

# COVID-19 FAQ

UPDATED 12/29/21 - The most recent updates are indicated by a diamond in front of the question.

## Advancement

◆ **Q: When will the current COVID-19 modifications to rank requirements and merit badge requirements end?**

As always, the BSA's top priority is the health and safety of all youth participating in BSA programs. In 2020, the BSA instituted several modifications to rank requirements and merit badge requirements ("advancement modifications") to accommodate activity restrictions necessitated by COVID-19. Effective March 01, 2022, those modifications will be removed, and the standard rules for advancement and merit badges will again become effective.

◆ **Q: Will there be any changes to the Swimming requirements for Second and First class?**

As of March 01, 2022, the temporary changes to the Swimming requirements will be removed, and the original requirements as published will be reinstated.

◆ **Q: Do I still need to take a swim test for aquatic activities since there is a deferment in place?**

As of March 01, 2022, the temporary changes to the Swimming requirements will be removed, and the original requirements as published will be reinstated.

◆ **Q: Will there be any changes to the Swimming requirements for Sea Scout Ranks?**

As of March 01, 2022, the temporary changes to the Swimming requirements will be removed, and the original requirements as published will be reinstated.

◆ **Q: Will there be any changes for Scouts who cannot complete the camping merit badge?**

As of March 01, 2022, the temporary suspension of requirement 9b of the camping merit will be removed, and the original requirements as published will be reinstated.

◆ **Q: What changes have been made to rank advancement/camping requirements given the need to maintain social distancing during this time?**

As of March 01, 2022, the temporary changes to the Swimming requirements will be removed, and the original requirements as published will be reinstated.

◆ **Q: May local councils grant extensions?**

Yes, Effective January 1, 2021, all time extension request are to be submitted to the local council. These extensions are available only to youth members who qualify under the three tests listed in the revised Guide to Advancement (GTA) topics 9.0.4.0, 9.0.4.1, 9.0.4.2, and forms 11.2.0.0 and 11.2.1.0 from the 2021 edition of the GTA.