

MERIT BADGE SERIES



TRUCK TRANSPORTATION



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

STEM-Based

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"Enhancing our youths' competitive edge through merit badges"



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Requirements

1. List the major truck lines serving your town.
2. Do the following:
 - a. Describe the role of truck transportation within commerce (the movement of goods, funds, and information).
 - b. Describe how trucks fit into a company's supply chain. This could be a manufacturer, importer, wholesaler, or retailer.
 - c. On paper, map out how goods that are manufactured overseas are transported to a retailer in this country.
3. Describe the difference between the gasoline engine and the diesel engine that power trucks. List the advantages of each.
4. Visit a truck terminal and complete items 4a through 4e. After your visit, share what you have learned with your counselor.
 - a. Find out what kind of maintenance program the company follows to help keep its fleet, drivers, and the roadway safe.
 - b. Find out how dispatchers maintain communication with drivers on the road.
 - 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.

- d. Review the driver's log and find out what kind of information the log contains.
 - e. Learn about important federal regulations that help ensure public safety.
5. Do the following:
 - a. Outline the general organization of a trucking company. Describe what each department does.
 - b. List five positions with trucking companies and describe each one.
 6. Name five government agencies that work closely with the trucking industry. Describe their role.
 7. List five different kinds of trucks. Tell the service each provides.
 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
 - b. How to compare at least three carriers for time in transit and rates
 - c. How to choose which carrier to use
 - d. How to insure the shipment for damages
 9. Define the following terms: bill of lading, ETA, logbook, intermodal, containers, tariff, shippers, carrier, consignee, drayage, cartage.
 10. Learn about opportunities in the field of truck transportation. Choose one career in which you are interested and discuss with your counselor the major responsibilities of that position and the qualifications, education, and training such a position requires.

Truck Transportation Resources

Scouting Literature

Boy Scout Journal; American Business, Auto Mechanics, Aviation, Engineering, Railroading, and Traffic Safety merit badge pamphlets

Visit the Boy Scouts of America's official retail website at <http://www.scoutstuff.org> for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

Books

Byrnes, Mike, & Associates. *Bumper to Bumper: The Complete Guide to Tractor-Trailer Operations*. Mike Byrnes & Associates Inc., 2012.

Ouellet, Lawrence J. *Pedal to the Metal: The Work Life of Truckers*. Temple University Press, 1994.

Professional Truck Driver Institute. *Trucking: Tractor-Trailer Driver Handbook/Workbook*. Thomson Delmar Learning, 2006.

Scharnberg, Ken. *Opportunities in Trucking Careers*. McGraw-Hill, 1999.

Woltman, Jeffrey J., and Sheena P. Woltman. *Trucking Simplified: Tools and Strategies for Running a Successful Trucking Operation*. Boogaloo Press, 2000.

Organizations and Websites

American Trucking Associations

950 N. Glebe Road, Suite 210
Arlington, VA 22203-4181
Telephone: 703-838-1700
Website: <http://www.truckline.com>

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590
Toll-free telephone: 800-832-5660
Website: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov>

National Transportation Library

1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590
Toll-free telephone: 800-853-1351
Website: <http://ntl.bts.gov>

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590
Telephone: 202-366-4000
Website: <http://www.dot.gov>