

Merit Badge Counselor registration Within the National Capital Area Council

In accordance with the Guide to Advancement section 7.0.1.4, the National Capital Area Council has delegated the approval of its merit badge counselors to the districts.

Additionally, while the National Council places no limit on the number of merit badges an individual may be approved to counsel, the Guide allows for councils to place such a limit on counselors and this prerogative is also delegated to the districts.

Each volunteer wishing to become a merit badge counselor must submit an adult application (regardless if already registered in another position), proof of current Youth Protection Training, and the Merit Badge Counselor Information sheet (34405) to the district for approval. The volunteer must complete the sheet such that there is sufficient information to indicate his/her knowledge/expertise in the area of the badge(s) for which they wish to counsel.

As representatives of the National Capital Area Council, either the District Advancement Chair or the District Merit Badge Dean is authorized to complete the "Council Approval" block signifying the application has been reviewed for accuracy and the individual is approved by the district and NCAC to counsel the badges listed on the form. Should a badge not be approved, a line is to be drawn through that badge and annotated "Not Approved." Should this occur, the volunteer must be notified and provided the reason for non-approval.

Once the counselor has been approved by the district, they are immediately allowed to begin counseling Scouts for those approved badges. Also the district will provide the completed application to the District Executive for processing with Member Shared Services at the National Service Center. The District Executive should only accept applications that have been approved by the districts,



Alan Deter
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