

Troop 75 Merit Badge Process

To ensure that a Scout works on an appropriate merit badge and understands what is required to earn the merit badge, the Troop has the following process;

1. Before starting the merit badge reference the “Age Appropriate Guidelines” to determine if the Scout has enough experience and maturity for the merit badge. This is a guideline and can be reviewed with the counselor.
 - a. Review the requirements. This is most easily done with information on www.meritbadge.org. Reference the “Merit Badge Overview” to get an idea of the time and effort required for the merit badge.
 - b. Talk with the merit badge counselor and get his/her approval on starting the merit badge. They will make sure that it’s an appropriate merit badge for the Scout’s age and possibly for their physical maturity.
 - c. Get a blue card from the Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair.

Note: All merit badges or requirements earned with Counselors outside of Troop 75 listed Councilors will be subject to an overview by Troop 75 Counselors and/or the Scoutmaster to ensure an adequate level of subject matter knowledge. All Counselors must be approved by the Daniel Boone Council. If outside of Daniel Boone Council (such as Summer Camp), local council approval is required.

2. Make an appointment with the merit badge counselor to review the merit badge requirements you have completed. Bring your blue card, the counselor will initial and date the requirements he or she feels have been done satisfactorily.
3. Once the entire merit badge is complete, turn in the signed blue card to the Advancement Chair - Good Job!!!
4. Keep your merit badge cards that you receive at the Court of Honor in a safe place. It is your official record of earning the merit badge.

Blue Cards – What they are and why they are important

- 1) The Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair will provide a “Blue Card” for all started and partially completed merit badges. **Blue cards should be obtained before starting the merit badge.**
- 2) The Blue Card is used by the Scout to track their progress in completing the merit badge requirements. As each requirement is satisfactorily completed, the Counselor will sign off that it has been completed.
- 3) The Scout is responsible for keeping the blue card and getting it signed off as appropriate. It is the **ONLY** record of the Scout’s completed requirements. If it is lost or destroyed, the Scout may have to restart the merit badge and complete all requirements.
- 4) When all requirements are completed, the Counselor will “sign off” that it is completed. The Scout turns in a portion of the completed blue card to the Advancement Chair to receive the merit badge patch and card at the next Court of Honor.

Remember...

- You can check out any of the merit badge books from the Troop 75 Library (contact the Troop Librarian).
- Talk with and work with the merit badge counselor on the requirements. The counselor is not just there to check your work but to also teach and counsel you on the merit badge.

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Rank Advancement Process

NOTICE: Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review are held once per month. Please see the Troop 75 Calendar (on website) for current schedule.

Rank Advancements to Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class

1. Successfully complete each requirement by either performing or explaining the requirement. This action should be performed before either an Adult leader or a Scout who had been assigned to the requirement.
2. Once all the requirements for a rank with the exception of Scout spirit have been completed, schedule a Scoutmaster Conference (SMC) with the Scoutmaster. The Scout should be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of all the requirements for the rank sought and all previous ranks.
3. SMC's are held once per month (see troop calendar for schedule). The Scoutmaster may ask one of the ASM's to conduct the SMC.
4. **The SMC and Board of Review are only conducted if the Scout is in FULL "Class A" Uniform*.** After successfully completing the SMC, you will be scheduled for the Board of Review on that same night if possible. If the schedule will not allow it, you may be scheduled for the next month.
5. Successfully complete the Board of Review
6. Congratulations!!

Rank Advancements to Star and Life Scout

1. Request a "Troopmaster Advancement Report" from the Advancement Chair.
2. Confirm that ALL of the information is complete and correct to be able to schedule a SMC. If any information is incorrect or incomplete, contact the Scoutmaster or ASM to resolve the issues.
3. SMC's are held once per month (see troop calendar for schedule). Please see the Scoutmaster to schedule a SMC. The Scoutmaster may ask one of the ASM's to conduct the SMC.
4. **The SMC and Board of Review are only conducted if the Scout is in FULL "Class A" Uniform*.**
5. After successfully completing the SMC, you will be scheduled for the Board of Review on that same night if possible. If the schedule will not allow it, you may be scheduled for the next month.
6. Successfully complete the Board of Review
7. Congratulations!!

Rank Advancement for Eagle Scout

Eagle candidates need to contact the Troop Eagle Advisor to develop the Eagle Project and understand the Eagle advancement process.

ALL SCOUTS: Keep your rank advancement cards that you receive at the Court of Honor in a safe place. It is your official record of earning the rank.

* **"CLASS A" Uniform:** For Troop 75, the "Class A" Uniform consists of the following components;

- BSA Shirt (with proper emblems and insignias in place).
- Neckerchief (if you have one).
- BSA Pants/Shorts with a Belt.
- BSA (or similar) Socks.
- If you have a BSA cap and Merit Badge sash, it is strongly recommended that you wear them.

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Community Service Process

Guidelines

- Community Service is required for most ranks and some merit badges.
- The same Community Service time cannot be used for both a rank advancement and a merit badge.
- Scout Community Service time can be used for community service hours with other organizations (Junior Honor Society, school, church, etc) if the other organization allows Scouting Community Service hours to count for their organization.

What counts and what is the process?

1. Troop level community service can count toward Rank OR Merit Badge hours.
2. Non-Troop community service may count but the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster must approve it in advance. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS APPROVED IN ADVANCE.**
 - a. Guidelines
 - i. It must be available to any person or organization that wants to participate in the community service.
 - ii. It must help the receiving organization in general and not in a specific task.

Examples:

 1. Helping a Church with grounds maintenance will normally be accepted.
 2. Helping with a Sunday School Day Class will normally not be accepted.
 3. Helping at a Community program such as a Food Bank or Homeless Shelter will normally be accepted.
 4. Helping a neighbor or a friend of the family clean out their basement/garage, will not normally be accepted.
3. The sponsoring organization must document and sign-off on the community service activity and hours using the Troop 75 "Community Service Form". You can get the form from our website or the Scoutmaster.
4. The completed and signed "Troop 75 Community Service Form" will then be turned into the Advancement Chair to be recorded.

It's simple;

- Get Approval for the Service work **FIRST!**
- Get the Troop 75 Community Service Form.
- Do the Work.
- Have the form completed by the Organization you did the work for.
- Turn in the form to the Advancement Chair for the Record.
- Feel great that you helped yourself by helping others!