

# CITIZENSHIP IN SOCIETY

## MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR EXPECTATIONS

Counselor Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ District/Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

As a Merit Badge Counselor for the Citizenship in Society merit badge, I acknowledge and agree to the following expectations of the Sagamore Council.

- ☐ (PLEASE CHECK EACH ITEM.)
- ☐ I have reviewed the badge requirements (<https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/>)
- ☐ I have completed the BSA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training, which can be found in the e-learning section of <https://my.scouting.org/>, and studied the key terms used in this merit badge.
- ☐ I have reviewed the Merit Badge Counselor Guide ([https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/diversity\\_equity\\_and\\_inclusion/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/diversity_equity_and_inclusion/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf)) and video (<https://vimeo.com/613861523>.) for this badge.
- ☐ I understand that I will not serve as a subject matter expert, but as a facilitator – listening actively and encouraging thinking, learning, research, and reflection by the Scout.
- ☐ I will follow the BSA Scouter Code of Conduct (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/bsa-scouters-code-of-conduct/>).
- ☐ I will work with a Scout on individual Study (following youth protection rules), or with a small group of 3 to 5 scouts who are within 2 years of age and are from the same unit, if possible. I will not offer the merit badge in a group, camp, meeting, or online setting that is not consistent with this. Exceptions may be made for a Merit Badge University put on by the Council.
- ☐ I will obtain permission from a Scout's parent or guardian before discussing sensitive subject matter with the Scout. I may accomplish this by sharing the informational video (<https://vimeo.com/610950264>) with them and answering any questions.
- ☐ I will not advocate a particular point of view, and will avoid interjecting my own opinions or biases. I will credit Scouts with completion of merit badge tasks when they have given a response based on good faith and rooted in the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
- ☐ I will keep ideas and opinions expressed by a Scout during the merit badge discussion confidential, except sharing with the Scout's parent as appropriate, and I will ask others to do the same.
- ☐ I will not create or distribute supplemental materials – including worksheets, handouts, or items from non-BSA sources – for use with this merit badge. (BSA has chosen not to create and distribute a merit badge pamphlet. The intent here is that merit badge counselors should not attempt to fill that void by creating and distributing content based on their own views of the topics.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merit Badge Counselor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date