## Citizenship in Society Merit Badge



The Boy Scouts of America has announced Citizenship in Society as its newest Merit Badge. It will become an Eagle required Merit Badge on July 1, 2022. More information about the new Citizenship in Society Merit Badge can be found <u>here</u>. Citizenship in Society Fact Sheet

We ask all prospective Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselors to review the following information from our Advancement Committee.

Dear prospective Citizenship in Society Counselor,

Thank you for your interest and willingness to be a counselor for this new merit badge. Since the official launch of the Citizenship in Society merit badge in November, additional guidelines have been presented to us from the National office.

Due to the unique nature of the Citizenship in Society merit badge, the Advancement Committee has developed a modified process for approving Merit Badge Counselors for this new, Eagle required merit badge. Please follow the instructions below if you wish to counsel this badge.

1. Review all the contents and documents referenced at the bottom of this letter.

2. Complete the DEI training in your my.scouting account and view Council Pre-recorded Orientation.

3. If new to being a Merit Badge Counselor, complete a BSA adult application and background check release form.

4. Complete an Aloha Council Merit Badge Counselor Application to include qualifications to facilitate this badge. It is best to apply only for the Citizenship in Society on this application. Please put additional badges on a separate MBC application.

7. Send the BSA adult application (if needed), the MBC application and a copy of your current Youth Protection Training certificate to <u>Patricia Mariteragi</u>. If they need to be mailed, they should be sent to 42 Puiwa Road, Honolulu, HI 96817.

8. Once Patricia has checked your application it will be forwarded to the Aloha Council Advancement Committee. Council Advancement Committee will review your application and contact you to schedule a Zoom interview to determine if you are qualified to counsel this new badge.

9. Understand that your role for this merit badge is to be a facilitator and active listener rather than an instructor. Participant Options are the Scouts choice and include "Individual" (within YPT Guidelines) or "small group" study within 6-8 Scouts: within 2 years of age. Merit Badge Counselors will be available to openly communicate with the Scout's parent(s)/guardians if questions or discussions require their assistance. This Merit Badge is to not be facilitated at Summer Camps or any Merit Badge days.

We appreciate your understanding as we work with the roll out of this merit badge. This is a very important and possibly challenging topic for our Scouts to navigate, and we want to help prepare the counselors to guide the scouts on this journey.

If there are any questions, please feel free to reach out to <u>myself</u> or <u>Billy Rayl</u>.

Yours in Scouting,

Tiave Mariteragi

Council Advancement Committee Chair

- Diversity Equity Inclusion Website
- DEI Volunteer Training
- <u>Counselor Guidelines</u>
- Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor Guide
- Merit Badge Counselor Video
- General Information Video
- <u>Citizenship in Society Fact Sheet</u>