



**Chicksa District**  
**Natchez Trace Council BSA**  
**Merit Badge College**  
**at**  
**The University of Mississippi**

Saturday, February 21, 2026

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Camping available at Camp Yocona on  
Friday and/or Saturday night, February 20 and 21

REGISTER @ [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](https://NatchezTraceCouncil.org)  
Registration Deadline: February 13, 2026

## Location, Dates and Times

The Merit Badge College will be held on the campus of The University of Mississippi (Bishop Hall, 501 Fraternity Row, University, MS) on February 21, 2026. Please join us at this year's Merit Badge College, where Scouts can take the opportunity to learn from academic and industry experts.

**Special Note:** Camp Yocona will be available for troops who wish to camp the night before or the night after the MBC. Note however, no programming or food is provided at Camp Yocona. Please go to [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](http://NatchezTraceCouncil.org) or contact the Natchez Trace Council office (662.842.2871) to reserve your spot.

### **Saturday, February 21**

8:00am Check-in begins at Bishop Hall (501 Fraternity Row, University, MS)  
8:30am Opening Gathering and Welcome  
9:00am-noon Morning Badge Class  
Noon-1:00pm Lunch (Rebel Market Dining Hall, included in MBC registration fee)  
1:15-4:15pm Afternoon Badge Class

## Registration and Assistance

All registrations should be placed at [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](http://NatchezTraceCouncil.org). Registration may be made by individual or by unit. Merit badge selections can be made through online registration.

Online registration deadline is February 13, 2026. Participants must be pre-registered. No on-site registration.

For registration assistance please contact the Natchez Trace Council office (662.842.2871).

For general event questions please contact MBC Coordinators Gary Wilson ([garywilson1500@gmail.com](mailto:garywilson1500@gmail.com) or 901.679.3110), Jason Bouldin ([jbouldin@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbouldin@bellsouth.net) or 662.816.8166) or Ben Pharr ([bnp@movl.net](mailto:bnp@movl.net) or 662.832.0038)

## Participation Fees

Registration Date	Fee
Before 1/21 (Early Bird)	\$25 per scout
1/22 - 2/3	\$30
2/4 - 2/13 (Late Reg)	\$35

This fee includes lunch and course materials. Adult registration (parents and Scout Leaders) is free and adult participation is encouraged. If registered adults would like

lunch, the cost is \$15.00 per individual. The first 150 registrants (youth and adults) will receive a custom event patch.

## Merit Badges Offered

Merit Badge	AM	PM	Requirements not completed at MBC
<b>Elective Merit Badges</b>			
Artificial Intelligence		√	Complete at MBC
Weather	√		9
Chess		√	Complete at MBC
Welding	√	√	Complete at MBC
Veterinary Medicine	√		6
Chemistry	√		Complete at MBC
Electronics	√	√	Complete at MBC
Climbing*		√	Complete at MBC
Aviation**	(all day)		Complete at MBC (waiver required)
Photography	√	√	Complete at MBC
Law	√		4, 7
<b>Eagle Required Badges</b>			
Family Life/Genealogy	√	√	4, 5
Citizenship in the World		√	Complete at MBC
Citizenship in the Nation	√		Complete at MBC
Personal Fitness***	√		1 a (must bring completed BSA Health Form Part C); 1b, 6b, 8
Cooking		√	4c, 4d, 4e, 6d, 6e, 6f
Emergency Preparedness	√	√	2c,8b
Environmental Science	√		3d, 4a,4b
Communication/ Public Speaking	√		4, 5, 7, 8

All classes are subject to size limits, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The “requirements not completed” listed above are to the best of our knowledge. Some of these requirements may be completed if there is time; however, scouts would be wise to do these requirements in advance and bring them to the MBC. Requirements not finished at MBC are to be done at home with a local counselor.

\*Climbing has a \$10 activity fee.

\*\*Aviation is an all-day Merit Badge with a \$10 activity fee. A waiver (found in online registration) must be completed in order to participate.

\*\*\*Personal Fitness requires completed BSA Health Form Part C (Physical Exam).

## **Merit Badge Instruction**

Merit badge instruction will follow the requirements listed by the BSA for each class. Scouts are expected to fulfill the requirements as written. There are instances where scouts should do some reading in advance so they can complete the requirements.

This implies that scouts should familiarize themselves with the requirements for the badges for which they are registered. They should prepare themselves as much as possible to complete these requirements. Ultimately, it is up to the counselor to decide when a scout has completed a requirement.

Please refer to the matrix above for a list of prerequisites or requirements that cannot be completed at the MBC. While every effort will be made to help Scouts complete as much of each badge as possible, some requirements cannot be finished in a single day.

We would love for parents and Scout Leaders to help us provide additional supervision during the MBC classes. All instructors are volunteering their time to provide superior programming for our Scouts. We would greatly appreciate your extra support with supervision of Scouts to help the MBC run smoothly.

## **Adult Training Opportunities**

We are working to offer several learning and training opportunities for parents and Leaders. We shall list these as we are able.

## **MBC Requirements and Preparation**

**Scouts must:**

- Arrive on time for merit badge classes for which they have registered.
- Engage fully with the classes during the time allotted. Attendance alone will not guarantee a merit badge. Preparation and participation are essential.
- Bring a notebook and writing instruments to the MBC.
- Come dressed in BSA Class A uniform.
- Abide by the Scout Oath and Law during the MBC.

Any participant whose conduct does not meet the above standards may be asked to leave a merit badge class (without receiving credit) and/or the event.

Scouts should remember that, while at the MBC, we are representing Scouting in a public setting as guests of the University of Mississippi. You may be someone's first impression of Scouting...let's make it a good one!

## **Merit Badge Completion and Progress Reports**

Merit badge requirements completion information will be collated and provided to unit leaders after the MBC. If you need assistance accessing these records, please contact Virginia Pence at 662-871-4720 or [viriniapence@icloud.com](mailto:viriniapence@icloud.com). Unit leaders are responsible for following up with Scouts on merit badge completions and award presentations.