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2026 Winter Merit Badge Fair - Session Expectations and Prerequisites (updated October 19) - Early Preview for planning purposes. Final session expectations and pre-reqs and MBC information will be sent to registered participants before the event.

Eagle-Required Merit Badges	
Citizenship in the Community	• Pre-reqs: #2a, #3a, #4ab, #5, #7abc, & #8 should be done beforehand and ready to discuss. • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-the-community/ • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/citizenship-in-the-community.pdf
Citizenship in the Nation	• We will cover #1-4, #6, part of #8 in class. • Pre or post work: #5, #7, writing to representative in Congress in order to complete the badge • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-the-nation/ • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Citizenship-in-the-Nation.pdf
Citizenship in the World	• Pre-reqs: Review, prepare, and be ready to discuss all requirements #1 through #7 to walk away with a completed merit badge. • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-the-world/ • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/citizenship-in-the-world.pdf

Communication	*Please carefully read this message from your merit badge counselor in order to successfully complete this merit badge in this session:* "We are organizing an intensive, interactive workshop designed for Scouts to complete the **Communication Merit Badge** in a single high-energy session. To maximize engagement, the workshop is framed around a **Wilderness Backpacking** scenario. While prior backpacking experience isn't mandatory, a basic familiarity with trail hiking or campouts will help Scouts dive right into our role-plays and exercises. **Pre-Session Prerequisites** To ensure our workshop time is dedicated entirely to active role-playing, mock interviews, and presentations rather than quiet writing, Scouts must arrive with the following completed: 1. A 1-day communication tracking log or 3-day listening journal (Requirement 1). 2. Notes or an outline for a 3-to-5-minute speech on a backpacking or outdoor topic (Requirement 3). 3. Prep for the debate (see below) (Requirement 5) 4. A draft flyer, brochure, or webpage layout for a troop event (Requirement 7) **Mock Debate Preparation** As part of our persuasive speaking and active listening modules, Scouts will participate in a structured mock debate. Please encourage your Scout to review both sides of this topic beforehand: Topic: "Resolved: Wilderness backpacking without a smartphone is better than with GPS." " Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/communication/

First Aid	• Each scout should bring a copy of the first aid merit badge requirements, paper, and something to write with. • Each scout must bring a first aid kit (requirement #2b1) • Pre-req: Scouts should look at the troop's first aid kit or equivalent (requirement #2b2) • Post work: requirement #14. If a Scout would like to complete this requirement during the Merit Badge Fair, the Scout is welcome to invite a family member to attend the last 15 mins of the session. • Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/first-aid/
Personal Management	• Pre-reqs: #1, #2, #8-10 • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/personal-management/ • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/personal-management.pdf • *Extra note for parents*: This is one of Greg's favorite merit badges to present, and he welcomes you to sit in and enjoy the presentation if you have the interest and time.

Sustainability	*Please carefully read this message from your merit badge counselor:* "In this fun, interactive session, Scouts will explore how everyday choices affect our world — and how they can be thoughtful stewards of its future. We'll learn, discuss, and share sustainability practices at home, in the community, and in Scouting. **To receive session credit, Scouts must complete and bring the pre-work worksheet. It will help us have a stronger, more engaging conversation. Requirement 8 should be completed at a camping trip with your Troop after the session**." Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/sustainability/

General Interest Merit Badges	
Artificial Intelligence	Pre-reqs: • Req #1: Be prepared with an understanding of each of the key terms. We will discuss them but knowing the terms will be important for understanding the class. • Req #8b) Please come prepared with a few interview questions. Self study: Reqs #4c, #7 Bring a computer or tablet, some topics require interacting with an AI chatbot. Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/artificial-intelligence/
American Heritage	Pre or post work: Scouts should contact the counselor prior to working on requirements #2bcd and #5ab for this session. A Zoom call can be arranged after the session if Scouts decides to work on #2 and/or #5 after the session. Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/american-heritage/ Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/american-heritage.pdf
American Labor	Pre-reqs: Review, prepare, and be ready to share or discuss requirements #1,3-9 Pre or post work: Scouts should contact the counselor prior to working on requirements #2 and #5c for this session. A Zoom call can be arranged after the session to complete all requirements. Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/american-business/ Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/american-business.pdf

Coin Collecting	• Scouts should review and be prepared to discuss req #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 • Pre-req: bring coins for #4, #7abc (choose 1) • Pre or post work: #7d (if not doing #7abc) • Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/coin-collecting/
Competitive Gaming	• Pre-req: #1, #2, #4ab, #7 • Pre or post work: #3, #4cd, #5, #6 • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/competitive-gaming/
Electricity	• Pre or Post Work: #2, #7 (please see the “Sample Bedroom Plan” diagram on page 3 of the electricity workbook linked below. You can find symbols in the electricity pamphlet linked below. • Requirements can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/electricity/ • Electricity MB Pamphlet here: https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Pamphlets/Electricity.pdf • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Electricity.pdf

Fingerprinting	• Pre-reqs: Requirement #6. Scouts should research one of the three career opportunities that interest them, write about it in their workbook or even a sheet of paper and bring to the fair to share with the group. • Requirements, Digital Resource Guide, and digital pamphlet can all be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/fingerprinting/ • Scouts may find this workbook helpful: http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Fingerprinting.pdf
Veterinary Medicine	• Scouts should review and be prepared to discuss req #1, #2, #5 • Pre-req: #3, #4 • Pre or post work: #6, #7 (optional: Scouts may opt to do #6b during this session by interviewing the MBC; please bring an electronic device to make a presentation or report) • Requirements and the digital pamphlet can be found here: https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/veterinary-medicine/
Interpreter Strip Award	

Simplified Mandarin	• Scouts are expected to:
	  • Carry on a five-minute conversation in this language.
	  • Translate a two-minute speech or address.
	  • Write a letter in the language.
	  • Translate 200 words from the written word.
	• You can view more information about this award here: https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/interpreter-strip/