

★ QUINNIPIAC DISTRICT ★

How to become a “Citizenship In Society” Merit Badge Counselor if you are currently a registered Merit Badge Counselor.

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Qualities of a Good “Citizenship In Society” Merit Badge Counselor:

- They should guide Scouts on journey of self-discovery and facilitate discussions.
- They should not advocate for a particular point of view.
- They should serve as a resource to Scouts and their parents.
- They should have skill in listening and guiding discussions.
- They should be available to openly communicate with the Scout’s parents if questions or discussions require their assistance.

CYC “Citizenship in Society” Merit Badge Counselor Requirements

- **FIRST**, Complete on-line “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” training module SCO-1800.
- **IMPORTANT**, Download & View “Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor Guide”.
https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/diversity_equity_and_inclusion/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf
- **IMPORTANT**, Download & View “Citizenship In Society Counselors”
https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/merit_badge_regandres/CitizenshipSociety_Counselors.pdf
- **Merit Badge Counselors should submit a new Merit Badge “Counselor Information Form” with a brief paragraph about why they are qualified to teach this badge.**
- Counselors should have skill in listening and guiding a discussion with Scouts without advocating a particular point of view.
- Counselors should be comfortable communicating with Scout parents to about this badge.
- This Merit Badge should not be offered virtually.
- Both counselor and the Scouts should recognize that anything said during discussions are confidential (except where legally required to disclose)
- The Scoutmaster should consider, when asked for the Blue Card, whether the Scout has sufficient maturity to pursue this badge (keeping in mind that a scout cannot be denied a Blue Card but it can be discussed).
- Limit the group’s size to between two and five Scouts.
- Scouts in a group should all be within two years of age of each other.

How it works

One of the unique features of Citizenship in Society is that there is no merit badge pamphlet with prescribed approaches or ideologies. There also are no requirements meant to drive a particular response or lead a Scout down a path toward a predetermined conclusion.

Instead, Citizenship in Society encourages Scouts to embark on a journey of discovery. In this case, it’s a journey of self-discovery as they explore a variety of topics around diversity, equity and inclusion and belonging, and then discuss how they apply their findings to life as a Scout and as a good citizen in society.

Scouts are encouraged to explore the topics as deeply and broadly as they see fit for their personal learning and growth. While a merit badge counselor may ask the Scout to identify their sources of information, the counselor will not be providing Scouts with answers. Instead, they will help facilitate discussions that aid Scouts in their understanding.

**Please contact me when you have completed the SCO 1800 training or have any questions.
Donald Kaletsky, 203-530-5697, dkaletsky-bsa@yahoo.com**