

Chickasaw Council, Scouting America

Bluff City Merit Badge College

Saturday, August 29, 2026

LEADER & PARENT GUIDE



University of Tennessee
Health Science

University of Memphis
Herff College of Engineering

Two campuses • One day of advancement
Memphis, Tennessee

Questions?

Elaine Pater • 901.448.5610
bluff-city-merit-badge-college@googlegroups.com

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“For many badges—perhaps even most of them—partial completion is not only acceptable but expected from a merit badge event.”

Source:

Merit Badge Group Instruction Guide

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-066_WEB.pdf

And from Section 7.0.3.2 of the *Guide to Advancement*: “...every Scout—actually and personally” must complete the requirements as written. “If, for example, a requirement uses words like “show,” “demonstrate,” or “discuss,” then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms watching demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions.”

Source: <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

EVENT INFORMATION

The **Bluff City Merit Badge College** is back; two campus locations, one epic day of advancement. Chickasaw Council is proud to co-host this event with **UT Health Science (UTHS)** and the **University of Memphis, Herff College of Engineering**. Our theme says it all: **Learn • Explore • Lead • Serve**.

The merit badge workshop is open to all registered Scouts BSA youth who can choose from a large slate of merit badges taught by subject-matter experts, while adults have their own track of hands-on classes running alongside. Together we hope to give every Scout a great day of advancement while exploring real careers and two college campuses.

A Two-Campus Day — Please Read

This is not a single-building event. Classes are held at **both** the UTHS campus and the University of Memphis campus, and the day is built with travel time between them. All participants begin at UTHS with check-in and the opening ceremony, then move to their assigned campus for the morning block. Because a Scout's morning and afternoon classes may be at different campuses, **build the posted transition times into their day**.

A shuttle service is provided between campuses, (20 minutes each way) running in both directions at each transition and carrying up to 100 participants per run. Because seating is limited, units with several Scouts traveling during the same transition are asked to provide their own transportation for their group, where possible. This self-transportation keeps shuttle seats open for participants who need them. Pickup and drop-off points at each campus will be marked with signage, and volunteers will be on hand to direct participants. Plan to arrive at the pickup point promptly when each block ends.

Event Schedule

Time	Activity	Location
6:30 – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	UTHS - Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC)
7:30 – 8:00 AM	Check-In	UTHS - Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC)
8:00 – 8:30 AM	Opening Ceremony	UTHS - Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC)
8:35 – 8:55 AM	Transition 1	—
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Block A (Morning classes)	UTHS & U of M
12:05 – 12:25 PM	Transition 2	—
12:00 – 12:55 PM	Lunch	UTHS & U of M
12:35 – 12:55 PM	Transition 3	—
1:00 – 4:00 PM	Block B (Afternoon classes)	UTHS & U of M
4:10 – 4:30 PM	Transition 4	—
4:00 – 6:30 PM	Dinner (Optional)	UTHS - Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC)

Volunteers Needed

An event of this scale takes many hands, and each participating unit is requested to have one or two registered adults on-site. Beyond our registered merit badge counselors, we need adults to serve as the second registered adult in the classrooms, help at check-in, distribute rosters and packets, guide Scouts between campuses, organize lunch, and staff the first aid station. If your attending leaders can help in a specific area, let us know. We appreciate the time you give to Scouting!

How to Read the Schedule Blocks

- A = Morning block (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM); B = Afternoon block (1:00 – 4:00 PM)
- A & B = offered in both blocks — A Scout takes it once, in the block they registered for.
- A–B (Full Day) = A single class that runs across both the morning and afternoon blocks.
- Max = Number of seats available per class.
- **“Won't finish” column:** the requirement number(s) listed will not be completed during the event. The Scout will receive a **partial** and, if he or she wants to complete the badge, must finish those requirements with a merit badge counselor afterward. An asterisk (*) marks a requirement that is only partially addressed at the event.

ADULT PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Adults attending can take part in a dedicated track of hands-on classes at UTHS. Block A is in the morning and Block B in the afternoon. (See the Event Schedule).

Adult Class	Block	Description	Length in Hours
GivePulse for Scouts	A	Learn how to use GivePulse to find service opportunities, register for projects, and track service and service-learning hours for Scout advancement.	1
CPR / AED [Skills Session Only]	A	Learn essential CPR and AED skills to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies at Scout activities, home, school, or in your community. Prerequisites: Complete the required online pre-course module. Additional \$6 course fee	3
Stop the Bleed	B	Learn to recognize life-threatening bleeding and control it using three lifesaving techniques until emergency responders arrive.	1

MERIT BADGE OFFERINGS

Below are the merit badges offered at each campus, with the block(s) each is taught in, the class capacity, and the prerequisites Scouts must bring or complete beforehand, in order to receive credit. Merit badge completion is never guaranteed as Scouts must participate fully in order to complete all requirements. This includes any listed prerequisites. “For many badges—perhaps even most of them—partial completion is not only acceptable but expected from a merit badge event.” (Source: *Merit Badge Group Instruction Guide* https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-066_WEB.pdf)

Track	Merit Badge	Block(s)	Site	Room	Prerequisites	Won't finish*
Safety	Test Lab: Military Service & Veterans	B	UTHS	SAC 313	—	—
	First Aid	A–B (Full Day)	UTHS	CHIPS 104	Req. 2a: bring completed medical form A, B & C. Req. 2b(1): bring an assembled personal first-aid kit.	14
	Emergency Preparedness	A–B (Full Day)	UTHS	GEB A305	Req. 1: must have already EARNED the First Aid merit badge.	2a*, 2b*
	Crime Prevention	A & B	UTHS	SAC 204	—	—
	Signs, Signals, and Codes	A & B	UTHS	GEB 309	—	7
Health	Public Health	B	UTHS	COP CON RM 234	—	—
	Dentistry	A & B	UTHS	GEB DENTAL SIM LAB	—	—
	Health Care Professions	B	UTHS	CHIPS 304	—	—
	Disabilities Awareness	A	UTHS	TBD (GEB Bldg.)	—	—
	Personal Fitness	A	UTHS	SAC GYM	—	6* & 7
Life to Eagle	Communication	A–B (Full Day)	UTHS	GEB 315	—	5, 8*
	Citizenship in the Community	A & B	UTHS	GEB 310	—	5, 7a–c, 8*
	Citizenship in the Nation	A & B	UTHS	GEB 313	—	5, 6*, 7, & 8

	Personal Management	A–B (Full Day)	UTHS	SAC 302	—	8c, 8d
STEM – Tech / Engineering	Automotive Maintenance	A & B	UTHS	TBD	Age 15+; closed-toe shoes required.	—
	Engineering	A & B	U of M	ET 238	—	—
	Drafting	A	U of M	ES 114	—	3, 4, & 5
	Electricity	A & B	U of M	ES 220	—	—
	Electronics	B	U of M	ES 222	Age 13+; closed-toe shoes required.	—
	Robotics	A & B	U of M	ET 226	—	—
	Digital Technology	A	UTHS	LIBRARY 307	—	6
	Artificial Intelligence	A & B	U of M	ET 227	—	—
	Cybersecurity	A & B	U of M	ET 200	—	—
	Animation	A & B	UTHS	LIBRARY 210	—	—
	Composite Materials	A	U of M	ES 326	—	5*
	Aviation	A–B (Full Day)	UTHS (A) U of M (B)	Executive Airport (A) ET 302/300 (B)	—	4
STEM – Physical / Earth Science	Weather	A	UTHS	DDN 452	—	11
	Geology	B	U of M	ES 114	—	4*
	Nuclear Science	B	U of M	ES 326	Age 13+.	4*
	Space Exploration	B	U of M	ERIC 205	Age 13+.	—
STEM – Life / Nature Science	Veterinary Medicine	B	UTHS	DDN 451	—	—
	Environmental Science	A–B (Full Day)	U of M	ERIC 201/203	—	2, 6, & 7
	Sustainability	A & B	UTHS	COP CON RM 464	—	8*
	Insect Study	B	UTHS	TBD	Bring a magnifying glass.	3b
	Reptile and Amphibian Study	A	U of M	ES 308	—	8* & 9*
	Forestry	B	U of M	ES 308	—	5 & 8
	Soil and Water Conservation	B	U of M	ES 116	—	7*
	Plant Science	A	U of M	ERIC 205	—	8*

REGISTRATION & UNIT PREPARATION

Registration is handled online through <https://scoutingevent.com/558-115172-263112>. If your unit follows the steps below, your Scout(s) will be prepared for a smooth and successful day.

- Inform all Scouts and parents of the event date and the two-campus format.
- Register each Scout and adult attending and select classes during the class registration process.
- Due to the complexity of a two campus model, changes to classes will not be entertained after registration closes.
- Recruit one or two registered adults to attend with your unit.
- Follow the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- A shuttle bus is provided between campuses, (20 minutes each way) running in both directions at each transition and carrying up to 100 participants per run. Because seating is limited, units with several Scouts traveling during the same transition are asked to provide their own transportation for their group, where possible. This self-transportation keeps shuttle seats open for participants who need them
- Review the prerequisites for each class and complete the required work or forms before the event. (See the merit badge block tables.)
- Scouts will receive their class schedule at check-in — no need to print one in advance.

Registration closes Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at 11:59 PM. We cannot accept late registrations or walk-ins for this event.

COST OF THE EVENT

- \$10.00 per Scouts BSA participant
- \$10.00 per adult participant

This event is sponsored by the UT Health Science. The fee covers class supplies, lunch, event patch, and unique giveaways specific to this event.

Meals

Meals are included for all registered event participants. Please review the meal schedule below.

<i>Meal</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Menu</i>
<i>Saturday Breakfast</i>	<i>6:30–8:00 AM</i>	<i>Buffet-style breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs, bacon, and fresh fruit.</i>
<i>Saturday Lunch</i>	<i>12:00–1:00 PM</i>	<i>Choose one:</i> <i>Pulled Pork Sandwich OR Chicken Tenders with French Fries</i>
<i>Saturday Dinner</i>	<i>4:00–6:30 PM</i>	<i>Grab-and-go Subway® sandwich</i>

Please Note: Breakfast and lunch services conclude promptly at the scheduled end times. Participants should arrive during the designated meal periods to ensure they have adequate time to eat. Dinner service will remain available throughout the posted serving window.

LODGING OPPORTUNITIES

Limited overnight lodging will be available for Merit Badge College participants. Additional details and instructions will be shared with those who register for overnight accommodations. Space is limited and will be available on a first-registered, first-served basis.

WHAT TO BRING

Each Scout MUST have:

- Their Field Uniform, tucked in and worn with a belt.
- Any prerequisite materials and completed forms for their classes. (See the merit badge block table.)
- Closed-toe shoes if enrolled in Automotive Maintenance or Electronics merit badges.
- A filled water bottle and personal first aid kit.
- A bag or day pack
- A phone number for an adult leader or parent if they do not have a cell phone.
- Cell phones should be silenced or off during class.

What NOT to bring

- Headphones (Unless medically required.)
- Electronics such as radios or video games.

Recommended Unit Items

- Roster of attending Scouts with their classes and campus(es).
- The Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A & B) for those participating without a parent or legal guardian. (Parts A,B & C are required for the First Aid Merit Badge course.)
- The emergency contact number for any Scout who will not have their parent or legal guardian present.
- A plan to self-transport your group between campuses if several Scouts are crossing at a transition.
- An awareness of the shuttle pickup points and transition times.

EVENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Everyone participating is expected to follow Scouting America national guidelines as outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting, and to abide by the Scout Oath and Law.

Uniforms

The Scout Field Uniform ("Class A") should be properly worn unless a class requires special clothing. E.g., closed-toe shoes for lab or shop classes. (See the merit badge block table.)

Buddy System & Staying on Campus

Scouts use the buddy system for travelling to and from the restrooms and when moving around campus. During lunch and transitions, Scouts should check in with their unit leader, if available. During the merit badge blocks, Scouts are prohibited from leaving either campus unless authorized by their parent or legal guardian, their unit leader or one of the Key 3 members of the merit badge college.

Tobacco & Vaping Products

Both campuses are tobacco-free. The use of tobacco products of any kind, including vaping and e-cigarettes, is prohibited and could result in dismissal from the event.

Vehicles & Parking

With many youth on foot and all not knowing their surroundings, please drive cautiously and follow all posted signs and staff directing traffic. (See section Directions, Parking & Campus Travel for designated locations.)

Food & Drinks

- Each Scout should carry a personal water bottle.
- No food, snacks, gum, or drinks are allowed to be consumed in the classrooms or lab, with the exception of water.
- Lunch is to be eaten only in the designated areas.

First Aid

Each Scout should have a personal first aid kit. Report more serious injuries to the nearest adult volunteer, who will direct the Scout to the first aid station located at each site's check-in area.

DIRECTIONS, PARKING & CAMPUS TRAVEL

The day begins at **UT Health Sciences** (UTHS) with check-in and the opening ceremony, to be followed by classes at both the **UTHS** and the **University of Memphis, Herff College of Engineering**. (About a 20-minute drive between the two campuses.) Please follow all posted signs and staff directing traffic.

UT Health Sciences

Address: 800 Madison Ave, Memphis, TN 38163

Buildings in Use on Map:

- Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC) - 21
- Pharmacy Building (COP CON) - 2
- General Education Building (GEB) - 4
- Center for Healthcare Improvement and Patient Simulation (CHIPS) - 5
- Dunn Dental Building (DDN) - 14
- Alexander Building (LIBRARY) - 3

Participant Parking: Lot X at UTHS, located at the intersection of Walnut Street and Beale Street. Reserved exclusively from 5:00 PM Friday through 8:00 AM Sunday.

Participant Entrance: Participants should enter through the main entrance of the Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC) on Madison Avenue, just past the Dunlap Street intersection. Follow event signage from the parking area to the SAC entrance.

University of Memphis — Herff College of Engineering

Address: 3817 Central Ave, Memphis, TN 38111

Buildings in Use on Map:

- Engineering Science - ES
- Engineering Technology - ET
- Edwards Research and Innovation Center - ERIC

Participant Parking: Lot 44 located at the corner of Central Ave. and Zach H. Curlin St.

Participant Entrance: Participants should enter through the main entrance of the ERIC Building, located at the corner of Zach H. Curlin St. and Central Ave., directly across the street from the designated parking lot. Follow the event signage to the entrance.

Travelling Between Campuses

Movement between the UTHS and University of Memphis campuses happens during the posted transition periods. **A shuttle service is provided between campuses**, running in both directions at each transition and carrying up to 100 participants per run. Because seating is limited, units with several Scouts traveling during the same transition are asked to provide their own transportation for their group, where possible. This self-transportation keeps shuttle seats open for participants who need them. Pickup and drop-off points at each campus will be marked with signage, and volunteers will be on hand to direct participants. Plan to arrive at the pickup point promptly when each block ends.

Shuttle Pickup & Drop-Off Locations

- **UTHS:** Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center (SAC), at the entrance/exit on the U-shaped drive at N. Manassas St. and Court Ave.
- **University of Memphis:** Main entrance of the ERIC Building, on Zach H. Curlin St. at the intersection with Central Ave.

Shuttle Schedule

Transition	Departs	Arrives
Transition 1 (morning)	UTHS — 8:35 AM	U of M — 8:55 AM
Transition 2 (lunchtime) <Grab your lunch before departing.>	U of M — 12:05 PM	UTHS — 12:25 PM
Transition 3 (lunchtime) <Eat your lunch before departing.>	UTHS — 12:35 PM	U of M — 12:55 PM
Transition 4 (end of day)	U of M — 4:10 PM	UTHS — 4:30 PM

The shuttle departs promptly at the times listed above. Riders should be waiting at the pickup point before the posted departure time.

AFTER THE MERIT BADGE COLLEGE

A few items of note for after the merit badge college.

- A week or so after the college, a report known as the 'johnny sheet', showing complete and incomplete requirements, will be emailed to the Scoutmaster of record for the unit the Scout is registered in.
- Use this form to report to your council advancement committee questionable processes or procedures discovered in merit badge counseling at group instruction events such as fairs, clinics, workshops, in camp settings, or by individual counselors: Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns. It can be found in Section 11.1.0.0 of the Guide to Advancement.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. 910, 920, 930 Madison Plaza Buildings | 26. Harwood Center | 34. Day Care Building |
| 2. Pharmacy Building | 27. Phi Chi | 35. Plough Center |
| 3. Alexander Building | 28. Hyde | 36. Regional One Health |
| 4. General Education Building (GEB) | 29. Cancer Research Building (CRB) | 37. Adams Pavillion |
| 5. Center for Healthcare Improvement and Patient Simulation (CHIPS) | 30. Translational Science Research Building (TSRB) | 38. Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center |
| 6. Johnson Building | 31. Coleman Building | 39. Le Bonheur Children's Hospital |
| 7. Link Building | 32. Pauline Annex | 40. VA Hospital |
| 8. Wittenborg Building | 33. Doctor's Office Building | |
| 9. Mooney Building | | |
| 10. Hyman Administration Building | | |
| 11. Crowe Building | | |
| 12. Nash Addition | | |
| 13. Nash Research | | |
| 14. Dunn Dental | | |
| 15. Physical Therapy | | |
| 16. School of Nursing | | |
| 17. D. R. Hooper Building | | |
| 18. School of Public Health | | |

- UTHSC Facility
- Employee Parking
- Student Parking
- Commercial Parking

EMPLOYEE LOT FEE

Includes 9.25% state sales tax

LOT	LOT	LOT
A	I	R
C	J	W
E	L	X
G	N	Y
H	P	1

STUDENT LOT FEE

- E (GEB Garage)
- G (Randolph Center Garage)
- H (Plaza Garage)
- I (Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center Garage)
- J (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- K (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- L (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- M (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- N (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
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- X (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- Y (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)
- 1 (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Garage)



