badge is being taught, and other such venues.
6. Without changing the requirements, make the Scout aware of the DEEPER aspects of the subject from your knowledge and experience.
7. Require the Scout to bring a BUDDY (another Scout, friend or parent) to all merit badge sessions.
8. Keep my REGISTRATION CURRENT, if I plan to continue as a counselor. All MBC registrations expire December 31st of each year. Please keep a copy of this completed application for your records.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, READ "MERIT BADGE COUNSELING" (No.34532A)

I agree to the terms listed above, and have met the qualification requirements.

NOTE: a BSA Adult Registration Form with position MBC and three references listed must accompany this application if this is an initial application to be a MBC, Position Code 42, or if your counselor registration has expired.

Signature _____
(Applicant)

Date _____

Approved _____
(District Advancement Chairman or Designee)

Date _____