

Incorporating the Badge Program Program Facilitation

DESCRIPTION

The badges of The Canadian Path are used to celebrate the personal journey of youth in Scouting. In a tangible way, they mark the milestones of the journey and celebrate youth achievements. One of the goals of The Canadian Path is to disassociate badges from personal progression, as the two have become synonymous over the years. Think of how a 10-year-old has grown since joining Cub Scouts two years earlier; while badges are souvenirs of this journey, the personal progression that each youth experiences is the journey itself.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

I understand the role of badges and can facilitate the use of badge programs appropriately.

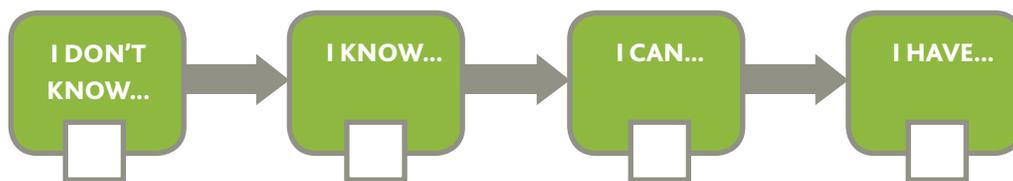
- I can explain and understand how to facilitate the different badge programs available for youth in Scouting (Personal Progression, Personal Achievement, Outdoor Adventure Skills, Top Section Awards, Canadian Path Link badges, etc.).
- I can support the pursuit of Personal Achievement badges using self-set goals (Colony, Pack, Troop).
- I can facilitate the opportunity for youth to achieve the Top Section Award in my Section.
- Company and Crew Scouters: I can facilitate personal development goal setting.

TIPS AND TRICKS

The Personal Achievement badges are similar throughout Beavers, Cubs and Scouts., One requirement is added for each Section as the youth move through the program. These requirements, unlike the Outdoor Adventure Skills, are not cumulative. Youth can work on their Section's Personal Achievement badges until they move up to the next Section.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- **The Scouter Manual, pages 47–62, "Personal Progression"**
- eLearning course: How to Incorporate Badges (ID 6522)
- **Self-set Badge Requirements**
- **Personal Progression**
- **Badges ≠ Personal Progression**
- **Scouters' Tip #28: How do I Support Personal Achievement Badges?**



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PLAN

- How can you present the badge programs to youth so they understand the role they have in creating their own program?
- How can you ensure the youth do not plan an overwhelming badge program for themselves?

DO

- Complete the course “How to Incorporate Badges”.
- Read the “Personal Progression” pages in the *Scouter Manual* (pages 47-62).
- Shadow a Section that is exploring one of the badge programs so that you can observe how other Scouters engage their youth.

- Know the goals of the youth in your Section and understand that not all of your youth will want to pursue badges.

REVIEW

- Why is it important for you to understand the roles youth have in creating their program?
- Why is it important to have personal progression reviews with each youth?
- What will you do to ensure all youth are aware of the badge opportunities available to them in your Section?

SAFETY NOTE

- The badge programs are not a curriculum for the youth to complete at a set rate. As a Scouter, you should be aware of the youth who are participating in each badge program so that you can support them appropriately; ensure youth set achievable goals so that they do not feel overwhelmed.
- Youth have many demands on their time (such as school and other extra-curricular activities). Keep this in mind; appreciate the difference between encouragement and pressure when promoting a badge program.