

Become a Merit Badge Counselor

Troops 12 & 32 Acton



Are you passionate about sharing your knowledge with youth? Becoming a Merit Badge Counselor in Scouting America is a great way to mentor and guide Scouts through their learning journey.

Eligibility

- Be 18 or older and of good character
- Be proficient in the subject matter
- Be registered with Scouting America (Position Code 42)
- Complete and maintain Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT), formerly Youth Protection Training (YPT)

Steps to Become a Merit Badge Counselor

1. **Complete Safeguarding Youth Training** at my.scouting.org. Save your certificate.
2. **Fill out the Adult Application (PDF)**. Specify Position Code 42 and Position Title "Merit Badge Counselor" on page 3, titled "SCOUTING AMERICA ADULT APPLICATION". If you are already registered with Scouting America, you only need to complete this page; otherwise, you must complete the entire application, including background check authorization.
3. **Review the list of merit badges and pamphlets** at scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/all/.
4. **Complete the Merit Badge Counselor Information Form (PDF)**, listing the merit badges you want to instruct and your qualifications.
5. **Complete the following training for Merit Badge Counselors** (68 minutes total) at my.scouting.org:
 - Merit Badge Counselor Position Specific Training
 - Merit Badge Counselors - Before First Meeting
 - Merit Badge Counselors - Position Trained
6. **Submit all documents** to the advancement team, listed below, for review.

Next Steps

- The advancement team will forward your documentation to the Heart of New England (HNE) Council Registrar, [Lori Sullivan](#).
- Once approved, the Registrar will enter your information into Scoutbook.
- It may take one to two weeks for the submission process to complete.
- The advancement team and the Scoutmaster Corps can verify your information is present and correct.
- You can then start working with Scouts on merit badges!

Safeguarding Youth

- All sessions must follow Safeguarding Youth Training.
- Always use the buddy system and never meet with a Scout one-on-one.

For help or to submit your paperwork, contact:

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