

## Scouting at Home

### Merit Badges & Virtual Classes

(1) Become a Counselor: Now is a perfect time for parents to sign up as Merit Badge Counselors!

With 137 subjects to pick from, we are sure there is some merit badge you have the qualifications to teach. Here is the list:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/>

Resources for signing up to be a Merit Badge Counselor are available on the Glacier's Edge Council Advancement web page (under the Training drop-down menu):

[www.glaciersedge.org/advancement](http://www.glaciersedge.org/advancement) (scroll down to the Merit Badge Section under Scouts BSA)

(2) Host an online/virtual class. Several councils are putting on virtual merit badge clinics for hundreds at scheduled times. While amazing, they aren't the only way to help scouts with merit badges while they are at home. BSA permits all forms of virtual learning — think Facebook, Zoom, or Google Hangouts/Docs. Just remember the keys to safe scouting, including two-deep leadership. In this case, make sure all emails/online interactions have at least one other adult included — in most troops that is a cc: to the scoutmaster and a cc: to the parents. For Facebook communications, it is a best practice to have the parent link in as the “friend” so all communication funnels through the scout's parent.

Other important resources include:

BSA Social Media Guidelines <https://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/>

BSA Guide to Safe Scouting <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>

Youth Protection Training <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>