

1. Get a signed application

- Request a blue card from your unit leader. If you know who the counselor is, have their name to discuss with your unit leader. If you need help finding a counselor, you can ask your unit leader or any adult scout leader for help.
- If your unit leader approves, they will sign the front of your blue card.

2. Contact the counselor

- Call the merit badge counselor and explain that you want to earn the badge. The counselor may ask to meet with you to explain what is expected and to start helping you meet the requirements.

3. Read requirements

- Scouts are expected to read the merit badge requirements and the BSA merit badge pamphlet before arriving at their class(es).

4. Meet with the counselor

- The counselor will establish meeting times and dates.

5. Submit the completed card

- Depending on the counselor, they may hand you back the card with their signature, or they may give it directly to your unit leader or advancement chair. If they give it directly to you, it is your responsibility to give it to your unit leader or advancement chair.

6. Receive the emblem and certificate

- At a suitable occasion, typically a Court of Honor, you will be awarded the merit badge emblem and certificate.

Always remember to show good scout etiquette and practice the scout law! These adults are volunteering their time to help you explore various skills and concepts that will help introduce you to real-world experiences. Very often, through your scouting journey, a merit badge will have given you your first introduction to a possible future career.