

CITIZENSHIP IN SOCIETY

Merit Badge Counselor Expectations

As a Merit Badge Counselor for the Citizenship in Society merit badge, I acknowledge and agree to the following expectations of the Greater St. Louis Area Council:

Please read and initial each line item to show agreement.

	I have reviewed the badge requirements (https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/)
	I have completed the BSA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training and learned key terms used in this merit badge. DEI training found in the e-learning section of https://my.scouting.org/
	I have reviewed the Merit Badge Counselor Guide and video for this badge. (https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/diversity_equity_and_inclusion/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf) and (https://vimeo.com/613861523)
	I understand that I will not serve as a subject matter expert, but as a facilitator- listening actively and encouraging thinking, learning, research, and reflection by the Scout.
	I will follow the BSA Scouter Code of Conduct (https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/bsa-scouters-code-of-conduct/)
	I will work with a Scout on individual study (following youth protection rules), or with a small group of 3 to 5 scouts who are within 2 years of age. I will not offer the merit badge in a group, camp, meeting, or online setting that is not consistent with this.
	I will work only with a Scout who has properly initiated the merit badge process by obtaining a signed blue card from his/her Scoutmaster (or having the Scoutmaster create a Merit Badge Counselor connection with me for the Badge via Scoutbook).
	I will obtain permission from a Scout's parent or guardian before discussing sensitive subject matter with the Scout. I may accomplish this by sharing the informational video(https://vimeo.com/610950264) with them and answering any questions.
	I will not advocate a particular point of view and avoid interjecting my own opinions or biases. I will credit Scouts with completion of merit badge tasks when they have given a response based on good faith and rooted in the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
	I will keep ideas and opinions expressed by a Scout during the merit badge discussion confidential, except sharing with the Scout's parent as appropriate, and I will ask others to do the same.
	I will not create or distribute supplemental materials- including worksheets, handouts, or items from non-BSA sources- for use with the merit badge. (BSA has chosen not to create and distribute a merit badge pamphlet. The intent here is that merit badge counselors should not attempt to fill that void by creating and distributing content based on their own views of the topics.)

Signature Merit Badge Counselor
applicant for Citizenship in Society

Printed Name

Date

Membership ID Number

Unit #/ District

Send completed form to the Council office or to donna.baer@scouting.org. You will need to complete the online merit badge request at <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> in addition to this form.