



2026 ONSC Merit Badge College + South - March 7

Class Catalog

Event Contacts

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Akela Merit Badge College (Scheduled Classes)



AKMB6 Citizenship in the Community

A nation is a patchwork of communities that differ from each other and may be governed differently. But regardless of how local communities differ, they all have one point in common: In the United States, local government means self-government. Good citizens help to make decisions about their community through their elected local officials.

9-4 PM **Room:** Finch 214 **Instructor:** Ken Woody

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #3a; #3b; #4a; #4b; #4c; #7a; #7b; #7c; #8

NOTE: Please bring a map of the community.



AKMB7 Citizenship in the Nation

As Scouts fulfill the requirements for this merit badge, they will learn how to become active citizens are aware of and grateful for their liberties and rights, to participate in their governments and protect their freedom, helping to defend their country and standing up for individual rights on behalf of all its citizens.

9-4 PM **Room:** Briggs Technology 201 **Instructor:** Steve Bouldin

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #2; #8



AKMB8 Citizenship in the World

Scouts who earn the Citizenship in the World merit badge will discover that they are already citizens of the world. How good a world citizen each person is depends on his willingness to understand and appreciate the values, traditions, and concerns of people in other countries.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee N104 **Instructor:** Matt McPherson

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB9 Collections

Collecting can be an educational and financially rewarding pastime: a collector must educate himself about a specific subject, be able to tell which items are worth preserving, how to catalog and organize his collection, and how to evaluate the value of items.

9-12 PM **Room:** Finch 221 **Instructor:** David Barnhill

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #1; #5e

NOTE: Bring your collection, cannot use stamp or coin collections.



AKMB10 Communication

This clear and concise definition comes from the U.S. Department of Education: "Communication focuses on how people use messages to generate meanings within and across various contexts, cultures, channels, and media. The field of communication promotes the effective and ethical practice of human communication."

1-4 PM **Room:** Finch 221 **Instructor:** David Barnhill

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #2a; #3; #4; #5; #6; #7a; #7b; #7c; #8



AKMB68 Cybersecurity (2025 version)

The Cybersecurity Merit Badge equips Scouts with essential knowledge and skills to navigate and protect the digital world. Scouts learn about online safety, ethical behavior, cyber threats, and how to defend against them using tools like firewalls, antivirus software, and strong passwords. They explore encryption, connected devices, and the risks of public Wi-Fi, while also practicing safe habits like updating software and backing up data. Through hands-on activities, Scouts investigate real-world cyber incidents, participate in cybersecurity challenges, and explore career opportunities in the field.

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9-12 PM	Room: Public Safety Services 105 Instructor: Michael Griffin Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20
1-4 PM	Room: Public Safety Services 105 Instructor: Michael Griffin Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20 Prerequisites: #8(a); #8(b); #8(c); #9(a); #9(b)



AKMB12 Digital Technology

Technology has come a long way since Computers merit badge was first introduced in 1967. This badge will teach Scouts about technology in the digital age.

1-4 PM	Room: Gee S124 Instructor: William Burns Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20
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AKMB16 Emergency Preparedness

Scouts are often called upon to help because they know first aid and they know about the discipline and planning needed to react to an emergency situation. Earning this merit badge helps a Scout to be prepared by learning the actions that can be helpful and needed before, during, and after an emergency.

9-12 PM	Room: Finch 204 Instructor: Ryan Osborne Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20 Prerequisites: #1; #2a; #9b
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AKMB17 Engineering

Engineers use both science and technology to turn ideas into reality, devising all sorts of things, ranging from a tiny, low-cost battery for your cell phone to a gigantic dam across the mighty Yangtze River in China.

9-4 PM	Room: Briggs Technology 222 Instructor: Paul Burns Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 15 NOTE: This is an all day class.
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AKMB19 Family Life

The family is the basic unit of society and is important to both individuals and communities. The world is rapidly changing, making today's society much more complex than ever before. As Scouts earn this merit badge, they will realize why it is important to know more about family life and how to strengthen their families.

9-12 PM	Room: Briggs Technology 224 Instructor: Lisa Ziarnik Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20
1-4 PM	Room: Briggs Technology 224 Instructor: Lisa Ziarnik Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB55 Fire Safety, Safety

The ability to use fire safely is essential to human survival. By earning this merit badge, Scouts will learn to use fire safely and responsibly, how to prevent home fires, and how to handle fire safely, as well as burn prevention, and camping safety.

Knowing about safety helps Scouts to make the right choices and to take the best actions to avoid accidents by making informed choices in their everyday activities and to respond appropriately during an emergency situation.

9-4 PM	Room: Public Safety Services 104 Instructor: Edwin Owens Minimum number of participants: 3 Maximum number of participants: 20 Prerequisites: #6a.; #6b.; #6c.
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AKMB23 Geology

Geology is the study of Earth. It includes the study of materials that make up Earth, the processes that change it, and the history of how things happened, including human civilization, which depends on natural materials for existence.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee N207 **Instructor:** Richard Lovett
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
NOTE: Bring a rock from your local area.



AKMB53 Health Care Professions

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee N204 **Instructor:** Dr. Keith Miller
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
 1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N204 **Instructor:** Dr. Keith Miller
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
Prerequisites: #1a; #1b
NOTE: Be prepared to discuss requirements 1-4 in class.



AKMB25 Law

Earning this merit badge enables a Scout to learn about the history and kinds of laws, the purpose and methods of law enforcement, consumer protection agencies, emerging law, and careers in the legal profession.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee N106 **Instructor:** Ira Knight
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
Prerequisites: #2a.; #2b.; #2c.; #9.; #10.



AKMB26 Mammal Study

A mammal may weigh as little as 1/12 ounce, as do some shrews, or as much as 150 tons, like the blue whale. It may spring, waddle, swim, or even fly. But if it has milk for its young, has hair of some kind, is relatively intelligent, and has warm blood, then it is a mammal.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee N202 **Instructor:** Heather Tipton
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB46 Mining in Society

Mining has been an important part of our nation since the 19th century. Today, the industry employs 3 million Americans, directly and indirectly, and is a major contributor to the global mining landscape. This merit badge covers the history of mining, explores the status of mining in the 21st century, introduces Scouts to modern mining careers, and explores the all-important topic of mining safety.

1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N207 **Instructor:** Richard Lovett
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB69 Music (2026 version)

The history of music is rich and exciting. Through the ages, new music has been created by people who learned from tradition, then explored and innovated. All the great music has not yet been written. Today, the possibilities for creating new music are limitless.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee S126 **Instructor:** Aaron Prillaman
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
 1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N111 **Instructor:** Aaron Prillaman
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
Prerequisites: #3(a); #3(b); #3(c); #3(d); #4(a); #4(b); #4(c)

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AKMB64 Nature (2025 version)

There is a very close connection between the soil, the plants, and all animal life, including people. Understanding this connection, and the impact we have upon it, is important to preserving the wilderness, as well as to our own well-being as members of the web of nature.

1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N202 **Instructor:** Heather Tipton
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB29 Personal Management

Personal management is about mapping a plan for your life that will involve setting short-range and long-range goals and investigating different ways to reach those goals. Education, training, and experience all help make your goals become a reality. To achieve your goals, you will choose the best path and make a commitment to it, while remaining flexible enough to deal with changes and new opportunities.

9-12 PM **Room:** Finch 203 **Instructor:** TBD
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
 1-4 PM **Room:** Finch 203 **Instructor:** TBD
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
Prerequisites: #2a; #2b[1]; #2b[2]; #2c; #2b(3); #2b(4); #2d; #8a; #8b; #8c; #8d; #9a; #9b; #9c; #9d; #9e; #10a; #10b



AKMB54 Plumbing

Plumbing, including pipe fitting, is an important and well-paid occupation. The industry is quite broad. It covers installations and repairs in homes, commercial properties, and factories. Plumbing pipelines are used for water supply, waste drainage, natural-gas heating, and many other purposes.

9-12 PM **Room:** Public Safety Services 107 **Instructor:** William Bump
Additional Fee: \$10.00
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 10
 1-4 PM **Room:** Public Safety Services 107 **Instructor:** William Bump
Additional Fee: \$10.00
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 10



AKMB32 Railroading

By earning this badge, Scouts can learn about the history of railroading, its place in modern society, careers in railroading, and hobbies related to railroading.

9-12 PM **Room:** Gee S124 **Instructor:** William Burns
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB60 Sports

Millions of people participate in sports every year. For some the appeal is the close friendships that come with being part of a team. Some revel in the joy of victory and lessons of defeat. For some, the personal fitness is so important that exercise becomes a daily need. And still others desire the feeling of achievement, that feeling of measurable improvement that comes with dedication to a sport.

1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N104 **Instructor:** Matt McPherson
Minimum number of participants: 3
Maximum number of participants: 20
Prerequisites: #5a; #5b; #5c; #5d; #5e; #5f; #5g; #5h

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AKMB36 Sustainability

Sustainability Merit Badge.

9-4 PM **Room:** Gee N208 **Instructor:** Bob Paxton

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #1.; #2a.; #2b.; #2c.; #5a.; #5b.; #5c.; #6a.; #6b.; #6c.



AKMB40 Truck Transportation

Trucking is a large and important industry. No matter where you live, a day is unlikely to go by when you will not see a truck. We use these vehicles to deliver almost every material item we buy. Without trucks, our economy would not work efficiently.

1-4 PM **Room:** Gee N106 **Instructor:** John Thompson

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20



AKMB42 Weather

Meteorology is the study of Earth's atmosphere and its weather and the ways in which temperature, wind, and moisture act together in the environment. In addition to learning how everyday weather is predicted, Scouts can learn about extreme weather such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes, and how to stay safe.

1-4 PM **Room:** Finch 204 **Instructor:** Ryan Osborne

Minimum number of participants: 3

Maximum number of participants: 20

Prerequisites: #9a; #9b; #10; #11