



Citizenship: What Every Scout Must Know

All Scouts participating in classes for

First Class requirement # 9a

Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge and

Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge and

Citizenship in the World Merit Badge

must review this document before class and must Be Prepared to discuss this information during class.

First Class requirement # 9a

Visit and discuss with a selected individual approved by your leader (for example, an elected official, judge, attorney, civil servant, principal, or teacher) the constitutional rights and obligations of a U.S. citizen. Visit may take place virtually or by phone.

Citizenship in the Community requirement # 1

Discuss with your counselor what citizenship in the community means and what it takes to be a good citizen in your community. Discuss the rights, duties, and obligations of citizenship, and explain how you can demonstrate good citizenship in your community, Scouting unit, place of worship, or school.

Citizenship in the Nation requirement # 4 b

Discuss the importance of:

b. The Bill of Rights (the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution) and the 14th Amendment

Citizenship in the World requirement # 1

Explain what citizenship in the world means to you and what you think it takes to be a good world citizen.

Citizenship in the World requirement # 2

Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship. Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.

Scouts should view all of these videos before class:

Personal rights of citizenship | High school civics | Khan Academy 04:58
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AG6SiMEK1tk>

Political rights of citizenship | High school civics | Khan Academy 03:41
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCP23_xNf1A

Economic rights of citizenship | High school civics | Khan Academy 04:28
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_XrGo15iBc&t=11s

Responsibilities of citizenship | High school civics | Khan Academy 02:31
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tms0TgD_97g

Obligations of citizenship | High school civics | Khan Academy 04:10
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjPE5JTGjXE>

Citizenship in the World requirement # 1

Explain what citizenship in the world means to you and what you think it takes to be a good world citizen.

Citizenship in the World requirement # 2

Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship. Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/citizen>

Citizen

1: an inhabitant of a city or town, especially one entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman.

2a : a member of a state.

2b : a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection from it.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/immigrant>

Immigrant

one that immigrates: such as a person who comes to a country to take up permanent residence.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/emigrant>

Emigrant

a person who leaves their own country in order to settle permanently in another.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/emigrant>

immigrant or emigrant?

Both of these words come from the Latin migrare (“to move from one place to another”), and both have definitions in English that hew closely to their etymological roots, but there is a definite difference between how you would use each one. Emigrant is used in

reference to the country that has been left (“an emigrant from Canada”), while immigrant is used in reference to the country that one is destined for (“an immigrant to Spain”).

Citizenship in the world means

a member of the human race working together to ensure the rights of every human, maintaining freedoms, privileges, human dignity.

A good world citizen does his or her duty to help other affected by poverty, war, disease, dirty water, trafficking, slavery, conflict, natural disasters, discrimination.

Why is this important?

World peace, trade, aid

How can you be a good citizen of the world at home? in your troop? at your summer camp?

2. Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship. Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship>

To be a US citizen, you or one parent must be born in the US or on US soil, such as territories of Puerto Rico, the Marianas (Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands), and the U.S. Virgin Islands or in US airspace or in US waters.

To be a naturalized US citizen, you must

legally enter the US,

live in the US for 5 years or marry a US citizen and live in the US for 3 years,

be 18 years old or older,

be able to read, write, speak basic English,

show good moral character,

swear oath of citizenship.

<https://www.uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/become-a-us-citizen-through-naturalization>

Rights of US citizens from Bill of Rights:

Rights

Freedom to express yourself.

Freedom to worship as you wish.

Right to a prompt, fair trial by jury.

Right to vote in elections for public officials.

Right to apply for federal employment requiring U.S. citizenship.

Right to run for elected office.

Freedom to pursue “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

Responsibilities

Support and defend the Constitution.

Stay informed of the issues affecting your community.

Participate in the democratic process.

Respect and obey federal, state, and local laws.

Respect the rights, beliefs, and opinions of others.

Participate in your local community.

Pay income and other taxes honestly, and on time, to federal, state, and local authorities.

Serve on a jury when called upon.

Defend the country if the need should arise.

<https://my.uscis.gov/citizenship/information>

Bill of Rights

First Amendment: Freedom of religion, freedom of speech and the press, the right to assemble, the right to petition the government.

Second Amendment: The right to form a militia and to keep and bear arms.

Third Amendment: The right not to have soldiers in one's home.

Fourth Amendment: Protection against unreasonable search and seizure.

Fifth Amendment: No one can be tried for a serious crime unless indicted (accused) by a grand jury. No one can be forced to testify against herself or himself. No one can be punished without due process of law. People must be paid for property taken for public use.

Sixth Amendment: People have a right to a speedy trial, to legal counsel, and to confront their accusers.

Seventh Amendment: People have the right to a jury trial in civil suits exceeding \$20.

Eighth Amendment: Protection against excessive bail (money to release a person from jail), stiff fines, and cruel and unusual punishment.

Ninth Amendment: Because there are so many basic human rights, not all of them could be listed in the Constitution. This amendment means that the rights that are enumerated cannot infringe upon rights that are not listed in the Constitution.

Tenth Amendment: Powers not given to the federal government by the Constitution belong to the states or the people.

Other Important Amendments

Thirteenth Amendment (1865): Slavery shall not be allowed in the U.S.

Nineteenth Amendment (1920): Women have the right to vote.

Twenty-sixth Amendment (1971): U.S. citizens who are 18 years of age or older have the right to vote. (Previously, they had to be 21 years old.)

Your Rights as a Child

In 1989, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child because “the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care” and because “in all countries of the world, there are children living in exceptionally difficult conditions.” Following are highlights of the 41 articles of rights.

Every child has a right to life.

Every child has a right to a name at birth and a nationality.

Every child has the right to live with his or her parents unless it is against the child's best interests.

Special protection shall be given to refugee children.

Every child has the right to the highest standard of health and medical care possible.

The child has a right to education. The state is to ensure that primary education is free and compulsory.

No child shall be subjected to torture, cruel treatment, unlawful arrest, or deprivation of liberty.

Children under 15 shall not be recruited into the armed forces.

<https://www.factmonster.com/us/laws-and-rights/know-your-rights>

obey the law

pay taxes

jury duty

attend school

sign up for Selective Service System at age 18 (military draft, for men, last draft 1973)

<https://www.sss.gov/>

respect diversity, even those you do not agree with

uphold human rights

Be well informed, use Internet, reach out to local, state, federal reps, know what is going on in your community, nation, world, then act and help, vote, know and exercise rights

Cuba

communist government, socialism

rights:

free health care, free education

freedom of speech and press if it keeps to socialist objectives

no private businesses or industries or property except for small farmers

state controls economic life of the nation

right to file complaints

duties:

obey the law and Constitution

mandatory military service

work and carry out job tasks, rest only after 8 hours

obligations:

defend the socialist homeland

caring for public and social property
respect rights of others
observe standards of socialist living
volunteer work to benefit all society

Federal Republic of Germany

A **federal republic** is a [federation](#) of [states](#) with a [republican](#) form of government.^[1] At its core, the literal meaning of the word republic when used to reference a form of government means: "a country that is governed by elected representatives and by an elected leader (such as a president) rather than by a king or queen".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_republic

democratic and social federal state

rights:

vote

free college after 9 months of service

freedom of speech

freedom to object to compulsory military service, with alternative of civilian service in a civil protection organization

[Conscription (military draft) ended in 2011.]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conscription_in_Germany

duties:

pay taxes

military or hospital service

obey German and European Union laws

obligations:

vote

obey laws

learn about German government and European Union