



Citizenship in the World

Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.

You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

The requirements were last issued or revised in 1/2026 • This workbook was updated in 12/2025.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

1. Explain what citizenship in the world means to you and what you think it takes to be a good world citizen.

2. Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship.

How:

Rights:

Duties:

Obligations:

Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.

Country

Rights:

Duties:

Obligations:

Country

Rights:

Duties:

Obligations:

3. Do the following:

- a. Pick a current world event. _____

In relation to this current event, discuss with your counselor how a country's national interest and its relationship with other countries might affect areas such as its security, its economy, its values, and the health of its citizens.

Security:

Economy:

Values:

Health:

- b. Select a foreign country and discuss with your counselor how its geography, natural resources, and climate influence its economy and its global partnerships with other countries.

Geography:

Natural resources:

Climate:

4. Do TWO of the following:

- ☐ a. Explain international law and how it differs from national law.

Explain the role of international law and how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.

- ☐ b. Using resources such as major daily newspapers, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and news magazines, observe a current issue that involves international trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, tariffs, and free trade.

International trade:

Foreign exchange:

Balance of payments:

Tariffs:

Free trade:

Explain what you have learned:

Include in your discussion an explanation of why countries must cooperate in order for world trade and global competition to thrive.

☐ c. Select TWO of the following organizations and describe their role in the world.

- ☐ 1 The United Nations and UNICEF
- ☐ 2 The World Court
- ☐ 3 Interpol
- ☐ 4 World Organization of the Scout Movement
- ☐ 5 The World Health Organization
- ☐ 6 Amnesty International
- ☐ 7 The International Committee of the Red Cross
- ☐ 8 CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere)
- ☐ 9 European Union

Organization:

Role in the
international
system:

Organization:

Role in the
international
system:

5. Do the following:

a. Discuss the differences between constitutional and nonconstitutional governments.

b. Name at least five different types of governments currently in power in the world.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

- ☐ c. Show on a world map countries that use each of these five different forms of government.



6. Do the following:

- a. Explain how a government is represented abroad and how the United States government is accredited to international organizations.

Representation abroad:

Accreditation to international organizations.

b. Describe the roles of the following in the conduct of foreign relations.

1. Ambassador

2. Consul

3. Bureau of Global Affairs

4. United States and Foreign Commercial Service

- c. Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.

7. Do TWO of the following (with your parent's permission) and share with your counselor what you have learned:

- ☐ a. Visit the website of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this website.

- ☐ b. Visit the website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.

News Story:

- ☐ c. Visit with a student or Scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.

Values:

Holidays:

Ethnic foods:

Traditions:

- ☐ d. Attend or participate in a World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WOSM) event such as the World Scout Jamboree, World Scout Moot, World Scout Congress, Jamboree Over The Air, or Jamboree Over The Internet. Attendance at a national or regional Jamboree sponsored by a WOSM-National Scout Organization is also allowed.
- ☐ e. Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.