



Occoneechee Council Merit Badge Counselor Policy

Adopted 20150828 – Revised 20200210

[Download linked version at https://ocscouts.org/download/5988/](https://ocscouts.org/download/5988/)

- Occoneechee Council renews Merit Badge Counselors (code 42), annually in April of each year. Registration for this Council position will be from May 1st of the current year to April 30th of the following year. Counselors are required to be individually responsible for submitting their own renewal requirements. Merit Badge counselors must be at least 18 years old and of good character.

Merit Badge Counselor Registration or Renewal Requirements

- New Occoneechee MB counselors must submit a fully completed [BSA Adult application](#). MB Counselors are Council level positions (code 42) and need only the approval signature of a District Executive, or their District Advancement Chair. Unit level approval signatures are not valid. There is no fee for MB counselors.
- New or renewal MB counselors must submit a current revision, fully completed, Occoneechee specific [merit badge selection form](#). Do not use or submit BSA form 34405. Out of revision (old) or incomplete merit badge selection forms will not be accepted.
- MB Counselors who have no other current Scouting registered positions, shall submit the [additional disclosures and background check authorization form](#). This is NEW for 2020.
- A Youth Protection training completion certificate must be submitted annually, with all registrations or renewals. YP training date should be on or after May 1, 2018 to be registered or renewed.
 - Online YP training currently includes: SCO_3001, SCO_3003, SCO_3004, and SCO_3007
Online training is available in the BSA Learn center at [My.Scouting.Org](#) (use Google Chrome browser)
- MB counselor position specific training must be complete. One of the follow two options are allowed:
 - Classroom Merit Badge Counselor Orientation (D76) -or-
 - Online MB Counselor training: SCO_402, SCO_403, SCO_407, SCO_415, SCO_416, and SCO_417 -or-
 - NEWER Online MB Counselor training: SCO_431, SCO_433, SCO_430, SCO_435, SCO_448, and SCO_434
Online training is available in the BSA Learn center at [My.Scouting.Org](#) (use Google Chrome browser)
Any one, of the three training options above, are acceptable to be a trained MBC.

Important requirements:

- Merit badges, listed in **RED** on the [Occoneechee merit badge selection form require](#) certifications that must be submitted, to be registered for that badge. See the [Guide to Advancement](#), section 7.0.1.1, on the BSA national website, for details on the required certifications for each of these badges. Counselors who do not submit the required supporting certifications, will not be registered for that badge.
- Effective February 1, 2018, youth protection requirements for merit badge counselors follows the published national renewal policy. Youth Protection training is required for all BSA registered volunteers. Youth Protection training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection training record is not current at the time of renewal, the volunteer MB counselor will not be reregistered.
- Be recognized as having the skills and education in the merit badge subjects covered and hold any required qualifications and training as outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting or the Guide to Advancement—or use others so qualified.

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