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Bsa camping merit badge answers

Get daily updates! Download the new Scouting magazine app today. When it comes to life-changing experiences, there’s no substitute for camping. And when it comes to the Eagle-required Camping merit badge, there’s no substitute for Requirement 9A. It reads as follows: 9. Show experience in camping by doing the following: a. Camp a total of at least 20 nights at designated Scouting activities or events. One long-term camping experience of up to six consecutive nights may be applied toward this requirement. Sleep each night under the sky or in a tent you have pitched. If the camp provides a tent that has already been pitched, you need not pitch your own tent. That one paragraph has caused a few Scout leaders some consternation. Bill, a district-level training chairman, sent me this e-mail: “There seems to be a lot of interpretations of Requirement 9a (number of nights camping) of the Camping Merit Badge and if more than one long-term camp can be counted. Also questions about what exactly a long-term camp is. If you haven’t already, can you put up a blog article on it?” I can answer that last question: Yes, I will write a blog post about it. For the rest of the answers, I turned to Chris Hunt of the Advancement Team. He writes: This requirement was recently updated, and one of the problems we face is that many are probably working with the former language. Find the most recent version of the requirements here. Here are some key points: The requirement begins with “Camp a total of 20 nights.” That means 20 overnights, so a weekend trip from Friday through Sunday is two nights. Next it says, “at designated Scouting activities or events.” This means the experiences are held under the auspices of some level of the BSA, and that “Scouting” happens on them. For example, an individual family or a couple of Scouts and their parents heading off into the woods doesn’t count. A long-term camping experience is defined as at least five consecutive nights. One of these experiences is allowed, and up to six nights may count toward the requirement. For example, Sunday through Saturday. If a Scout goes on a 10-night trek, only six of those nights counts. If a Scout goes to summer camp twice for a total of 12 nights, only one of the summer camps will count — for up to six nights. The remainder of the camping nights must be accumulated through short-term camping — normally weekend troop campouts. The long-term camping experience must also be a “designated Scouting activity or event.” This could be at a council summer camp or on a troop’s own 50 miler, a Jamboree, high-adventure base, etc. All 20 nights must be spent under the sky or in a tent, so nights in cabins don’t count. If camping is done at a camp that provides tents that are already set up, then all is good. If tents are not already pitched, the Scout must pitch his tent. If he is sleeping in a two-man tent, then it would be reasonable the he and his buddy set the tent up together. Sleeping in a tent that Dad or the Scoutmaster, etc., pitched doesn’t count. I’ve heard feedback from parents with Scout in troops that don’t do very much camping. They can get in the long-term outing, but it takes a long time for their troop to get out on enough campouts to make up the other 14 nights. As a workaround they suggest they will send their son to summer camp, but then take him home after four nights so the experience will not count as a long-term camp. This doesn’t fulfill the requirement. The short-term campouts provide variety in both preparation and experience, and the Scouts are more likely to have to set up their own tent and take more responsibility for outdoor living skills. A long-term summer camp is still a long-term camp even if the Scout is there for only a portion of the time. It’s an entirely different adventure and usually doesn’t call for the same level of self-reliance required for a short-term camp. The biggest issue we face in these kinds of questions is people trying to read more than what is written. Hope that clears it up. Bill, Thanks to Chris for taking the time to respond. If you have a question you want me to find the answer to, e-mail me and use the words “Ask the Expert” in the subject line. Camping merit badge, requirement 9B Q: Requirement 9B states that “On any of these camping experiences, you must do TWO of the following...” Do those need to be done on the same camping trip? A: Key wording is, “on any.” This means the two activities can be done on any of the experiences you count for 9A — as opposed to on just one experience. If the requirement intended for the two activities to occur on one experience, it would be worded, “On one of these camping experiences, you must do Two of the following...” Related post Ask the Expert: Can merit badge progress begin before a Scout gets his blue card? Find the Advancement Team on Twitter Be sure you’re following them (@advbsa) for important, timely updates. Photo by Flickr user /Itus Related Get daily updates! Download the new Scouting magazine app today. Last updated July 2019 When it comes to finding a place to spend the night, Scouts have seemingly limitless options: tent, hammock, cabin, retired battleship, museum, church gymnasium, baseball stadium, sleeping bag under the stars. All of these locations offer a great experience for Scouts, but only some count as camping — at least when it comes to the Camping merit badge. Camping merit badge requirement 9a says: Camp a total of at least 20 nights at designated Scouting activities or events. One long-term camping experience of up to six consecutive nights may be applied toward this requirement. Sleep each night under the sky or in a tent you have pitched. If the camp provides a tent that has already been pitched, you need not pitch your own tent. So just what is (and what isn’t) a camping night? Let’s ask the expert. The expert’s response This comes from Michael Lovecchio of the BSA’s program team. The intent of the requirement is to camp overnight in a tent or under the stars,” Lovecchio says. “This means sleeping overnight in building/structure does not meet the intent of the requirement.” Still unclear? Here’s more: “Camp a total of at least 20 nights ...” This means 20 overnights, so a weekend trip from Friday through Sunday is two nights. Complete 10 such trips, and you’ve got the 20 you need. All campouts since becoming a Scout may count toward this requirement. In other words, Scouts don’t need a blue card for the Camping merit badge before they may begin counting these nights. Any nights as a Scouts BSA member are eligible. “... at designated Scouting activities or events.” This means the experiences are held under the auspices of some level of the BSA, and that “Scouting” happens on them. For example, an individual family or a couple of Scouts and their parents heading off into the woods doesn’t count. “One long-term camping experience of up to six consecutive nights may be applied toward this requirement.” A long-term camping experience is at least five consecutive nights. The long-term camping experience must also be a “designated Scouting activity or event.” This could be at a council summer camp, a troop’s own 50 miler, a Jamboree, high-adventure base, etc. Only one of these experiences is allowed, and up to six nights may count toward the requirement. Example: A trip that lasts Sunday through Saturday counts as six nights. If a Scout goes on a 10-night trek or a 20-night trek or a 100-night trek (!), only six of those nights will count. If a Scout goes to summer camp twice for a total of 12 nights, only one of the summer camps will count — for up to six nights. The remainder of the camping nights must be accumulated through short-term camping — normally weekend troop campouts. Example 1: A Scout goes to summer camp for six nights. That Scout can count all of those nights and now needs 14 more nights. These 14 nights must come from short-term camping experiences — probably seven two-night weekend campouts. Example 3: A Scout can’t make it to summer camp or a high-adventure base. Over the course of three years, the Scout attends 10 two-night troop campouts, sleeping in a tent each time. After the 20th night, that Scout has completed the requirement. “Sleep each night under the sky or in a tent, you have pitched.” All 20 nights must be spent under the sky or in a tent, so nights in cabins don’t count. If camping is done at a camp that provides tents that are already set up, then all is good. If tents are not already pitched, the Scout must pitch the tent. If the Scout is sleeping in a two-man tent, then it would be reasonable that two Scouts would set the tent up together. Sleeping in a tent that a parent or leader pitched doesn’t count. A final thought Some parents have Scouts in troops that don’t do very much camping. They can get in the long-term outing, but it takes a long time for their troop to get out on enough campouts to make up the other 14 nights. As a workaround, they suggest they will send their Scout to summer camp but then take the Scout home after four nights so the experience will not count as a long-term camp. This doesn’t fulfill the requirement. Short-term campouts provide variety in both preparation and experience, and the Scouts are more likely to have to set up their own tent and take more responsibility for outdoor living skills. A long-term summer camp is still a long-term camp even if the Scout is there for only a portion of the time. It’s an entirely different adventure and usually doesn’t call for the same level of self-reliance required for a short-term camp. Related The requirements to this merit badge are copyrighted by the Boy Scouts of America. They are reproduced in part here under fair use as a resource for Scouts and Scouters to use in the earning and teaching of merit badges. The requirements published by the Boy Scouts of America should always be used over the list here. If in doubt about the accuracy of a requirement, consult your Merit Badge Counselor. Reading this page does not satisfy any requirement for any merit badge. Per National regulations, the only person who may sign off on requirements is a Merit Badge Counselor, duly registered and authorized by the local Council. To obtain a list of registered Merit Badge Counselors, or to begin a Merit Badge, please contact your Scoutmaster or Council Service Center. Requirement 1[edit | edit source] Do the following: A. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in camping activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards. B. Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses that could occur while camping, including hypothermia, frostbite, heat reactions, dehydration, altitude sickness, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, blisters, and hyperventilation. First-Aid Preparedness The information covered by the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Scout first-aid requirements can help you deal with injuries or illnesses that may arise while you are camping. The current edition of the Boy Scout Handbook includes descriptions of the symptoms and treatment of hypothermia, heatstroke heat exhaustion, frostbite, dehydration, sunburn insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, and blisters. Review those pages to refresh your awareness and ability to help prevent these situations from occurring. Know the symptoms and be ready to make an appropriate response if you encounter them in a fellow hiker or someone else you meet along the way. Altitude Sickness Camping may take you to high places where altitude sickness (also known as AMS, or Acute Mountain Sickness) can be a concern. Fortunately, altitude sickness is seldom a problem for people at elevations of less than 8,000 feet above sea level. Going to a place that is higher than you are accustomed may leave you short of breath because the atmosphere around you becomes thinner and contains less oxygen. Within a few days, your body will acclimate to higher altitudes by producing extra red blood cells to carry more oxygen to your tissues and organs, and you should feel fine. Taking steps to help prevent altitude sickness is far better than suffering from it during a hike. The following suggestions can make your “high” adventure more comfortable and more fun, too. -Drink plenty of fluids. As a rule, take in enough water so that your urine remains clear rather than dark yellow. -Ascend gradually. Permit your body to acclimate gradually as you go higher. Spend a few days at 5,000 to 7,000 feet and then a few more at 8,000 to 10,000 feet. -“Climb high, sleep low.” Use this standard practice of mountaineers. While adjusting to thinner air, after hiking upward during the day, descend to a lower camp for a good night’s rest. - It is also more difficult to boil the higher you go so if you don’t need to go up higher , cook low it saves gas. WARNING SIGNS Watch for any of all of these symptoms of altitude sickness: - Headache - Nausea - Unusual tiredness - Loss of motivation - Dizziness These symptoms can also be warning signs of hypothermia, a far more common first-aid emergency among hikers. Begin treatment for hypothermia by making sure that the person is warm, is wearing dry clothing, is sheltered from the wind and chilly or wet weather, and has had enough to eat and drink. If the person does not rapidly improve and the elevation is above 8,000 feet, treat for altitude sickness as well. TREATMENT FOR ALTITUDE SICKNESS Descend, descend, descend! Going down a few thousand feet in elevation will almost always relieve the symptoms of altitude sickness. Rest, fluids, and food may also help. If symptoms persist or worsen, seek medical assistance. Requirement 2[edit | edit source] Learn the Leave No Trace principles 1) Plan ahead 2) Travel and camp on durable surfaces 3) Dispose of waste properly 4) Leave what you find for other people 5) Minimize campfire impacts 6) Respect wildlife 7) Be considerate to other visitors Outdoor Code and explain what they mean. Write a personal plan for implementing these principles on your next outing. Requirement 3[edit | edit source] Make a written plan for an overnight trek and show how to get to your camping spot using a topographical map and compass OR a topographical map and a GPS receiver. If no GPS receiver unit is available, explain how to use one to get to your camping spot. Requirement 4[edit | edit source] Do the following: A. Make a duty roster showing how your patrol is organized for an actual overnight campout. List assignments for each member. B. Help a Scout patrol or a Webelos Scout unit in your area prepare for an actual campout, including creating the duty roster, menu planning, equipment needs, general planning, and setting up camp. Requirement 5[edit | edit source] Do the following: A. Prepare a list of clothing you would need for overnight campouts in both warm and cold weather. Explain the term “layering.” B. Discuss footwear for different kinds of weather and how the right footwear is important for protecting your feet. C. Explain the proper care and storage of camping equipment (clothing, footwear, bedding). D. List the outdoor essentials necessary for any campout, and explain why each item is needed. E. Present yourself to your Scoutmaster with your pack for inspection. Be correctly clothed and equipped for an overnight campout. Requirement 6[edit | edit source] Do the following: A. Describe the features of four types of tents, when and where they could be used, and how to care for tents. Working with another Scout, pitch a tent. B. Discuss the importance of camp sanitation and tell why water treatment is essential. Then demonstrate two ways to treat water. C. Describe the factors to be considered in deciding where to pitch your tent. D. Tell the difference between internal- and external-frame packs. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each. E. Discuss the types of sleeping bags and what kind would be suitable for different conditions. Explain the proper care of your sleeping bag and how to keep it dry. Make a comfortable ground bed. Requirement 7[edit | edit source] Prepare for an overnight campout with your patrol by doing the following: A. Make a checklist of personal and patrol gear that will be needed. B. Pack your own gear and your share of the patrol equipment and food for proper carrying. Show that your pack is right for quickly getting what is needed first, and that it has been assembled properly for comfort, weight, balance, size, and neatness. Requirement 8[edit | edit source] Do the following: A. Explain the safety procedures for: 1. Using a propane or butane/propane stove 2. Using a liquid fuel stove 3. Proper storage of extra fuel B. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different types of lightweight cooking stoves. C. Prepare a camp menu. Explain how the menu would differ from a menu for a backpacking or float trip. Give recipes and make a food list for your patrol. Plan two breakfasts, three lunches, and two suppers. Discuss how to protect your food against bad weather, animals, and contamination. D. Cook at least one breakfast, one lunch, and one dinner for your patrol from the meals you have planned for requirement 8c. At least one of those meals must be a trail meal requiring the use of a lightweight stove. Requirement 9[edit | edit source] Show experience in camping by doing the following: A. Camp a total of at least 20 days and 20 nights.* Sleep each night under the sky or in a tent you have pitched. The 20 days and 20 nights must be at a designated Scouting activity or event. You may use a week of long-term camp toward this requirement. If the camp provides a tent that has already been pitched, you need not pitch your own tent. *All campouts since becoming a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout may count toward this requirement. B. On any of these camping experiences, you must do TWO of the following, only with proper preparation and under qualified supervision: 1. Hike up a mountain, gaining at least 1,000 vertical feet. 2. Backpack, snowshoe, or cross-country ski for at least 4 miles. 3. Take a bike trip of at least 15 miles or at least four hours. 4. Take a non-motorized trip on the water of at least four hours or 5 miles. 5. Plan and carry out an overnight snow camping experience. 6. Rappel down a rappel route of 30 feet or more. C. Perform a conservation project approved by the landowner or land managing agency. Requirement 10[edit | edit source] Discuss how the things you did to earn this badge have taught you about personal health and safety, survival, public health, conservation, and good citizenship. In your discussion, tell how Scout spirit and the Scout Oath and Law apply to camping and outdoor ethics. External Links[edit | edit source] Camping Merit Badge with Workbook PDF, current requirements, and resources for the Camping Merit Badge.

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