



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®**  
**WESTERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CRESCENT BAY DISTRICT**



**Merit Badge Counselor Application**

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address\* \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\* \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\* \_\_\_\_\_  I do not have email

Primary Phone\* \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Mobile  Business

Unit:  Troop  Team  Crew  Ship # \_\_\_\_\_ BSA ID # \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required Field. Primary phone and email address indicate how Scouts should contact you.

I agree to work with  All Scouts  Only Scouts from My Unit

This is a  New Application (first time to register as merit badge counselor). Attach BSA Adult Application, indicating position code 42.

Update to an existing list of merit badge subjects.

Youth Protection Training Date \_\_\_\_\_ Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the following information for each Merit Badge. Additional instructions are on the reverse side

Merit Badges <i>For more than 8 merit badges,            please attach an additional sheet.            WLACC has a maximum of 12            merit badges per counselor</i>	Add (A) Drop (D)	Subject Experience Vocation (V) Avocation (A) Special Training (S)	For each merit badge, list qualification(s) that support your request <i>Qualifications could include college degrees, formal training            certificates, positions held and specific life experiences</i>

# Crescent Bay District Merit Badge Counselor Application

## Processing this Application

Merit badge counselors must register as adult Scouters and be approved by the district advancement committee for each merit badge listed on this Merit Badge Counselor Information form. A merit badge counselor does not have to pay a registration fee, but must complete an Adult Application for position code 42, fill out this form, complete BSA Youth Protection training and new counselors must complete Merit Badge Counselor Orientation training. Counselors may wish to associate with a particular unit but are encouraged to serve any Scout from any unit.

Submit this application, along with a copy of your current Youth Protection Training card or certificate to the district office. If this is a new application also attach the BSA Adult Application and a copy of your Merit Badge Counselor Orientation card.

**Boy Scouts of America, WLACC, Crescent Bay District, 10131 National Blvd, Suite A, Los Angeles, CA 90034**

## Special Qualifications and Guidelines for Merit Badge Counselors

A number of merit badges involve activities that are restricted or require certification or special training for those supervising these activities. See the *Guide to Advancement*, topic 7.0.1.1, "Qualifications of Counselors." Merit badge counselors may personally meet these required qualifications, or they may use others so qualified. Additionally, the BSA *Guide to Safe Scouting* has specific requirements and procedures for shooting sports and for aquatics, winter, and other activities. These policies apply to all BSA activities, including merit badge instruction. For other merit badges where specific BSA requirements do not exist, counselors should have sufficient depth of knowledge and experience to understand how to safely present the material.

## Instructions to Counselors

- The unit leader (Scoutmaster, Varsity Coach, crew Advisor, or Skipper) recommends and provides the name and contact information of at least one merit badge counselor to each Scout desiring to work on a merit badge. Before beginning to work with a youth, counselors should check the boy's merit badge application (blue card) to ensure it is signed by the unit leader.
- Every Scout must have a buddy with him at each meeting with a merit badge counselor. This buddy could be another Scout, a parent or guardian, a brother or sister, or a relative or friend. There is no one-on-one contact allowed with Scouts and counselors—the buddy requirement is mandatory.
- Counselors may not add to or delete any merit badge requirements. Group instruction is allowed where special facilities and expert personnel make this most practical, or when Scouts are dependent on a few counselors for assistance. However, any group experience must provide attention to every individual candidate's projects and progress, and assure each has actually and personally fulfilled all the requirements. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must individually do so. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of Scouts sitting in classrooms and watching demonstrations or remaining silent during discussions.
- When a Scout begins working on a merit badge, the current-year *Boy Scout Requirements* book lists the official requirements in effect at that time. If requirements change after a Scout has started working on a merit badge, he may stay with the requirements in effect when he started unless the BSA's National Council places a specific timeline on the implementation of new requirements.

To complete this application for each merit badge fill out the table on the reverse side. For each merit badge, indicate if this is a *vocation*, *avocation* or you *have special training*.

- **Vocation:** Is this subject in line with your job, business, or profession?
- **Avocation:** Do you follow this subject as a hobby, having a better than a "Working Knowledge" of the subjects covered by the Merit Badge
- **Special Training:** Do you have any special training or other qualifications for the subject?

I have read and am familiar with or will review requirements outlined in literature of the Boy Scouts of America for the Merit Badge subject(s) listed. I will conduct examinations of subjects with applicants on the basis of those requirements and will follow the Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection policies.

I understand that only persons certified by the District Advancement Committee are authorized to serve as Merit Badge Counselors.

Signature of Applicant\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date\* \_\_\_\_\_

### Crescent Bay District Advancement Committee Approval

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Position \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_