

The following merit badges have special qualifications or certifications for either the merit badge of the supervisor of certain activities that may be involved. All certifications must be current.

Archery: Archery activities must be supervised by a BSA National Camping School-trained shooting sports director or USA Archery or National Field Archery Association instructor, or by someone who has been trained by one of the three.

Canoeing: Those supervising canoeing activities must have either BSA Aquatics Instructor or Canoeing Instructor certification from the American Canoe Association, American Red Cross or equivalent.

Climbing: All climbing, belaying, and rappelling exercises and activities must be supervised by a rock climbing instructor who is a mature and conscientious adult at least 21 years old, and who is trained in BSA Climb On Safely and understands the risks inherent to these activities. Training as a BSA climbing Level 2 Instructor is highly recommended. Someone with certification in First Aid/CPR/AED from the American Red Cross (or equivalent) must be present at these activities.

Kayaking: Those supervising kayaking activities must have formal in kayaking and paddle craft instruction, evidenced by either BSA Aquatics Instructor or Paddle Craft Safety Instructor certification or kayaking instructor certification from the American Canoe Association, British Canoe Union, or American Red Cross, or equivalent.

Lifesaving: Demonstrations or activities in or on the water must be supervised by an adult at least 21 years old with certification in Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED or equivalent, and also as BSA Lifeguard or Aquatics Instructor or equivalent.

Rifle Shooting: The merit badge counselor is responsible for ensuring that all instruction or other activities involving any handling of firearms or live ammunition is consistent with state and federal law and supervised by a certified BSA National Camping School shooting sports director, or National Rifle Association Rifle Shooting Instructor or Coach. Shooting must be supervised by an NRA-certified Range Safety Officer (RSO). If instruction and shooting are to occur at the same time, both the RSO and qualified instructor must be present. They may not be the same person. Note that commercial shooting ranges may provide RSOs.

Rowing: Those supervising rowing activities must have either BSA Aquatics Instructor certification or equivalent.

SCUBA Diving: All phases of scuba instruction – classroom, pool and open-water training – are limited to instructors trained and certified by one of the BSA's recognized SCUBA agencies as found in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Shotgun Shooting: The merit badge counselor is responsible for ensuring that all instruction or other activities involving any handling of firearms or live ammunition is consistent with state and federal law and supervised by a certified BSA National Camping School shooting sports director, or National Rifle Association Rifle Shooting Instructor or Coach. Shooting must be supervised by an NRA-certified Range Safety Officer (RSO). If

instruction and shooting are to occur at the same time, both the RSO and qualified instructor must be present. They may not be the same person. Note that commercial shooting ranges may provide RSOs.

Snow Sports: Activities in the field must be supervised by a mature and conscientious adult 21 years or older who is committed compliance with BSA Winter Sports Safety as defined in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Swimming: Demonstrations or activities in or on the water must be conducted according to BSA Safe Swim Defense and BSA Safety Afloat.

Whitewater: Those supervising whitewater activities must be certified as whitewater canoeing or kayaking instructors by the American Canoe Association or have equivalent certification, training, or expertise.