



**Council Advancement Committee (CAC) Construct and
Summit/Quarter Master/Nova/Super Nova and Merit Badge
Advisor/Mentor/Counselor Policy (CAC Policy)**

Reference: [Guide to Advancement \(GTA\)](#), which remains the primary resource for Boy Scouts of America advancement - specifically **3.0.0.1 Council Advancement Committee Responsibilities**.

The *Council Advancement Committee Construct (Construct)* and the *Summit/Quarter Master/Nova/Super Nova and Merit Badge Advisor/Mentor/Counselor Policy* are individually defined below and collectively referred to as the “**CAC Policy**”.

The CAC encourages and promotes advancement of all youth through all ranks across all programs (Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouting, Exploring) and all awards and acknowledgements. The CAC also encourages adult leaders to participate in advancement by registering as a Summit, Quarter Master, Nova/Super Nova advisor, mentor or counselor, or Merit Badge counselor (collectively referred to herein as Counselors). Counselors offer their time, knowledge, and other resources, and are key players in youth advancement whatever their area of expertise or interest. Youth are encouraged to broaden their horizons by earning advancement through a variety of Counselors. Having a large diverse group of Counselors plays a vital role in stirring youth curiosity and enabling a richer youth program and advancement experience.

Construct

1. The CAC is comprised of voting and non-voting members (Construct), and standing or temporary (ad hoc) subcommittees as established by the Chair.
2. The Construct of the CAC shall be comprised of –
 - a. (1) Council Staff Advisor (non-voting member)
 - b. (1) Council Advancement Chair (Chair)
 - c. (4) District Advancement Chairs
 - d. (4) Council STEM, Sea Scout, Venturing and Exploring Committee Chairs
 - i. Committee Chairs are as designated by the Chair and Council Field Director
 - e. (1) Member Emeritus
 - i. As designated by the Chair
 - f. (1) Member-at-Large
 - i. As designated by the Council Staff Advisor
3. The Council Advancement Chair designates a Co-Chair from the voting members of the CAC to facilitate the management and administration of the CAC should the Chair become unavailable or as the Chair may delegate from time to time.
4. Standing subcommittees of the CAC are chaired by the Council representative and comprised of the respective District Chairs of each of the following, or as enumerated below –
 - a. District Advancement (Packs and Troops)
 - b. STEM
 - c. Sea Scout
 - d. Venturing
 - e. Exploring
 - f. Administrative (Chair, Co-Chair, Staff Advisor, Member-at-Large)
5. Temporary (ad hoc) subcommittees of the CAC are established by the Chair as deemed necessary.

Summit/Quarter Master/Nova/Super Nova and Merit Badge Advisor/Mentor/Counselor Policy

In compliance with the GTA - specifically **7.0.1.0 About Merit Badge Counselors 7.0.1.1 Qualifications of Counselors, 7.0.1.4 Counselor Approvals and Limitations and 7.0.1.5 Registration and Reregistration** – and to encourage adult leader participation and development of a large diverse group of Counselors, the CAC establishes the following parameters for Counselors, notwithstanding any requirement of the GTA –

1. The intent is not to limit or discourage adult leader interest, involvement or enthusiasm but to reinforce youth access to a diverse program.
2. Merit Badge - The CAC retains responsibility to review and approve all Counselor applications. Effective May 1, 2020, in the interest of process efficiency, as not to distract the overall mission of the CAC to promote youth advancement and to promote a robust advancement program:
 - a. The CAC delegates the review and approval of Merit Badge Counselors (MBC) to the Council Merit Badge Counselor Reviewer (MBC Reviewer) and adopts the MBC Reviewer as the Member-at-Large.
 - b. Counselors shall be limited to registration for 30 merit badges (Counselors registered for more than 30 merit badges prior to May 1, 2020 shall be permitted to retain registration in current merit badges, but may not register for additional merit badges beyond those already held until the total number of merit badges in registration drops below 30).
3. Summit/Quarter Master/Nova/Super Nova – The CAC retains responsibility to review and approve all Counselor applications. Effective May 1, 2020, in the interest of process efficiency, as not to distract the overall mission of the CAC to promote youth advancement and to promote a robust advancement program:
 - a. The CAC delegates the review and recommendation of Counselors to the respective standing subcommittee.
 - b. Counselors shall be approved by the administrative subcommittee with all due consideration of the recommendation provided by the respective subcommittee, applicable profession and/or education, overall availability and level of engagement of the Counselor.