

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Scout to make notes for discussing the item with his counselor, not for providing the full and complete answers. Each Scout must do each requirement.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in **Boy Scout Requirements** (Pub. 33216 – SKU 34765).

The requirements were last issued or revised	ed in 2005 • This workbook was updated in November 2013.
ut's Name:	Unit:
	Counselor's Phone No.:
Please submit errors, omissions, comments or	Org • http://www.MeritBadge.Org suggestions about this workbook to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org ments for the merit badge should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org
Explain what citizenship in the nation means and wh	hat it takes to be a good citizen of this country.
What citizenship in the nation means:	
What it takes to be a good citizen:	
Discuss the rights, duties, and obligations of a responsible Rights:	onsible and active American citizen.
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Duties,	
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Obligati	one:
Obligati	uis
	O of the following:
□ a.	Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Tell
<u> </u>	your counselor what you learned about the landmark or site and what you found interesting about it.
	Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell your counselor what you learned about the capitol, its function, and the history.

2.

c.	Tour a federal facility. Explain to your counselor what you saw there and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.
	<i>y</i>
□ d.	Choose a national monument that interests you.
	Using books, brochures, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other resources, find out more about the monument. Tell your counselor what you learned, and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.
Watch to	the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. the national issues you learned about with your counselor.

3.

noose	one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.
cuss	each of the following documents with your counselor. Tell your counselor how you feel life in the United States
diffe	rent without each one.
a.	Declaration of Independence
b.	Preamble to the Constitution
C.	The Constitution

4.

d.	Bill of	Rights	
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Citizenship in the Na	ation	Scout's N	lame:
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e. Ameno	Iments to the Constitution		
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27.	
List the six fund	ns of government as noted in the preamble to the Constitution.
Function	Discuss with your counselor how these functions affect your family and local community.
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5.

Vith your counselor's	approval, choose a speech of national historical importance.
ind out about the aut	hor, and tell your counselor about the person who gave the speech.
	e of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today.
mportance at the time	
Explain the importance mportance at the time	
mportance at the time	

noose a sentence or two f	from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.
ame the three branches of volved in each branch. For	f our federal government and explain to your counselor their functions. Explain how citizen or each branch of government, explain the importance of the system of checks and balance
Branch:	
Function:	
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Citizen Involvement:	
Importance of Checks & Balances:	
a Balanooc.	

Citizenship in the Nation	Scout's Name:
Branch:	
Function:	
Citizen Involvement:	
Importance of Checks	
& Balances:	

Branch:		
Function:		
Citizen Involv	ement:	
Importance of	Checks	
& Balances:		
Name your two se	nators and the member of Congress from your congressional district.	
Senator:		
Senator:		
Member of	Congress:	
☐ Write a letter	about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or h	er.
☐ Show your le	ter and any response you receive to your counselor.	
	Requirement resources can be found here:	
	http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Citizenship in the Nation#Requirement resources	

Scout's Name: _____

Citizenship in the Nation

8.

Important excerpts from the Guide To Advancement - 2013, No. 33088 (SKU-618673)

[1.0.0.0] — Introduction

The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is the official source for administering advancement in all Boy Scouts of America programs: Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. It replaces any previous BSA advancement manuals, including *Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures*, *Advancement and Recognition Policies and Procedures*, and previous editions of the *Guide to Advancement*.

[Page 2, and 5.0.1.4] — Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program

No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs".

[Page 2] — The "Guide to Safe Scouting" Applies

Policies and procedures outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects.

[7.0.3.1] — The Buddy System and Certifying Completion

A youth member must not meet one-on-one with an adult. Sessions with counselors must take place where others can view the interaction, or the Scout must have a buddy: a friend, parent, guardian, brother, sister, or other relative—or better yet, another Scout working on the same badge—along with him attending the session.

When the Scout meets with the counselor, he should bring any required projects. If these cannot be transported, he should present evidence, such as photographs or adult verification. His unit leader, for example, might state that a satisfactory bridge or tower has been built for the Pioneering merit badge, or that meals were prepared for Cooking. If there are questions that requirements were met, a counselor may confirm with adults involved. Once satisfied, the counselor signs the blue card using the date upon which the Scout completed the requirements, or in the case of partials, initials the individual requirements passed.

Note that from time to time, it may be appropriate for a requirement that has been met for one badge to also count for another. See "Fulfilling More Than One Requirement With a Single Activity," 4.2.3.6.

[7.0.3.2] — Group Instruction

It is acceptable—and sometimes desirable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings. This often occurs at camp and merit badge midways or similar events. Interactive group discussions can support learning. The method can also be attractive to "guest experts" assisting registered and approved counselors. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material.

There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of *all* requirements. We must know that every Scout —actually and *personally*— completed them. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms *watching* demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions. It is sometimes reported that Scouts who have received merit badges through group instructional settings have not fulfilled all the requirements. To offer a quality merit badge program, council and district advancement committees should ensure the following are in place for all group instructional events.

- Merit badge counselors are known to be registered and approved.
- Any guest experts or guest speakers, or others assisting who are not registered and approved as merit badge counselors, do not accept the
 responsibilities of, or behave as, merit badge counselors, either at a group instructional event or at any other time. Their service is temporary, not
 ongoing.
- Counselors agree not to assume prerequisites have been completed without some level of evidence that the work has been done. Pictures and
 letters from other merit badge counselors or unit leaders are the best form of prerequisite documentation when the actual work done cannot be
 brought to the camp or site of the merit badge event.
- There is a mechanism for unit leaders or others to report concerns to a council advancement committee on summer camp merit badge programs, group instructional events, and any other merit badge counseling issues—especially in instances where it is believed BSA procedures are not followed. See "Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns," 11.1.0.0.
- There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of all requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and personally—completed them.

[7.0.3.3] — Partial Completions

A Scout need not pass all the requirements of one merit badge with the same counselor. It may be that due to timing or location issues, etc., he must meet with a different counselor to finish the badge. The Application for Merit Badge has a place to record what has been finished—a "partial." In the center section on the reverse of the blue card, the counselor initials for each requirement passed. In the case of a partial completion, the counselor does not retain his or her portion of the card. A subsequent counselor may choose not to accept partial work, but this should be rare. A Scout, if he believes he is being treated unfairly, may work with his unit leader to find another counselor. An example for the use of a signed partial would be to take it to camp as proof of prerequisites. Partials have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. Units, districts, or councils shall not establish other expiration dates for partial merit badges.

[7.0.4.8] — Unofficial Worksheets and Learning Aids

Worksheets and other materials that may be of assistance in earning merit badges are available from a variety of places including unofficial sources on the Internet and even troop libraries. Use of these aids is permissible as long as the materials can be correlated with the current requirements that Scouts must fulfill. Completing "worksheets" may suffice where a requirement calls for something in writing, but this would not work for a requirement where the Scout must discuss, tell, show, or demonstrate, etc. Note that Scouts shall not be required to use these learning aids in order to complete a merit badge.