

**BILL HART DISTRICT
WESTERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNCIL, INC. - B.S.A.**



MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR ORIENTATION

Name:		Email:	
Address:			
City, State:		ZIP Code:	
Home Phone:	Business Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Date Youth Protection last taken:		Unit, if any:	

To qualify as a Merit Badge Counselor, you must

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be proficient in the merit badge subject by vocation, avocation, or special training
- Be able to work with Scout-age boys
- Be registered with the Boy Scouts of America as a Merit Badge Counselor

Please answer the following questions: "YES" or "NO", and provide a 2-3 sentence explanation of your qualifications on the back or this sheet or a separate sheet.

LIST MERIT BADGE SUBJECTS HERE	Vocation Is this subject in line with your job, business or profession?	Avocation Do you follow it as a hobby, having a better than working knowledge of the subjects covered by the merit badge pamphlet?	Special Training Do you have any special training or other qualifications for this subject?
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

As a Merit Badge Counselor, I agree to

- Follow the requirements of the merit badge, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts
- Have a Scout and his buddy present at all instructional sessions
- Renew my registration annually if I plan to continue as a Merit Badge Counselor

I have taken Youth Protection training of the Boy Scouts of America; have reviewed the Merit Badge Counselor Orientation and A Guide for Merit Badge Counseling.

Signature of Applicant:	Date:
Council Approval:	Date:
District Approval: Merit Badge Chairman	Date:

Return this form along with a signed adult volunteer application to the advancement committee.



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Comments and other instructions

- Merit badge counseling involves conferences with candidates to help establish programs toward fulfilling requirements, assistance to help a candidate achieve the required knowledge and skills, examination to demonstrate to the counselor's satisfaction that the candidate has met all requirements, and certification that the candidate is eligible for award of the merit badge.
- Merit Badge Counselors are among the finest people in the community. They are people who are successful in the respective fields and interests. They are people who believe in the Scouting program enough to give valuable time to help Scouts advance.
- One purpose of the merit badge program is to create new boy-adult contacts beyond those already existing in troops; accordingly you are encouraged to serve boys from troops with which you have no other association.
- As a Merit Badge Counselor you are required to register as an adult member of the Boy Scouts of America. There is no fee for this registration. You will then be certified as a Merit Badge Counselor by the district advancement committee.
- Your job as a Merit Badge Counselor will be to satisfy yourself that each scout who comes to you meets all the requirements for the merit badge. IN this sense you will be an examiner. But your larger opportunity lies in coaching - helping the Scout over the different hurdles of the requirements and making him aware of the deeper aspects of the subject from your knowledge and experience.

Describe your qualifications for each merit badge subject here: