

Becoming a Merit Badge Counselor

At least once in your adult scouting career (preferably when they start) you need to fill out an adult application listing code 42 & position merit badge counselor on it. The only signatures required are your own. It needs to be turned in at council to the registrar. Proof of YPT should be provided at that time. If anyone is curious if they have ever done this, they should contact council. If anyone wants, they can request their own adult record from the registrar - it lists all the registered positions (including MB counselor) held each year by unit, awards (knots), training, and sometimes summer camps/events. It can be requested by the scoutmaster for all or any of the adults in the unit....

Council will not accept a MB counselor form without an adult application to be a MB counselor on file.

Annually Jan - Dec each person fills out a form listing the badges he/she is willing to counsel that year. It can be filled out at anytime during the year but expires 12/31 regardless of when it was submitted. Limit is 8 merit badges per year. Can change MB from year to year.

Like all other BSA adults, current YPT is required. There is no registration fee

Note: there are regular changes in merit badge requirements. Everyone needs to understand that a scout can use the requirements that were in place at the time he started an MB unless it is expressly stated by national that they can't. A great source of revisions is usscouts.org. Most of the time there are minor changes in wording, but sometimes it changes considerably. The same goes for ranks. Often changes occur around 1/1 but badges have been added through out the year the past few years.

Note: if someone wants to counsel a badge but not teach set MB classes in troop meetings, that's ok.

Ginny Conway, 11/9/15