

Youth Aviation Adventure / Aviation Merit Badge

Frequently Asked Questions (and stuff you need to know)

- You do NOT need to be a scout to attend the program. You must be age 12 to 17 to attend. Members of a Boy Scout Troop, even if not yet 12, can attend also. If you are over the age of 17, contact Ron Lime (rlime@columbus.rr.com) about a Venture program.
- Arrive on time, you need to allow time to check in. A Scout arrives in plenty of time. The program lasts from 9:00 AM until 2:30 PM. You must attend the entire time (You cannot leave for a soccer game for part of the program) to complete the program and receive your blue card. Units will check in as a complete group, don't leave your troop waiting.
- Scouts should bring a sack lunch and a drink, a 1/2 hour break will be provided.
- Previous events have had free airplane rides (provided by EAA) at the same location. This is NOT the case for this event (9/25/10). Information about any possible airplane rides from Young Eagles can be found at their website <http://www.eaa9.org>. Airplane rides are always dependent on many factors including weather and volunteer pilots and are never guaranteed. EAA is a different organization and has different rules for their program.
- Each troop needs to designate a single UNIT COORDINATOR to register ALL scouts from their unit. (**THIS IS A NEW REQUIREMENT EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2010** to help streamline registration). That person must attend the program and will be the only person that registration information, blue cards and patches will be distributed to. The UNIT COORDINATOR will go to the registration table to pay and collect your ID cards. Boy and Girl Scout troops must check in as a single group. Troops should decide in advance who will perform this task. That person should register via Double Knot for the entire unit. NOTE: Double Knot will allow you to modify your initial registration if necessary to add or delete youth attendees. At the end of the program the blue cards and patches will be released only to the UNIT COORDINATOR.
- The UNIT COORDINATOR will be sent a 40 question pre-test in addition to background information. The purpose of the test is to ensure that all Boy Scouts have at least reviewed the merit badge book and have common baseline knowledge to participate in the stations. This information in addition to the Aviation Merit Badge Pamphlet should be reviewed IN ADVANCE. **The GRADED pretest must be presented at registration to complete the program and receive a blue card. No test = No Blue card = No Exceptions. If you forget the test, still attend the program. You will be invited back to complete the requirements and receive your blue card.**
- The UNIT COORDINATOR will be sent the answer key to grade the tests.
- Each boy must present proof of Scoutmaster's approval to take the merit badge. This is a BSA advancement policy. Normally the Scoutmaster does this by issuing and signing a blue card. Blue cards for this event are computer printed. Therefore, a form for the Scoutmaster to authorize participation is provided on the cover sheet of the test.
- Blue cards are computer printed. You do NOT need to bring a blue card.
- Just attending the program is not enough to earn the merit badge. Each scout must demonstrate knowledge and active participation at each station. The instructors are authorized to withhold blue cards and require a scout to return at a later date to complete the requirements.
- Parents are not required to stay, but are very welcome. Anybody that stays must pay the registration fee.
- Girl Scouts pay the Heart of Ohio council for their registrations. All others (including Boy Scouts registered via their Double-Knot system) pay at the door. DO NOT PAY THE SIMON KENTON COUNCIL, YOU WILL GET TO PAY AGAIN IF YOU DO.

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- Airplanes are very expensive and donated by companies and volunteers for your learning experience. You will be told when it is OK to touch an airplane, otherwise it is NOT OK. You are reflecting on your troop when you disobey this simple rule. Boy Scouts that violate this rule will result in THEIR ENTIRE TROOP'S PARTICIPANTS forfeiting their blue cards for the day and returning at a future date to complete the requirements.

Q&A

Q. Can Cub Scouts participate?

A. No, Cub Scouts do not meet the programs minimum age. The learning tasks are geared for 12-18 year old youth.

Q. Do parents have to pay?

A. Only if they stay (They will learn stuff also!).

Q. Should I wear my uniform?

A. Yes.

Q. What if the weather is bad?

A. Be Prepared, the program will still be held. Much of the program is held inside but parts are outside so bring appropriate gear.

Q. My friend did not sign up in advance, can he attend?

A. It depends. Sometimes we can accommodate walk-ins, sometimes not. In any event, Boy Scouts cannot complete the requirements and receive a blue card if this is done. They will be invited to finish up the requirements at a later date with a merit badge counselor.

DAY OF PROGRAM - DON'T FORGET

- Be there at 8:30 to register
- \$5 per person
- One leader registers for your whole troop/group
- Scoutmaster signed and graded test (Boy Scouts Only)
- Snack and drink