

Citizenship in Society

Merit Badge Counselor (Facilitator) Expectations

Black Swamp Area Council, Scouting America

Feb2022 rev Dec2025

As a Merit Badge Counselor (Facilitator) for the Citizenship in Society merit badge, I acknowledge and agree to the following expectations of the Black Swamp Area Council:

Date Completed	Expectation
_____	I am a registered Merit Badge Counselor and have taken training. https://training.scouting.org/learning-plans/1188
_____	I have reviewed the merit badge requirements. https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-society/
_____	I have completed the BSA Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging training, found in the e-Learning section of https://training.scouting.org/courses/SCO_1800
_____	I have reviewed the Merit Badge Counselor Guide https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_RegandRes/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf
_____	I have viewed the training video https://vimeo.com/613861523
_____	I understand that I will not serve as a subject matter expert, but as a facilitator – listening actively and encouraging thinking, learning, research, and reflection by the Scout.
_____	I will follow the BSA Scouter Code of Conduct https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/bsa-scouters-code-of-conduct/
_____	I will work with a Scout on individual study (following Safeguarding Youth rules), or with a small group of 3 to 5 Scouts who are within two years of age and are from the same unit. I will not offer the merit badge in a group, camp, meeting, or online setting that is not consistent with this procedure.
_____	I will work only with a Scout who has properly initiated the merit badge process by obtaining a signed blue card from his/her Scoutmaster (or having the Scoutmaster create a Merit Badge Counselor connection with me for the badge via Scoutbook).
_____	I will obtain written permission from a Scout's parent or guardian before discussing sensitive subject matter with the Scout(s). I may accomplish this by sharing the informational video (https://vimeo.com/610950264) with them and answering any questions. <i>(If this link does not open immediately, paste the video number 610950264 into the Vimeo search field.)</i>
_____	I will not advocate a particular point of view, and will avoid interjecting my own opinions or biases. I will credit a Scout with the completion of merit badge tasks when they have given a response based on good faith and rooted in the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
_____	I will keep ideas and opinions expressed by a Scout during the merit badge discussion confidential, except sharing with the Scout's parent as appropriate, and I will ask others to do the same.
_____	I will not create or distribute supplemental materials – including worksheets, handouts, or items from other sources – for use with this merit badge. (Scouting America has chosen not to create and distribute a merit badge pamphlet. The intent here is that merit badge counselors should not attempt to fill that void by creating and distributing content based on their own views of the

Signature

Print Name

Unit Number