



# Medicine

## Merit Badge Workbook



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

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.

You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

**Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.**

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Boy Scout Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 637685).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2018 • This workbook was updated in January 2018.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: [Workbooks@USScouts.Org](mailto:Workbooks@USScouts.Org)  
 Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: [Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org](mailto:Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org)

1. Discuss with your counselor the influence that EIGHT of the following people had on the history of medicine:

a. Hippocrates


b. William Harvey


c. Antoine van Leeuwenhoek


d. Edward Jenner


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Florence Nightingale


Louis Pasteur


Gregor Mendel


Joseph Lister


Robert Koch


Daniel Hale Williams


Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen


Marie and Pierre Curie


Walter Reed


Karl Landsteiner


Alexander Fleming


Charles Richard Drew


Helen Taussig


James Watson and Francis Crick


Jonas Salk


2. Explain the Hippocratic Oath to your counselor, and compare the original version to a more modern one.

Explain the Hippocratic Oath:


Compare the original version to a more modern one:


Discuss to whom those subscribing to the original version of the oath owe the greatest allegiance:


3. Discuss the health-care provider-patient relationship with your counselor, and the importance of such a relationship in the delivery of quality care to the patient.


Describe the role of confidentiality in this relationship.


4. Do the following:

a. Describe the roles the following people play in the delivery of health care

1. Allopathic physician (M.D.)  
and  
Osteopathic physician (D.O.)


2. Chiropractor (D.C.)


3. Emergency medical technician


4. Licensed practical/vocational  
nurse


5. Medical assistant


6. Medical laboratory  
technologist


7. Nurse-midwife


8. Nurse practitioner


9. Occupational therapist


10. Optometrist


11. Pharmacist


12. Physical therapist


13. Physician's assistant


14. Podiatrist


15. Psychologist


16. Radiologic technologist	
17. Registered nurse	
18. Respiratory therapist	

b. Describe the educational and licensing requirements for FIVE of the professions in requirement 4a. (Not all professions may exist in your state.)

	Title	Educational and licensing requirements
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

5. a. Tell what is meant by the term "primary care" with regard to a medical specialty.


Briefly describe the types of work done by physicians in the following specialties:

1. Internal medicine\*


2. Family practice\*


3. Obstetrics/gynecology\*


4. Pediatrics\*


5. Psychiatry


6. Surgery




b. Describe the additional educational requirements for these specialties.

1. Internal medicine\*


2. Family practice\*


3. Obstetrics/gynecology\*


4. Pediatrics\*


5. Psychiatry


6. Surgery


6. a. Briefly describe the types of work performed by physicians in FIVE of the following specialties or subspecialties:

1. Allergy/immunology


2. Anesthesiology


3. Cardiology


4. Colorectal surgery


5. Critical care medicine  
(intensive care medicine)


6. Dermatology


7. Emergency Medicine


8. Endocrinology


9. Gastroenterology


10. Geriatric medicine


11. Hematology/oncology


12. Hospitalist


13. Infectious disease


14. Nephrology


15. Neuro surgery


16. Neurology


17. Nuclear medicine


18. Ophthalmology


19. Orthopedic surgery


20. Otolaryngology/head and neck surgery


21. Pathology


22. Physical medicine and rehabilitation


21 3 Plastic, reconstructive, and maxillofacial surgery.


24. Preventive medicine


25. Pulmonology


26. Radiology


27. Rheumatology


28. Thoracic/cardiothoracic surgery


29. Urology

30. Vascular surgery


b. Describe the additional educational requirements for the five specialties or subspecialties you chose in 6a.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

7.  a. Visit a physician's office,\*\* preferably one who delivers "primary care." (This may be that of your counselor). Discuss the components of a medical history and physical examination (an official BSA health form may be used to guide this discussion), and become familiar with the instruments used.

Medical history:


Physical examination:


Instruments used:


- b. Describe the characteristics of a good diagnostic test to screen for disease (e.g. routine blood pressure measurement).


Explain briefly why diagnostic tests are not perfect.


- c. Show how to take a blood pressure reading and a pulse reading.

8. Do the following:

- a. Discuss the roles medical societies, employers, the insurance industry, and the government play in influencing the practice of medicine in the United States.

Medical societies:


Employers


Insurance industry:


Government


- b. Briefly tell how your state monitors the quality of health care within its borders, and how it provides care to those who do not have health insurance.

How your state monitors the quality of health care:


How it provides care to those who do not have health insurance:


