

## Merit Badge Counselors

1. There are 121 merit badges.
2. There are a number of counselors for a variety of merit badges within the troop: list is on the website.
3. Purpose of having the counselors:
  - a. Be able to instruct scouts on Wed meetings
  - b. Be able to have scouts earn their badges outside of a camp.
  - c. Be able to have the blue cards signed on partial badges as the scout completes the requirements on his own.
  - d. Have parents offer badge days for the scouts on empty weekends during the year, e.g. dentistry
3. The Greenbar chooses 1-2 months in advance the badges that they would like to have a speaker on. I make arrangements with the speaker.
4. If possible, the speaker will be re-invited to instruct the scouts, give them direction on how to complete the badge, and eventually have them complete a badge during the year. The scout will arrange meetings with the counselor to have his blue card signed off as requirements are met.
5. My goals:
  - Have two counselors for the Eagle required badges
  - Offer as big a variety of badges to the troop as parental interests/hobbies provide.
  - Have counselors interact between other local troops

## How to Become A Counselor

1. Review Guide for Merit Badge Counselors from the BSA at <http://scouting.org/BoyScouts/GuideforMeritBadgeCounselors>.
2. Review the list of possible badges and the scout requirements to earn the badge at <http://scouting.org/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges.aspx>
3. Choose the badge(s) that interest you – no more than six.
4. Let me know what badges you are applying for.
5. Fill out two forms: merit badge counselor form and another adult BSA application.
6. Mail applications to:  
Bob Harada, Pacifica District Advancement Chair  
1424 W. 172<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Gardena, CA  
90247-5712
7. Complete the BSA Youth Protection Program on BSA line within 90 days of assuming a leadership position – **mandatory**
8. Give documentation of completion to Letitia Lau.
9. When you receive approval, please give me a copy of the letter and I will add you to the list.

## To Current Counselors:

1. Need documentation of completion of online training.
2. Cannot be counselor for more than six badges.
3. Cannot sign your own son's blue card.
4. If you want worksheets to offer the scouts, you can get them from the web or create your own helpful aids and they can be put on the website for all scouts to use.
  - a. [http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Merit\\_Badge\\_Worksheets](http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Merit_Badge_Worksheets)