

## *Merit Badge Program Quiz*

*Test your knowledge of the BSA merit badge counselor program.*

TRUE or FALSE:

1. T F A merit badge counselor may be a counselor for only up to six merit badges.
2. T F A merit badge counselor may not coach his own son or close relative (i.e., nephew) unless he is part of a group of Scouts all working on the same merit badge.
3. T F A merit badge counselor who works only with a single unit needs only the unit committee's approval before being approved by the Scout executive.
4. T F Persons serving as merit badge counselors must be registered as a merit badge counselor with the Boy Scouts of America.
5. T F A Scout may earn no more than five merit badges from the same merit badge counselor.
6. T F Once a Scouter is approved as a merit badge counselor, he is approved for life and never has to be reapproved.
7. T F A Scout must complete all the requirements for a merit badge within 12 months or he must start over.
8. T F A merit badge counselor may require the Scout to work beyond the specific requirements of the merit badge so he may discover more about the subject and continue the learning process.
9. T F Due to the BSA policies related to Youth Protection and two-deep leadership, a merit badge counselor must have another adult present during all merit badge counseling sessions.
10. T F If the weather, locale, or some other condition makes meeting all of the conditions of the merit badge requirements impractical, the merit badge counselor may substitute requirements for those stated for the merit badge.
11. T F Merit badge counselors must be at least 18 years old.
12. T F If the requirements for a merit badge differ between the merit badge pamphlet and the current edition of Boy Scout Requirements, the requirements in the Boy Scout Requirements book supersede all others.

## *Merit Badge Program Quiz Answers*

1. **False** A counselor may be approved for as many badges as he or she is qualified. Since this is up to the members of the approving body to decide, they also may decide how many merit badges they feel it is necessary for a counselor to coach based upon need within the district or council.
2. **False** A duly approved counselor may counsel any Scout who contacts him or her through proper procedures. However, it is suggested that wherever possible, Scouts should experience a variety of adult contacts and therefore, should use a diverse group of counselors.
3. **False** All counselors must be approved by the district/council advancement committee.
4. **True** Even volunteers who serve in multiple positions must fill out another form and show registration as a merit badge counselor.
5. **False** A Scout may earn as many badges from a counselor as the counselor is qualified and approved to coach. However, since it is in the Scout's best interest that he experience a diversity of adult contacts, it is not in the spirit of the program to do so unless conditions warrant.
6. **False** Counselor approvals are for one year only.
7. **False** There is no time limit except that all requirements work must be completed before the Scout's 18th birthday.
8. **False** No additions or deletions are permitted. The requirements are to be completed exactly as written. However, a counselor may share additional information or resources in the hope of encouraging the Scout to challenge himself.
9. **False** There must always be a third person present, but it may be any other adult familiar to the Scout, a Scout's parent, or a Scout's "buddy." Common sense dictates that two adult counselors alone with only one Scout should be avoided.
10. **False** No additions or deletions are permitted. The requirements are to be completed exactly as written.
11. **True.**
12. **True** The Boy Scout Requirements book is revised annually and reflects any changes that have been made, whereas the merit badge pamphlets are not revised annually and may be outdated.