

# Become a Merit Badge Counselor in 5 Easy Steps!

Troop 230 needs Merit Badge Counselors! There are more than 135 merit badges available for scouts to earn. Many provide an overview of a career topic, while 12 specific badges are required for rank advancement—starting at the Star rank and finishing at the rank of Eagle.

On the road to becoming an Eagle scout, for example, scouts must complete 12 Eagle-required merit badges and another 9 badges of the scout's choice. Typically, Eagle-required merit badges take 3 months or more to complete. Other merit badges provide topical information and can be completed in a much shorter time-frame, such as during summer camp or at a "merit badge class."

Your willingness to share information about a hobby or your skills in a professional field is invaluable to the troop. If you'd like to become a Merit Badge Counselor, please do the following—

1. Complete the BSA Adult Application Form.
2. Complete the BSA Merit Badge Counselor Information Form, also called the "Add-On" form.
3. Turn both forms in to Cil Gibson at one of the monthly Troop Committee meetings. She will forward the forms to the Pikes Peak Council for processing. The council says that it's currently, taking 2-4 weeks to process these applications.

The council will mail to you a BSA Member ID Card. After you receive this card, you must complete the 15-minutes Online Youth Protection Training Program.

4. Log onto [www.pikespeakbsa.org](http://www.pikespeakbsa.org).

Select the Training tab.

Select Online Training.

Select Online Youth Protection Training Program and start the training.

At the end of the training program, your completion information will automatically be sent to the Council.

5. After completing the quiz at the end of the program, please print 3 copies of the completion certificate. Keep one copy and give the other two copies to Mary Menz (T-230 Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator).

**Note** Registered Adults are always encouraged to pursue other online and class training available from the Pikes Peak Council! Feel free to explore these options at your convenience.

**Questions?** Please call Mary Menz at 687-2142 or send an email to [mmenz@Q.com](mailto:mmenz@Q.com).