

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR REGISTRATION

A registered Scouter over age 18 may offer a Merit Badge if they are familiar with the topic through profession, vocation, skill, schooling, certification, hobby, or experience. A Scouter wanting to apply as a Merit Badge Counselor can do so individually or through their home Troop Advancement Chair.

Anyone who needs to register or renew as a Merit Badge Counselor needs three things according to current BSA National requirements:

1. BSA Adult Leader Application (NO FEE) with “Code 42 Merit Badge Counselor.” This two-page form is required by BSA even if an individual is currently registered for another position. It does not affect their other current Scouting positions.
2. Current Youth Protection Training (available online if not current) – good for two years at <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>
3. A Merit Badge Counselor Application Form indicating the badges they want to teach and whether they want to offer them only to their Troop or to the entire District. (If an individual wants to teach more than eight Merit Badges, include a continuation sheet.)

While there is no limit on the number of Merit Badges a Scouter may offer if they are familiar with the topics, we recommend 5-12 so a counselor is not overloaded, and our Scouts get quality instruction.

The digital fillable forms are attached. Individuals must show their Scouting Registration Number and Social Security Number (not shared outside Council) on the Code 42 Adult App for a background check. (If not already known, Scouting registration numbers are generated when an individual registers to take online Youth Protection Training.) Applicants must sign the forms digitally or in ink, to include the release at the bottom of the first page of the two-page Adult Leader Application.

Return completed, signed applications as digital forms or scanned documents Gerry Miller at gerrymiller11@gmail.com. As an alternative, turn in signed paper forms into Gerry Miller.

Registrations/renewals will be added/updated on the District Database and the forms forwarded to Baltimore Area Council to confirm YPT and add Code 42 MBC registration. Applications are now tracked through Council by name. We will let you know when completed and approved. This is now a very efficient process and Council usually provides final approval within one week or less assuming the forms are complete and signed.

For more information see the BSA Merit Badge Counselor Guide or contact Gerry Miller, District Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator, Four Rivers Advancement Committee at 443-223-3231 or gerrymiller11@gmail.com

Thank you for sharing your knowledge to support our Scouts and your Troop!