



Additional Fees - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why are we paying additional fees for Scouting?

The additional revenue is necessary for the continuation of the programs, camps, and events that the Council provides. It also pays for rising insurance premiums and other essentials for offering the many experiences that our Scouts enjoy and benefit from.

2. Why doesn't the Friends of Scouting fund-raising program cover these expenses?

Voluntary donations have not kept pace with the rising cost of our program. Less than 30% of Scouting families donate through Friends of Scouting and participation continues to decline. The COVID-19 epidemic has presented additional significant challenges to traditional fundraising.

3. When will the new fees be put in place?

August 1, 2020 for new members. In the fall of 2020, during recharter for renewing members.

4. How much are the fees?

For Cub Scouts the total fees, including national fees, will be \$132. For Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts the total fees will be \$250. For registered adults the total fees will be \$84. Exploring fees for youth and adults will be \$42. Boys Life Magazine is \$12.

5. Will we continue to pay fees to the national organization?

Yes - the national fees of \$66 for all Scouts and \$42 for registered adults and Exploring members are included in the total fees listed above.

6. When will we pay these fees?

The national and Council membership and program fees will be due at recharter. The additional Good Turn Assessment (\$118 for Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts) will be due May 31, 2021. The additional Good Turn Assessment can also be paid prior to May 31, 2021. There is a unit incentive of two free camp nights if the Good Turn Assessment is paid in full by Jan. 31.

7. How were the Council Program Fee and Good Turn Assessment amounts determined?

The dollars that will be raised by the Program Fees and Good Turn Assessment will help the Council deliver its mission and meet the rising costs of delivering a quality program. The Good Turn Assessment for Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts, recognizes their higher utilization of facilities and programs.

8. What additional programs and services will be enabled by these fees?

More reliable funding enables the Council to create new programs and expand existing ones. Maintenance and upgrades to camp facilities will be funded through some of the fees. Staff and volunteer time that has been spent on fundraising will be redirected to working with units on recruitments, events, and programming support.

9. Will we still be asked to contribute to Friends of Scouting?

The traditional Family FOS Campaign (unit presentations) will be discontinued. However, families and individuals will be given opportunities to contribute to Scouting online or through mailings, special events, and fundraising campaigns.

10. What if my family cannot afford to pay the additional fees?

The Trail's End Popcorn fundraising program is the perfect opportunity to help a Scout pay his/her own way by making 25-35 popcorn sales. Most units also have financial assistance programs for their members. However, no Scout will be denied membership in the program due to financial hardship. Scholarship application forms will be made available to those that need assistance. Scouts who participate in the popcorn sale will be given first priority for assistance.

