

## Scouts What to do for a Merit Badge

To earn a Merit Badge, the Scout (not a parent) must first obtain a "Merit Badge Blue Card" from the Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair.

Scouts working on a Merit Badge at summer camp or other camp must **ALSO** obtain a blue card from Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster and complete the blue card as described below.

**Information for Applicant**

- A merit badge application can be approved only by a registered merit badge counselor.
- You must have a buddy with you (Scout buddy system) at each meeting with the merit badge counselor.
- Turn in your approved application to your unit leader. You will be awarded the merit badge emblem and certificate at a suitable occasion.

**Information for Counselor**

- Merit badge applications must be signed in advance by the applicant's unit leader.
- The Scout must have his buddy (Scout buddy system) in attendance at all instructional sessions.
- You may not change any requirement, but you may share your knowledge or experience that will make the counseling more interesting and valuable.

**APPLICATION FOR MERIT BADGE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 is a registered  Boy Scout  Varsity Scout  Explorer  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ Troop, Team, Post, Ship No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Council \_\_\_\_\_  
 and is qualified to begin working for merit badge noted on the reverse side.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of unit leader \_\_\_\_\_  
**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**  
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The Scout fills out in ink the section of the blue card with "Application For Merit Badge" on the front with his name and full address. Our district is Benjamin Tallmudge and our council is Suffolk County.

The Scoutmaster puts the date of the request of the blue card and signs at the bottom of the "Application For Merit Badge".

On the reverse side of the blue card the Scout fills out in ink his name, Merit Badge and Unit info only.

The Merit Badge Counselor will complete the rest of the card as the Scout works on and completes the merit badge.

The applicant has personally appeared before me and demonstrated to my satisfaction that he has met all requirements for the (please print)

Merit badge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone number of counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of counselor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Checked and received \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
 Certificate and badge presented \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant will turn in this portion to his unit leader for record posting.

**APPLICANT'S RECORD**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Has given me his completed application for the \_\_\_\_\_  
 Merit badge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Completed on \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of unit leader \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNSELOR'S RECORD**

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
 Troop  Team  Post  
 Unit number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Merit badge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date completed \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
 Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE TO BOY SCOUT, VARSITY SCOUT, OR EXPLORER: Retain this copy for your permanent records.  
 It is suggested that the counselor have this record for at least 1 year in case any question is raised later in regard to this award.

### Where to find a counselor

Dr. Aloisio can give you the name of the merit badge counselor for the badge you want to earn. Scouts should avoid, if possible, having their parent as the merit badge counselor.

The Scout (not a parent) then contacts the Merit Badge Counselor, and arranges a time for meeting with him/her. Tell them your name and the badge that you would like for them to help you with. Please remember to be polite in all dealings with your counselor. They are volunteers who generously give their time and skills in order to help you advance. They get no rewards or compensation for their time other than your thank-you. The counselor will instruct you on how the requirements should be completed. You must always meet with the

counselor *with a buddy* such as another Scout, a parent or a friend. Never meet with the counselor without your buddy present.

At the first meeting, the Scout turns over the blue card to the Merit Badge Counselor to keep track of until the Merit Badge is completed.

When the final requirement of the Merit Badge is completed, the Merit Badge Counselor then fills in all the rest of the blanks on the blue card. The date of completion is the date the Merit Badge is earned!!!

The Merit Badge Counselor keeps the last third of the blue card, "Counselor's Record", and gives back parts B and C, to the Scout who then turns it in to the **Troop Advancement Chair or Scoutmaster**, who will record it in the Troop's records, order the Merit Badge, and submit one third of the blue card to Council for their records. It is your responsibility to make sure the blue card is completed and submitted. If you attend a merit badge camp, you must get the blue card from the instructor. *No merit badges will be awarded without a completed blue card.*

The Scout receives his third of the blue card and the Merit Badge at the Troop's Court of Honor.