

2024 Gulf Coast Council's Merit Badge University (MBU) Prerequisites

This year's MBU will be split between two locations: Niceville Public Library (206 N Partin Dr, Niceville, FL) and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) (90 College Blvd, Niceville, FL) on the west side of Northwest Florida State College campus in Niceville. To choose ½ day classes in each location, scouts will need to have transportation between locations (approximately 7 minutes travel).

Additional documents & permission slips are available on the registration page.

To prepare for all merit badges, read the pamphlet before class. Be sure to do the pre-requisites for your class, bring any permission slips needed, and other items listed. Failure to complete the prerequisites will interfere with completion of the merit badge. Participants will need to bring their own lunch / water bottle.

Citizenship in Society PM – LIB – This class is limited to Scouts who are 14-17 years old. Scouts should come prepared to have in-depth discussions about sensitive subjects. There is no Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Pamphlet/Book so Scouts should complete the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Workbook (<http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Citizenship-in-Society.pdf>) prior to arrival AND bring it to the class (this will require some research so plan accordingly). As this is a discussion-based merit badge, Scouts MUST actively participate in class to receive credit. Scouts must also complete requirements:

#7 (Identify and interview an individual in your community, school, and/or scouting who has had a significant positive impact in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion. Discover what inspired the individual, learn about the challenges they faced, and share what you feel attributed to their success.)

#8 (With the help of your parent or guardian, study an event that had a positive outcome on how society viewed a group of people and made them feel more welcome. Describe to your counselor the event and what you learned.) prior to arrival and be prepared to discuss each.

Communication - LIB - Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Come prepared to present the multiple speeches listed in the merit badge requirements. Scouts who show up prepared for the multiple speeches AND bring their 24-hour communication log with them will be able to complete the badge IF they have already accomplished requirement #8. If requirement #8 has not been completed prior to class, it will need to be done after MBU. Kevin McGowen.

Cooking – EOC – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Fill out and bring food menus (use sheets on regist) for review and approval.

After class: Cook home and camp meals. Erin Lee.

Crime Prevention AM – LIB/PD – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Req #2 Prepare a journal from various sources addressing crime and crime prevention efforts in your community. #4b Conduct a security survey of your home and discuss the results with your family. #5 Teach your family or patrol members how to protect themselves from crime at home. #6a Create a poster to display; present it to a group. (If not done before, will need to be done after and sent to instructor.) Fill out Crime Prevention Survey. Bill Royal.

Dentistry AM – EOC – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Bring a note stating when your last dental checkup was completed. Req #4c. Keep a record of everything you eat for three days. Circle those items that may provide the sugars that bacterial plaque needs to make acid. List snacks that you should avoid to help maintain the best oral health. Dr. Merkle.

Disabilities Awareness AM – LIB - Please read the Disabilities Awareness Merit Badge Pamphlet/Book. PLUS, complete requirement # 4 (Do two of the following from either option A or B: Visit your place of worship, your school, a scout event or campsite, or a public exhibit or attraction, such as a theater, a museum or park, and document any observations made during the visit). Those who conduct the visit and bring their observation documentation to class will get credit for the requirement and will be able to complete the merit badge by the end of the class. Greg Babiak.

Emergency Preparedness – EOC - Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Bring to class (easier) OR submit to counselor after class: #1, 2c, 7b, and 8b.

1) Completed 1st Aid MB -- THIS IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE CLASS BUT IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE MB.

2c) Meet with and teach your family how to get or build a kit, make a plan, and be informed for the situations on the chart you create for requirement 2b. Complete a family plan. Then meet with your counselor and report on your family meeting, discuss their responses, and share your family plan. -- HAVE FAMILY PLAN COMPLETED TO TALK ABOUT IN CLASS, WHICH MEANS 2B SHOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE CLASS.

7b) Prepare a written plan for mobilizing your troop when needed to do emergency service. If there is already a plan, explain it. Tell your part in making it work. -- MUST BE A WRITTEN PLAN!

8b) Prepare a personal emergency service pack for a mobilization call. Prepare a family emergency kit (suitcase or waterproof box) for use by your family in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Explain the needs and uses of the contents. -- PICTURES OF KIT ITEMS WILL WORK FOR THIS REQ.

Environment Science – LIB – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Complete requirement #3e (Do research on one endangered species found in your state. Find out what its natural habitat is, why it is endangered, what is being done to preserve it, and how many individual organisms are left in the wild. Prepare a 100-word report about the organism, including a drawing. Present your report to your patrol or troop.). Bring proof of prior merit badge requirement completion to class or come prepared to present your report. Sabina Pennington.

Fingerprinting PM – LIB/PD – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Bill Royal.

Fire Safety PM – LIB– Must turn in permission slip to visit Fire Dept. Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Complete requirements: 6.a. Conduct a home safety survey with the help of an adult. Then do the following: Draw a home fire-escape plan, create a home fire-drill schedule, and conduct a home fire drill. Chris Cutler.

Health Care Professions AM – EOC – Before class: Read the Health Professions Merit Badge pamphlet. Complete the research requirements (1, 2, 3 and 4). These requirements involve selecting health professions from a list and researching their roles in health care and the educational requirements for each. This should be done before class to facilitate a more informed discussion. Be prepared to discuss various medical professions, to include what is required to enter the Health Professions career field. Chris Dali.

Orienteering – LIB – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Be familiar with a compass and how to read direction. Steve Landry.

Personal Management - LIB – **Must be First Class, Star, or Life Scout.** It involves financial concepts the scout must understand. Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Requirements #1, #2 (Track expenses and incomes for 13 weeks), #8, #9, and #10 can be accomplished before or after class. If accomplished prior to class, bring proof of completion or the requirement materials to show instructor. Requirement #2 will be discussed in class and Scouts can show budget to instructor for approval before, during, or after class. Scout must participate in classwork to get credit. Maria Randolph.

Programming – EOC – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Bring Cyber Chip completion and permission slip for computer work. Lily Yueng and Molly Ferguson.

Reading Reqs AM –LIB – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Helpful to have a library card. Class will review all reqs. After class: Complete the actual reading reqs and report back to counselor. Also, requires 4 hours of library-related service, 3 of which can be done during the afternoon session. If this class finishes early, they will start their service. Library Staff.

Reading Service Hours PM –LIB – Scouts will have 3 service hours working on a project with library staff. One additional hour of library-related service will be needed. If the morning class finishes early, they will begin project work. Library Staff.

Safety AM – LIB – Before class: Read the Safety Merit Badge pamphlet. Complete reqs:
2.a (Using a safety checklist approved by your counselor, make an inspection of your home. Identify any hazards found and how these can be corrected.) Students MUST bring the completed Home Checklist to class in order to complete the merit badge during MBU. The Home Checklist will be sent out to those Scouts who sign up for this class.
2.b (Review and develop your family's fire prevention plan. Review your family's emergency action plan for fire in your home.)
5 (Make an emergency action plan for five family activities outside the home (at your place of worship, at a theater, on a picnic, at the beach, and while traveling, for example. Each plan should include an analysis of possible hazards, proposed action to correct hazards, and reasons for the correction you propose in each plan.). Chris Cutler

Sustainability PM – EOC – Before class: Read MB pamphlet. Matt Berggren.

Veterinary Medicine PM – EOC – Before class: Read the Veterinary Medicine Merit Badge pamphlet and complete requirements 6a and 6b. Be prepared to discuss various Veterinary Medicine professions, to include what is required to enter the Veterinary Professions career field. Andrea King.

Contact Bonnie Tierney (Bonnie4Scouts@gmail.com) to send permissions slips needed and reach counselors with questions before MBU. Be sure to check the website for news prior to the event.