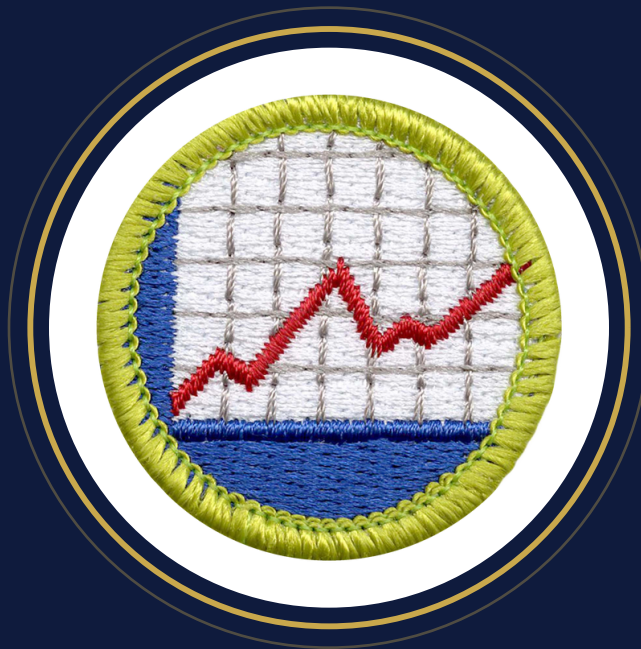




EPIC BADGES

ONLINE MERIT BADGE ACADEMY



American Business

MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

BUILT ON THE 2023 REQUIREMENTS · VERIFIED JANUARY 2026

epicbadges.com



BUILT ON THE 2023 REQUIREMENTS · VERIFIED JANUARY 2026 · REQUIREMENTS PARAPHRASED

How to use this workbook: it keeps your notes and evidence organized as you work with your EPIC Badges counselor — it is a companion, not a shortcut. Read the official merit badge pamphlet, and confirm the current official requirement wording at scouting.org/skills/merit-badges before you begin; the prompts below are summaries in our own words. When a requirement says show, tell, demonstrate, or discuss, you must do that with your counselor. Only submit this workbook once every requirement is complete.

Scout Information

SCOUT'S FULL NAME

UNIT / TROOP

Your counselor: EPIC Badges — a certified merit badge counselor reviews your work when you submit.

Requirement 1 — Business Foundations (with your counselor)

- (a) Break down four features that make the free enterprise system in the United States work. Then explain how freedom differs from license, and how the Scout Oath and Scout Law show up in business and free enterprise.

- (b) Describe the Industrial Revolution and the big developments that launched the modern industrial era in America. Pick three people who shaped U.S. business or industry and explain what each one did.

- (c) Identify the five primary areas of business and describe each one to your counselor.



- (d) Walk through the history of labor unions in the United States and why unions and employers working together matters. Name two major labor unions that exist today.

- (e) Talk with your counselor about how business impacts the economy at the local, national, and global level.

Requirement 2 — Money and Finance

- (a) Explain the three basic financial statements — income statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flows — and discuss how each one helps business leaders make smarter decisions.

- (b) Explain how shifts in interest rates, taxes, and government spending push money into or out of business and industry.

- (c) Explain how a sole proprietorship, partnership, or limited liability company raises its capital — then explain four ways a corporation obtains capital.



- (d) Name five kinds of insurance that are useful to a business and describe what each one protects against.

Requirement 3 — Profit, Ethics, and Modern Business

- (a) Explain the place of profit in business — why it matters and what it makes possible.

- (b) Describe green marketing and sustainable business practices to your counselor.

- (c) Explain the role ethics plays when business decisions get made.

- (d) Discuss how running a brick-and-mortar business differs from running an online business.

Requirement 4 — Labor Law and the Department of Labor

Check the TWO topics you dig into with your counselor.

4. Describe what the U.S. Department of Labor does, then pick two of the laws below and discuss them with your counselor. Use this space for your notes on the Department and your two topics.



- ☐ Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)
- ☐ Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)
- ☐ Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- ☐ Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)

Requirement 5 — Business Deep Dive

5. Choose a real business and research how it puts each of the five primary areas of business to work — accounting, finance, economics, marketing, and management. Share what you discover with your counselor.

Requirement 6 — Careers in Business — Do ONE

- (a) **OPTION A:** Pick one of the primary areas of business and identify three career opportunities inside it. Choose one and research the education, training, and experience it takes — then discuss it with your counselor and explain why it interests you.

- (b) **OPTION B:** Select a business leader and interview them about their company and career path. Discuss the role ethics plays in their business decisions, and share what you learned with your counselor.



Finished Your Workbook?

Upload your completed workbook and documentation
for counselor review and earn your official signed blue card.

SUBMIT AT EPICBADGES.COM

epicbadges.com/submit-documents

EPIC BADGES • ONLINE MERIT BADGE ACADEMY
SERVING SCOUTS NATIONWIDE SINCE 2018