

## **2023 Mason Dixon Council Merit Badge College at HCC**

The purpose of a Merit Badge College (MBC) is to offer Scouts an opportunity to meet with highly qualified professionals to learn and foster the development of lifelong interests. We are pleased to present this exciting event for the benefit of individual Scouts. This is an in-person event. It is solely run by volunteers whose commitment is focused on creating a learning environment to present the skills and training to further the Scout's advancement goals while providing a fun and enjoyable time for Scouts BSA members to come together.

The cost of this Merit Badge College is \$30. Each participant will receive a patch as well as a bagged lunch provided by HCC each day of the event. Several merit badges will have additional fees associated with them due to the nature of the merit badge. The additional fees will be listed in the description of each merit badge.

### **Motto: "Be Prepared"**

This Merit Badge College is not a program that guarantees advancement or merit badges. It will not be a place of full instruction where merit badges are "taught", but it will be a place where merit badge counselors are available to facilitate the merit badge. This is an opportunity for individual Scouts to meet with qualified counselors who help them earn the merit badges they need for advancement. Please be aware that a Scout may not fully complete the requirements for a merit badge at the college. No merit badge requirements will be excused; none will be "gifted". The unit leader and parent must ensure that each Scout is capable of understanding the material of the merit badge he/she has chosen.

Scouts will have the opportunity to work towards 1-4 merit badges at the college. **Scouts are expected to secure a MB pamphlet in advance of the MBC and to have read it.** They should also secure the permission of their Scoutmaster prior to signing up.

A goal is to have Scouts work to the best of their ability to finish the badges they register for so please sign up only for those you plan to work on and try to complete. Our experience is that Scouts and parents sign up for more than they can accomplish in the time allotted. **Consider Your Age.** While there is not an age or grade requirement for any merit badge, certain sessions at the MBC are recommended for older Scouts. In the short duration of a single day, the nature and amount of material covered in these sessions will possibly make it difficult for a younger Scout to keep up. This can slow the pace of the class and the class will not complete the intended material. We want you to enjoy what you do here so you will do it well.

Remember, many badges will include work on additional requirements not completed at the college. Be sure you understand your obligation is to be prepared to complete a merit badge. In particular, Snow Sports and Horsemanship will meet for another day in addition to the merit badge college days in order to complete the merit badge. Some merit badges will have prerequisites that need to be completed BEFORE the day of the college. The Merit Badge Counselors have provided the prerequisites for their badge. A list of pre-requisites for each merit badge will be listed below. If projects are required that can be done prior to the college, it is the Scout's responsibility to be familiar with and complete

any prerequisite, project, or other outside work prior to the MBC and present the work or evidence of the work to the counselor. The Merit Badge Counselor has the discretion to determine if the Scout has met the requirements. Filling out a worksheet DOES NOT constitute completion of the requirement. Even though there is a charge for the college, there is no guarantee that you will complete the merit badge - a partial completion is acceptable, but it is up to the Scout to find a counselor to complete the work. Each Scout must complete each requirement as written. Sessions are being led by certified merit badge counselors who are very familiar with the process and the work needed for each merit badge.

Review your badge choices. Scouts may register for up to 4 badges for the day. There are 4 sessions per day, however, some merit badges require 2 sessions each day. **Registration will be at 8:00 am – 8:30 am and 12:00 pm – 12:15 pm each day. Sessions are 1 (8:30 am - 10:00 am); 2 (10:15 am - 11:45 am); 3 (12:30 pm - 2:00 pm) and 4 (2:15 pm - 3:45 pm). Lunch will be 11:45 am – 12:30 pm.** Scouts may sign up for as many sessions as they would like to take.

Due to the availability of some of our merit badge counselors we have several merit badges that will only meet on January 28<sup>th</sup> and several merit badges that will only meet on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure to note when the merit badges meet when choosing your schedule.

Each troop is required to have at least one responsible adult present for their Scouts. If a Scout has a free session (chooses not to register for a merit badge for one of the time periods or chooses one that only meets on a different day) they are asked to remain in the cafeteria with the troop adult chaperones. Hagerstown Community College has been gracious enough to give us the use of their facility for this merit badge college. Please remain in the building we have been assigned.

We will also be having a Merit Badge Counselor Training Session for anyone who is interested in becoming a merit badge counselor. If you are interested in joining us for this session, please email [Scouter74MDC@gmail.com](mailto:Scouter74MDC@gmail.com).

**SUCCESS COMES TO THOSE SCOUTS WHO ARE, INDEED, PREPARED.** Scouts, not their parents, are responsible to contact the counselors, **using two deep leadership**, if they have any questions about the prerequisites or if the instructions state to do so before starting. Likewise, if a Scout cannot attend both sessions, it is the **Scout's** responsibility to contact the counselor.

## **Oath and Law**

The Scout Oath and the Scout Law shall be the code of the Merit Badge College. Scouts will act accordingly. We will also remember that we are guests of Hagerstown Community College and we will practice Leave No Trace principles and leave HCC better than we found it.

This is a Class A event. All Scouts and Scout Leaders should wear their field uniform. It is also expected that they will demonstrate their Scout Spirit in word and deed.

Cell Phones - *A Scout is Courteous* - If you must have a cell phone, set it to silent/vibrate.

Demonstrate respect for the instructors and other classmates and do NOT make or take calls or text

messages during class time. There will be no use of social media at the MBC. Cell phones are to only be used for emergency communication.

Two-deep leadership: When a Scout contacts the Merit Badge Counselor through email/text, remember to copy parent/guardian/Scoutmaster in order to comply with two-deep leadership in the Guide to Safe Scouting. *The policies of two-deep leadership and no one-on-one contact between adults and youth members also apply to digital communication. Leaders may not have one-on-one private online communications or engage one-on-one in other digital activities (games, social media, etc.) with youth members. Leaders should copy a parent and another leader in digital and online communication, ensuring no one-on-one contact takes place in text, social media, or other forms of online or digital communication.* When a Scout emails through their parent's/guardian's email account, they must copy a second parent/guardian/Scoutmaster on emails to ensure two-deep leadership is maintained. Similarly, text messages should include parent/guardian.

Check-in for all Scouts will begin at 8:00 am each Saturday. We request at least one leader/parent from each unit stay on premises in the cafeteria in case of an emergency with their Scout and each Mason Dixon Council unit attending will need to provide one adult to help at the merit badge college. If you only have afternoon sessions, please check in no later than 12:15 pm. We have established class size limits to ensure a quality experience for all Scouts. Many sessions fill up quickly, so the sooner you register and enter schedules, the better opportunity your Scouts have to register for sessions they want. With that in mind, please remember to schedule wisely. A seat taken is no longer available to another Scout, so we ask that you only register for sessions that you will attend.

Lunch is between 11:45 am -12:30 pm. Included in the cost of the event is a bagged lunch each Saturday provided by HCC which will include a ham sandwich, bag of chips, fruit, drink, and cookie. Feel free to bring snacks to enjoy between sessions. Each Scout should come prepared with a water bottle for the day.

Notifications - If we should have bad weather, notification will go out via email to the address provided at registration.

The registration fee is nonrefundable. The only exception will be if both days of the merit badge college are cancelled due to weather.

Troops may register their Scouts and Leaders/Chaperones on Tentaroo beginning January 2, 2023 at 10am. Registration will close on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5pm.

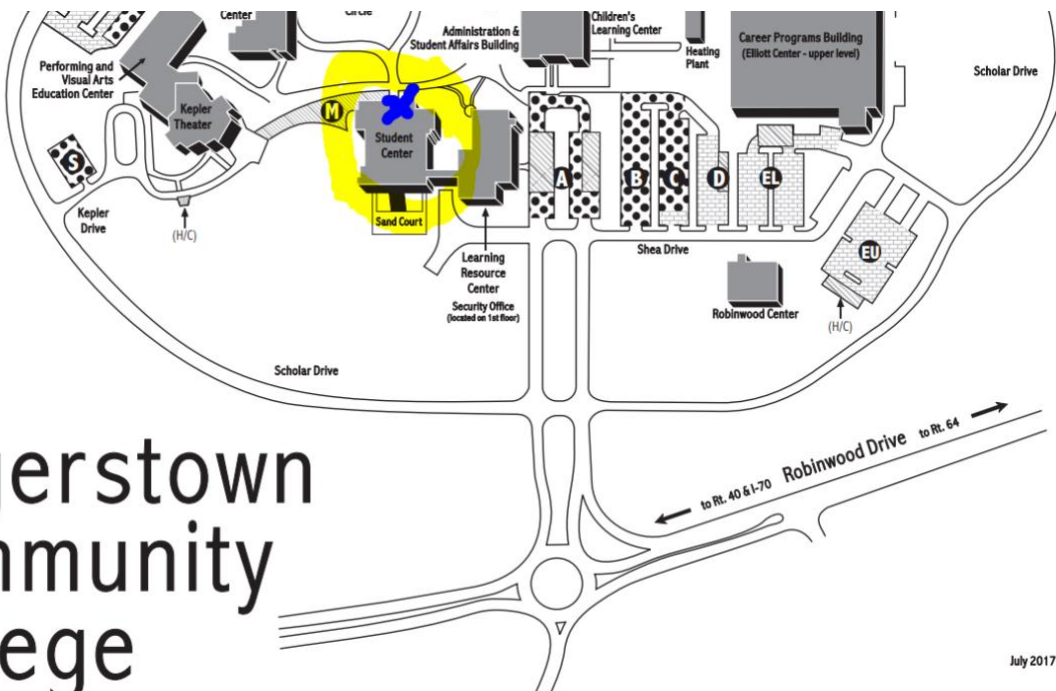
Merit badge selection will begin on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10am.

## Daily Schedule:

8:00-8:30am	Registration
8:30-10:00am	Session 1
10:15-11:45am	Session 2
11:45am-12:30pm	Lunch
12:30-2:00pm	Session 3
2:15-3:45pm	Session 4
3:45-4:00pm	Clean up

### Frequently Asked Questions:

- I am only able to come in the mornings (or afternoons) of these two Saturdays, may I still come?
  - Absolutely, just sign up for the merit badges during the times you are able to attend.
- I am only able to come on one of the dates, may I still come?
  - Absolutely, you can sign up. We have several merit badges that only take one day to complete. You also have the option to sign up for a two-day merit badge. However, you will receive a partial and then you will have to find a merit badge counselor who will work with you to complete your partial.
- What is the address of Hagerstown Community College?
  - 11400 Robinwood Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742
- Where will the merit badge college be located on the Hagerstown Campus?
  - Registration will be in the Student Center. Please enter through the front door facing the center of campus (opposite side from the volleyball court).



# Hagerstown Community College

Merit Badge – level of difficulty - Prerequisites & Comments

American Heritage – average – Prerequisites: Requirements 1, 3c, 4, and 5. \*This merit badge will only be offered on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Animal Science – advanced – Prerequisites: Each of the options in requirement 6 requires a visit. To complete this merit badge during the merit badge college you will have to do this requirement on your own before February 11<sup>th</sup>. MB Counselor will be available to help with planning the first week.

Archaeology – average – Prerequisites: You should attempt to complete Requirement 8 on your own, *if circumstances permit* we will provide the opportunity for this requirement during class.

Aviation – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 4

Chemistry – advanced – Prerequisites: Requirement 4a

Chess – average – No Prerequisites

Citizenship in Society – average – No prerequisites

Citizenship in the Community – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 3 and 7

Citizenship in the Nation – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 7

Citizenship in the World – advanced – No Prerequisites

Coin Collecting – average – Prerequisites: Bring with you Requirements 7 and 9. \*This merit badge will only be offered on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Collections – basic – Prerequisites: Requirement 1 and 5b. \*This merit badge will only be offered on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Communications – advanced – Prerequisites: Requirements 1a, 2a, and 9.

Cooking – average – Prerequisites: Requirements 4, 5, and 6. There will be an additional cost of \$7 to cover the cost of food that you will be cooking. This class will take both session 1 and 2 (8:30am - 11:45am).

Crime Prevention – average – No Prerequisites

Digital Technology – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 1

Disabilities Awareness – average – Prerequisites: Requirements 2 and 4

Emergency Preparedness – advanced – Prerequisites: Requirement 1

Energy – advanced – Prerequisites: Requirement 4a and b

Engineering – advanced – No Prerequisites

Entrepreneurship – average – Prerequisites: requirement 3

Family Life – average – This merit badge requires projects and a significant amount of time. If you have not already started it, you will receive a partial during the merit badge college.

First Aid – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 1

Game Design – basic – No Prerequisites

Genealogy – basic – No Prerequisites

Geocaching – average – You will need to bring a GPS unit and Lensatic Compass to use during this merit badge.

Geology – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 5 – You may choose one of the options and start before MBC.

Health Care Profession – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 8. \*This merit badge will only be offered on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Horsemanship – advanced – Horsemanship will be offered on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> only, to complete the merit badge the second session will be off-site and will not met on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Scouts will have a choice between March 12<sup>th</sup> or March 19<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

Indian Lore – average – No Prerequisites; however, there will be an additional charge of \$15.00 to pay for materials necessary to complete this merit badge. \* This merit badge will only be offered on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Law – average – Prerequisites: Requirements 4 and 7

Leatherworking – average – No Prerequisites; however, there will be an additional charge of \$15.00 to pay for materials necessary to complete this merit badge. \* This merit badge will only be offered on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Movie Making – average – No Prerequisites.

Music – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 3, if using option c please obtain proof of membership or performances (report card, performance program, ticket stub, etc.)

Personal Fitness – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 1. This merit badge requires a significant amount of time for requirements 6, 7, and 8. If you have not already started it, you will receive a partial during the merit badge college. \* This merit badge will only be offered on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Personal Management – advanced – This merit badge requires a significant amount of time for requirement 2. If you have not already started it, you will receive a partial during the merit badge college.

Photography – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 1

Public Speaking – average – No Prerequisites

Safety – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 2. \* This merit badge will only meet as a class during the January 28<sup>th</sup> session. However, Scouts will need to drop off their homework on February 11<sup>th</sup> in order to complete the merit badge.

Salesmanship – basic – Prerequisites: 6, 7

Snow Sports – average – To complete the snow sports merit badge you will need to attend a third session which will be held off-site at either Whitetail or Ski Liberty on February 5<sup>th</sup> where Scouts will complete the downhill skiing track of the merit badge. There is also an additional cost of \$120.00 for this merit badge when you sign up. This additional fee will cover the cost of rentals and lift tickets for the third session. If you are a beginner, you may not be able to complete the merit badge in the three sessions of the merit badge college. However, our awesome merit badge counselors love snow sports and will be on the mountains over the winter and would love to help you. Any session after the 3<sup>rd</sup> session in February will require you to pay the cost of rentals and lifts at the ski resort when you go.

Space Exploration – average – No Prerequisites.

Sustainability – advanced – Prerequisites: Do Requirement 1 and bring it on January 28<sup>th</sup>, Requirement 2 has some longer tracking you may start it now as well.

Theater – average – Prerequisites: Requirement 1 may take a significant amount of time to complete. It is strongly recommended to begin this requirement prior to the merit badge college.

Traffic Safety – average – No Prerequisites.

Weather – average – No Prerequisites.

## Independent Study Merit Badge Opportunity

On each Saturday during the second session of the merit badge college we will offer the opportunity for Scouts to meet with a merit badge counselor and either finish a partial from camp (for basketry) or work on a merit badge that can be completed independently with the counselor. Reading will also be available on the first session as well.

Art – basic – Prerequisites: Requirement 6 (Please come prepared to show proof of visit).

Basketry – basic – This merit badge is being offered for those who got a partial at camp. We will not be weaving baskets during the merit badge college. Please bring your work and be prepared to discuss with the counselor.

Reading – basic – Prerequisites: Requirements 3, 4, and 5

Scholarship – basic – Prerequisites: Requirements 1,2,3,4, and 5. Scout should come prepared to discuss merit badge with counselor.

Woodcarving – basic – Prerequisites: Requirement 2a (must have Totin' Chip).

## Merit Badge Schedule:

Morning Sessions

Session 1	Session 2
Aviation	Chemistry
Citizenship in the Nation	Citizenship in the Nation
Collections ~	Citizenship in the World
Cooking*	Digital Technology
Emergency Preparedness	Engineering
Family Life	Entrepreneurship
First Aid	Health Care Professions ~
Game Design	Personal Management
Geology	Photography
Law ^*	Public Speaking
Snow Sports	Theater
Sustainability	Independent Study: Art, Basketry,
Weather	Reading, Scholarship, Woodcarving
Independent Study: Reading	

### Afternoon Sessions

Session 3	Session 4
American Heritage ^	Archaeology
Animal Science	Citizenship in Society
Chess	Citizenship in the Community
Citizenship in Society	Citizenship in the World
Communication	Coin Collecting ~
Cooking*	Crime Prevention
Disabilities Awareness ~	Energy
Genealogy	Geocaching
Music	Horsemanship ^
Personal Fitness ~	Indian Lore ^
Personal Management	Leatherworking ~
Safety ^	Movie Making
Space Exploration	Salesmanship
Traffic Safety ^	

^ = Only Offered at the January Session

~ = Only Offered at the February Session

\* = double session (1&2 or 3&4)