



## Merit Badge Counselor Progress Update

To: Merit Badge Counselors

The merit badge counselor is a key player in the Boy Scout advancement program. Whatever your area of expertise or interest, whether it is a special craft or hobby (basketry, leatherwork, coin collecting), a profession (veterinary medicine, aviation, engineering), or perhaps a life skill (cooking, personal management, communications)—as a Merit Badge Counselor, you can play a vital role in stirring a Scouts curiosity about that particular topic. By serving as a Merit Badge Counselor, you offer your time, knowledge, and other resources so that Scouts can explore a topic of interest.

We are informing you that some Merit Badge Councilors may have been dropped from the system when we converted to the Scoutbook program last July

To Register / Re-register as a Counselor

Each candidate that is not in the Scoutbook Program must complete the following:  
(items 1 & 2 are fill-in forms) (item 3 - use training site or submit your current YPT certificate)

1. [National BSA Adult registration form](#). Indicate Merit Badge Counselor, code 42, in the position description box  
(Page 3 and 9 need to filled in)
2. [Merit Badge Counselor form](#) This will indicate which badges are being requested  
(Please include your background on the merit badge topic)
3. [BSA Youth Protection training](#) The training can be completed online at this web address  
<http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>.

You may need to create a profile or log in to your existing profile

Take the training if not already completed and current for the year and print out the completion card

If you are currently registered with BSA and are unsure of your BSA number, please contact your unit or council to prevent creating a duplicate profile.

These forms should be filled out, mailed to or dropped off at the Council office as noted at the top

### **\*\*New for 2021\*\***

All Merit Badge Councilors will be required to be in the Scoutbook Program  
The old Scoutnet database program for tracking Merit badges councilors has been eliminated  
BSA National completed the same process on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 that we were working on last summer  
There update did not interrupt any of the MB Councilors in the Leatherstocking Council

All approved Merit Badge Councilors will be available for viewing in Scoutbook throughout the country  
Scouts or Scouters can then search in Scoutbook by looking at the Scoutbook MB Councilor List  
They can search by approximate miles from an entered zip code

Link to Item #1 BSA Adult Application <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-501.pdf>

Link to Item #2 MB Councilor Form <https://www.leatherstockingcouncil.org/files/15925/Merit-Badge-Counselor-Form>

Link to Item 3 Training Site <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

***One Team, One Mission***