



Citizenship in the World

Scouts BSA · Citizenship · Eagle-required

Name

Started

Completed

You're part of a world full of countries that trade, travel, and solve problems together. This badge helps you understand how nations work together and how you can be a good neighbor to people everywhere. You'll learn about governments, diplomacy, and other cultures.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-the-world/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

- ☐ 1 Tell your counselor what world citizenship means to you and what qualities you believe make someone a good world citizen

Tip: Think about how things you use every day connect to other countries, like food, clothes, and phones.

Example: World citizenship might mean caring about clean oceans because fish don't stop at borders, learning a few words of a classmate's family language, or supporting disaster relief after an earthquake overseas. Explain what it means to you with one personal example.

- ☐ 2 Explain how a person becomes a U.S. citizen and the rights, duties, and obligations that come with it; compare them with those of citizens in two other countries

Tip: Look up the steps to become a U.S. citizen. If you know someone who became a citizen, ask about their experience.

Example: Outline the path to naturalization: becoming a lawful permanent resident, living in the U.S. for a set number of years, then passing an English and civics test and taking the Oath of Allegiance. Then list duties like obeying laws, paying taxes, and serving on a jury.

3 World events and national interest

Tips for this section: Follow a world news story for a week. Pick a country and learn how it gets along with the United States.

Example for this section: Follow a world event, like a drought causing food shortages in one region, for a week. Explain what's happening, which countries are involved, and how one of those countries gets along with the United States through trade, aid, or disagreements.

- ☐ **3a** Choose a current world event and talk with your counselor about how a nation's interests and its ties with other countries could affect its security, economy, values, and its people's health

- ☐ **3b** Choose a foreign country and talk with your counselor about how its geography, natural resources, and climate shape its economy and its partnerships with other nations

4 International law, trade, and organizations: Choose 2 of 3

Tips for this section: Pick the topics that interest you most and learn one or two key facts about each.

- ☐ **4a** Explain international law, how it differs from national law, and how it can be used to help settle conflicts

- ☐ **4b** With a parent's or guardian's permission, use newspapers, news magazines, and the internet to follow a current issue about tariffs, free trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, and international trade; explain what you learned and why nations must cooperate for world trade and competition to thrive

4c World organizations: Choose 2 of 9

- ☐ **4c1** Describe the role the United Nations and UNICEF (the UN's children's fund) play in the world

- ☐ **4c2** Describe the role the International Court of Justice (the World Court) plays in the world

- ☐ **4c3** Describe the role Interpol (the International Criminal Police Organization) plays in the world

- ☐ **4c4** Describe the role the World Organization of the Scout Movement plays in the world

- ☐ **4c5** Describe the role the World Health Organization (WHO) plays in the world

- ☐ **4c6** Describe the role Amnesty International plays in the world

- ☐ **4c7** Describe the role the IFRC, the worldwide network of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, plays in the world

- ☐ **4c8** Describe the role CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere) plays in the world

- ☐ **4c9** Describe the role the European Union plays in the world

5 Governments of the world

Tips for this section: Make a simple chart of government types and color in a world map to show examples.

Example for this section: Make a chart of government types with examples: a constitutional republic (the United States), a parliamentary democracy (Canada), a constitutional monarchy (Japan), an absolute monarchy (Saudi Arabia), and a one-party state (China). Color them on a world map and explain who holds power in each.

- ☐ **5a** Discuss how constitutional and nonconstitutional governments differ

- ☐ **5b** Name at least five kinds of government in power around the world today

- ☐ **5c** On a world map, point out countries that use each of those five forms of government

6 Representing a country abroad

Tips for this section: Look up how passports and visas work. Ask someone who has traveled abroad about their experience.

Example for this section: Explain what an ambassador and embassy staff do, like protecting citizens abroad and negotiating agreements. Then compare a passport, which proves who you are and your citizenship, with a visa, which is another country's permission to enter.

- ☐ **6a** Explain how a country is represented in other nations and how the U.S. government is accredited to international organizations

- ☐ **6b** Describe what each of these does in foreign relations: an ambassador, a consul, the Bureau of Global Public Affairs, and the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service

- ☐ **6c** Explain why passports and visas are needed for travel between countries

7 Connecting with other countries: Choose 2 of 5

Tips for this section: Try a pen pal, an international scouting event, or a cultural festival near you.

Example for this section: Two activities could be taking part in Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree on the Internet with your troop and adult leaders, and visiting a cultural festival to try food and learn customs from another country.

- ☐ **7a** With a parent's or guardian's permission, explore the U.S. State Department website, learn more about an issue there that interests you, and share it with your counselor

- ☐ **7b** With permission, check an international news or foreign government website, or a foreign newspaper from a library, bookstore, or newsstand; find a story about a human right Americans have that another country doesn't recognize, and share it with your counselor

- ☐ **7c** With permission, talk with a Scout or student from another country about the values, holidays, foods, and traditions of their homeland, and share what you learned with your counselor

- ☐ **7d** With permission, attend or take part in a WOSM event such as World Scout Moot, a World Scout Jamboree, JOTA/JOTI, or World Scout Congress (a national or regional jamboree run by a WOSM member organization also counts), and share what you learned with your counselor

- ☐ **7e** With permission, attend or join in an international event near you, such as a cultural festival, concert, or play, and share what you learned with your counselor