



Frequently Asked Questions

Our main responsibility at the Council level is to ensure a sound operation, first class camping facilities, and administrative support/services that strengthens our units and fosters a quality Scouting experience for our youth, volunteers and units. These objectives are accomplished through prudent fiscal stewardship.

Recognizing trends, our Executive Board instituted a Program Fee of \$48 to help offset the cost of providing these services to a growing twelve-county service area.

We are a grateful for the generous support we receive from you in our efforts to deliver the promise of Scouting to the communities we serve. The Occoneechee Council is committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting.

The following provides answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the Council Program Fee:

1. What is the purpose of the Council's Program Fee and when did it take effect?

The purpose of the Program Fee is to ensure our ability to continue to provide high quality Scouting and maintain fiscal sustainability. This measure became necessary because of the underperforming annual Family Friends of Scouting campaigns we were experiencing.

2. How will this fee be used locally?

The \$48.00 Program Fee will supplement our existing revenue streams in support of all our Council services, programs and properties.

3. I have a child in multiple units within the Occoneechee Council, will I have to pay the Program Fee for each unit my child participates within?

No. The Program Fee is paid only once per year regardless of the number of units a child is registered in.

4. When did this fee change from an individual fee to a unit fee?

The Program Fee is a per youth fee that we are asking our units to collect and submit by August 1, 2020. Going forward, the Program Fee will be a part of the charter renewal process.



5. If this Program Fee presents a hardship for some of my unit's families is there any support to help them out?

Yes. The Executive Board does not intend to have the Program Fee become an undue financial hardship on any specific family. The Program Fee will be waived for families based on an application for assistance due to financial hardship. Copies of this application are available through the Executive Staff and Commissioner teams. Additionally, we will include the form in each Unit's charter renewal package; each Unit Leader will be responsible for collecting and submitting applications from families at the time of charter renewal.

6. What if there is a discrepancy between what the invoice reflects as our youth total and our records?

Please contact the Council Service Center (Tiffany Edmiston, our Registrar) at 919.872.4884 to reconcile the difference.

7. We renewed our charter with several Arrow of Light members who bridged over into a neighboring Troop, is our Pack or the Troop they joined responsible for the Program Fee?

If the child's family submitted the fee to the Pack this winter along with the other cost associated with renewing the membership (e.g. national registration fee and insurance), then the Pack is responsible for submitting the Program Fee to the Council Service Center for processing. Going forward (beginning with 2021's charter renewal), all fees associated with charter renewal (National Registration Fee, Boys' Life, Insurance, and the Council Program Fee) will be collected when the unit renews its charter in January or February.

8. Is this Program Fee in addition to the increases recently announced by the National Organization of the Boy Scouts of America?

Yes. Our Council Program Fee of \$48 was adopted in the Fall of 2019 by our Executive Board. National's decision to increase its registration fees from \$60 to \$66 dollars because of increasing costs to operate the National organization is separate from our need to collect the Program Fee.