

Citizenship in the Community

Prerequisites for 10/15/22 Merit Badge College

On October 15, you will need to bring with you proof that you have completed the following requirements. Pay close attention to each requirement so that you know what proof you need to bring (such as attending a local meeting, learn about charitable organizations and complete volunteer work for one of them, develop a presentation about your community, etc.)

1. (You will not need prerequisites for this requirement.)
2. (You will not need prerequisites for this requirement.)
3. Do the following:
 - a. Attend a meeting of your city, town, or county council or school board; OR a municipal; county, or state court session.
 - b. Choose one of the issues discussed at the meeting where a difference of opinions was expressed, and explain to your counselor why you agree with one opinion more than you do another one.
4. Choose an issue that is important to the citizens of your community. (NOTE: For this requirement, the prerequisite is that you should come prepared with ideas about which issues are important to the citizens of your community. We will address the other parts of the requirement during the session.)
5. Watch the movie "The Buttercream Gang," and come prepared to discuss what you learned from the movie about what it means to be a valuable and concerned member of the community.

Note that if your parents prefer that you watch a different movie, choose one that shows how the actions of one individual or group of individuals can have a positive effect on a community, and come prepared to discuss it.

6. (You will not need prerequisites for this requirement.)
7. Do the following:
 - a. Identify three charitable organizations outside of Scouting that interest you and bring people in your community together to work for the good of your community.
 - b. Pick ONE of the organizations you chose for requirement 7a. Using a variety of resources (including newspapers, fliers and other literature, the Internet, volunteers, and employees of the organization), find out more about this organization.
 - c. With your counselor's and your parent's approval, contact the organization you chose for requirement 7b and find out what young people can do to help. While working on this merit badge, volunteer at least eight hours of your time for the organization. After your volunteer experience is over, discuss what you have learned with your counselor. NOTE THAT YOU WILL NEED TO BRING a letter from your parents verifying that you have completed the 8 hours of volunteer work.
8. Develop a public presentation (such as a video, slide show, speech, digital presentation, or photo exhibit) about important and unique aspects of your community. Include information about the history, cultures, and ethnic groups of your community; its best features and popular places where people gather; and the challenges it faces. Stage your presentation in front of your merit badge counselor or a group, such as your patrol or a class at school.