

Merit Badge Program Revolutionized with Ongoing Digital Transformation

As discussed during the National Annual Meeting, Scouts BSA volunteer leadership, working closely with Scouting America professional staff, has launched a major digital transformation of the iconic merit badge program for Scouts BSA youth, making all merit badge pamphlets available as free PDFs online, and planning for the release of exciting new badges later this year. Additionally, as part of the upcoming launch of the Scoutly chatbot, Scouts will be able to have an additional resource to help them learn about badge requirements for select merit badges.

Earlier this year, the [Scouts BSA Merit Badge "Test Lab"](#) launched to gather feedback on potential new merit badges, including Auctioneering, Life Skills, and Wildland Fire Management. Remind Scouts to keep an eye on the Test Lab for updates with future potential merit badges.

This multi-year digital plan aims to modernize the merit badge experience with interactive content, resource videos, and digital guides—recognizing that today's Scouts expect digital experiences to be easy, effective, and engaging – like the tech platforms they've grown up with. More information can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-scouts-bsa/>.