



Troop 33 Merit Badge Process

Merit badges may be earned by a Scout at any time. They are required for the ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle.

There are 16 “Eagle required” merit badges: (a) First Aid, (b) Citizenship in the Community, (c) Citizenship in the Nation, (d) Citizenship in the World, (e) Communications, (f) Cooking, (g) Personal Fitness, (h) Emergency Preparedness, (i) Environmental Science OR Sustainability, (j) Personal Management, (k) Swimming OR Hiking OR Cycling, (l) Camping, and (m) Family Life. A Scout must earn 6 merit badges for Star (4 of which must be “Eagle required”), 11 total merit badges for Life (7 of which must be “Eagle Required”), and 21 total for Eagle (13 of which must be “Eagle required”).

There are four typical ways for a Scout to earn merit badges: (1) summer camp, (2) troop-run classes, (3) classes offered by groups outside of Troop 33, and (4) on his own.

For Scouts earning merit badges through summer camp (every June), or through troop-run classes (typically on Monday nights in the spring), there are no additional steps required to begin work on the merit badge. Just ensure that you are registered for the class and show up.

For Scouts earning merit badges through groups outside of Troop 33 (e.g. events run by our council or organizations such as Discovery Place), the following initial steps should be taken:

1. Contact the Advancement Coordinate (Lance Read lanceread@carolina.rr.com) to discuss the merit badge you want to pursue.
2. After a conversation, the Advancement Coordinator will provide the Scout with a blue card and, if the he is pursuing the merit badge on his own, the name and contact information of a merit badge counselor. DO NOT attend a merit badge event outside of Troop 33 and DO NOT contact a merit badge counselor until after you have obtained a blue card from the Advancement Coordinator.
3. The Scout is responsible for attending the outside classes and/or contacting the assigned merit badge counselor to set up meetings for completing the merit badge requirements. A Scout should NEVER begin completing requirements before meeting with the assigned merit badge counselor as the counselor is not obligated to count requirements done outside of his or her supervision.

Upon completion of all of the merit badge requirements, the following steps should be taken:

1. The Scout should have the merit badge counselor sign off each requirement on the blue card.
2. The Scout should contact the Advancement Coordinator to show him the signed blue card. For merit badges earned at summer camp, the blue cards will automatically be sent to the Advancement Coordinator by the camp.
3. The Scout should contact the Advancement Coordinator to schedule a board of review
4. After completing the board of review, the Scout will be recognized at the end of that troop meeting, and be presented with his badge at the next Court of Honor.