

Truck Transportation

Merit Badge Workbook

Merit badges are earned by doing: reading the pamphlet, practicing the skills, and showing your counselor what you have learned.
This workbook gives you a place to organize your notes and track your progress along the way.
Merit badge counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbook.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
Use the space under each requirement to note what you have done and what you want to talk about, not to write out full answers.
When a requirement says discuss, show, tell, explain, or demonstrate, that is what you must do.
No one may add to or subtract from the official requirements found on scouting.org (Guide to Advancement 7.0.4.8).
Scouting America last updated this badge's requirements page on December 31, 2025.
Requirements change from time to time. Double-check scouting.org before you start.

Scout's name: _____ Unit: _____ Date started: _____

Counselor's name: _____ Phone no.: _____ Email: _____

Links marked "Scouting America resources" are the ones Scouting America shares on its official badge page.
This workbook is unofficial and not endorsed by Scouting America.

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1. List the major truck lines serving your town.

Scouting America resources: Search Trucking Companies - Find Carriers By City And State (website)

Major truck lines serving my town

Truck line	Notes

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. Do the following:

(a) Describe the role of truck transportation within commerce (the movement of goods, funds, and information).

Scouting America resources: 10 Advantages of Road Transport (video)

The role of trucks in commerce

What moves	How trucks play a part
Goods	
Funds	
Information	

(b) Describe how trucks fit into a company's supply chain. This could be a manufacturer, importer, wholesaler, or retailer.

Scouting America resources: Transportation & Logistics Industry Overview - Introduction (video)
How Does Trucking Fit Into the Supply Chain? (video)
The Vital Role of Trucks in Transporting Goods: A Comprehensive Overview (website)

The company I picked

How trucks fit into its supply chain (manufacturer, importer, wholesaler, or retailer)

(c) On paper, map out how goods that are manufactured overseas are transported to a retailer in this country.

Scouting America resources: Global Supply Chain Management Explained: Key Players, Risks & Incoterms (video)

My map: from the overseas factory to a store in this country (draw here or attach)

Requirement 2 completed on counselor initials

3. Describe the difference between the gasoline engine and the diesel engine that power trucks. List the advantages of each.

Scouting America resources: Diesel vs. Gasoline Engines: Key Differences Explained (video)

How a gasoline engine and a diesel engine differ

Advantages of each

Gasoline engine advantages	Diesel engine advantages

Requirement 3 completed on counselor initials

4. Visit a truck terminal and complete items 4(a) through 4(e). After your visit, share what you have learned with your counselor.

Truck terminal I visited _____ Date _____

(a) Find out what kind of maintenance program the company follows to help keep its fleet, drivers, and the roadway safe.

Scouting America resources: How To Properly Maintain Fleets? (video)
How Trucking Companies Manage Fleet Maintenance Effectively | Part 1 (video)
How Trucking Companies Manage Fleet Maintenance Effectively | Part 2 (video)

The company's maintenance program

(b) Find out how dispatchers maintain communication with drivers on the road.

Scouting America resources: Communication with Dispatch (video)

How dispatchers stay in touch with drivers

(c) Talk with a professional truck driver about safety. Learn about the truck driver's rules of the road for safe driving. List five safe-driving rules every professional truck driver must follow.

Scouting America resources: Top 6 Safety Tips for Truck Drivers (video)
Essential Safety Tips, Every Female Trucker Needs to Stay Safe (video)

Driver I talked with _____ Date _____

Five safe-driving rules

	Safe-driving rule
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

(d) Review the driver's log and find out what kind of information the log contains.

Scouting America resources: How to Fill Out a Logbook for CDL Drivers (website)

What information the driver's log contains

(e) Learn about important federal regulations that help ensure public safety.

Scouting America resources: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) - Regulations Overview (website)
Federal Safety Regulations Limit a Long-Haul Truck Driver's Time on the Road (video)
Federal Regulations Every Truck Driver Should Know! (video)

Federal regulations I learned about

Regulation	How it helps keep the public safe

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

5. Do the following:

(a) Outline the general organization of a trucking company. Describe what each department does.

My outline of a trucking company (a chart is fine, draw here or attach)

Departments

Department	What it does

(b) List five positions with trucking companies and describe each one.

Scouting America resources: 14 Jobs in the Trucking Industry Other Than Driving (website)

Five positions with trucking companies

	Position	What this person does
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Requirement 5 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

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6. Name five government agencies that work closely with the trucking industry. Describe their role.

Scouting America resources: Trucking Industry (website)

Five government agencies

	Agency	Its role with the trucking industry
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Requirement 6 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

7. List five different kinds of trucks. Tell the service each provides.

Scouting America resources: Different Types of Trucks and Their Uses (video)

Five kinds of trucks

	Kind of truck	The service it provides
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Requirement 7 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

8. Assume that you are going to ship by truck 500 pounds of goods (freight class 65) from your town to another town 500 miles away. Your shipment must arrive within three days. Explain in writing:

(a) How to prepare the shipment

Scouting America resources: How to Prepare Freight for Shipping to Avoid Damages (video)
How To Ship A Pallet: Preparing A Palletized LTL Freight Shipment Warehousing Tutorial (video)
How to Package Freight for Shipping (video)

How I would prepare the shipment

(b) How to compare at least three carriers for time in transit and rates

Scouting America resources: Mastering Load Board Bookings: A Step-by-Step Guide to Efficient Load Booking (video)
Truck Dispatcher and Broker Call Simulation - Negotiation Scenario #1 (video)

How I would compare carriers

Comparing carriers

Carrier	Time in transit	Rate

(c) How to choose which carrier to use

How I would choose which carrier to use

(d) How to insure the shipment for damages

Scouting America resources: Understanding Freight Shipping Insurance: A Comprehensive Guide (website)

How I would insure the shipment for damages

Requirement 8 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

9. Explain the following terms: bill of lading, ETA, logbook, intermodal, containers, tariff, shippers, carrier, consignee, drayage, and cartage.

Scouting America resources: Decoding Freight Abbreviations, Acronyms and Initialisms (video)
What's That? Bill of Lading (BOL) (video) · What's That? Intermodal & Multimodal (video) · What's That? Container vs. Trailer (video)

Trucking terms

Term	What it means
bill of lading	
ETA	
logbook	
intermodal	
containers	
tariff	
shippers	
carrier	
consignee	
drayage	
cartage	

Requirement 9 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

10. Explore careers related to this merit badge. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. Your research methods may include—with your parent or guardian's permission—an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work. Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.

Scouting America resources: What Career Opportunities are in Trucking? A LOT! (video)
What Life Is Like for a Trucker on the Road | NewsNation (video)
How to Become a Truck Dispatcher in 5 Steps? - Beginner Training (video) · Logistics Coordinator Job Description (video)
5 Must Have Skills to earn $10,000 a month as a Truck Dispatcher (video)

Career I researched _____ How I researched it _____

What I found out

Topic	What I found
Training and education needed	
Costs	
Job prospects	
Salary	
Job duties	
Career advancement	

What might make this an interesting career

Requirement 10 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

Counselor sign-off

Your counselor signs your blue card or approves the badge in Scoutbook, and your unit records it. This line is for your own records.

Counselor's signature _____ Date completed _____

Official Scouting America resources

Scouting America resources: Truck Transportation merit badge page (requirements and resources)
Truck Transportation merit badge pamphlet (free PDF) · All merit badges



Made by Cole at ScoutSmarts.com, an Eagle Scout who loves helping Scouts.
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