

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE OPTION

Frequently Asked Questions – Leader Edition (Updated 2/17/2022)

Q: What is included in the membership package?

A: Regardless of your method of fee payment (Upfront or Monthly Subscription), youth member fees include the following:

- National BSA membership fees (including the \$25 national joining fee)
- Mid-America Council program support fee (future years, no charge the year they join)
- *Scout Life* monthly magazine subscription
- Scout Handbook (one time upon joining. Future handbooks are not included)
- [Jubilee \(Oct 7 - 9\)](#) (Must register separately – new Scouts can register anytime and will always receive the early bird pricing. There will be a discount code included in new member packets with this information. New Scouts will also receive a gift for attending.
- A \$10.00 credit to the Unit Deposit Account at the Mid-America Council (one time)

Q: Does my Unit have to promote the Membership Package?

A: No. Your unit may continue to register new members using paper applications and the normal due collection process. They can also register on www.beascout.org.

Q: How does a family enroll with the Membership Package?

A: For **new** families, their choice for an upfront payment or monthly subscription will take place at the time the Scout enrolls in Scouting. Online enrollment can be completed by visiting www.scoutingevent.com/326-signup4scouting. A payment form can also be found on that site if using paper applications.

For **current** Scouts, enrollment in the Membership Subscription can be completed by visiting: www.scoutingevent.com/326-CurrentScouts. This site will be reset in the fall for the next recharter year. There will be a \$1 charge per family to enroll with the monthly payments starting in December.

Q: Is there a deadline by which families must enroll in the Membership Subscription?

A: No but families are encouraged to enroll by November to allow the unit to make preparations for recharter.

Q: Who will my unit submit fees for during the Charter Renewal process?

A: Your unit will be responsible for submitting the membership fees for all non-subscription youth members and all adult leaders, as well as the \$75.00 Unit Liability Insurance Fee. The unit will not submit fees for Membership Subscription members.

Q: How will participants in the Membership Subscription be tracked? How will this roster be communicated to my unit to calculate our final payment for charter renewal?

A: The Mid-America Council will maintain a record of families enrolled in the Membership Subscription. A roster of subscribed families will be sent to the Unit Leader and Committee Chairperson of each unit in October and November, to allow time for units to prepare their final payment for charter renewal. Unit may request a list at anytime by contacting scouter services at mac@scouting.org.

Q: Can my unit add monthly dues to the amount charged to a family? If so, how do we add this charge and what happens to those funds when they are collected?

A: Yes, your unit can add monthly dues to the amount charged. A registered leader in the unit must e-mail the amount to be charged to mac@scouting.org. Once collected, monthly dues will be credited to the Unit Deposit Account (UDA) kept at the Mid-America Council.

At this time, we highly recommend that units do not charge more than \$7.00 per month (\$84.00 in a calendar year) in unit dues.

Q: Will the base monthly charge ever change?

A: Each year (in December) the base monthly charge could increase slightly. This would mainly occur if there were a change in the national membership fees. Any changes will always be announced a couple of months ahead of time.

Q: Is the Membership Subscription available for adult members?

A: At this time, the Membership Subscription is only available to youth members.

Q: How does a family unsubscribe from Scouting if using a Membership Subscription?

A: A family can unsubscribe from Scouting by sending an e-mail to mac@scouting.org. A 30-day written notice must be provided to unsubscribe.

Q: If a family unsubscribes from Scouting, will our unit receive notice? Does the family immediately drop off the roster, or will they remain on the roster until charter renewal?

A: The Mid-America Council will send notice of an unsubscribed family within three (3) business days of receiving written notice from the family. The unsubscribed Scout will remain on the unit's roster until the Scout is officially dropped from the unit's membership roster during the charter renewal process.

Q: If a family's payment method becomes invalid, will our unit receive notice? Is the unit responsible for correcting the family's payment information, or will the council take on the responsibility of updating this information?

A: The Mid-America Council will send notice of an invalid payment method to the family and the unit within three (3) business days. The family will have 30 days to provide updated payment information by calling the Mid-America Council at (402) 431-9272. After 30 days, the family will be treated as an unsubscribed Scout. The unsubscribed Scout will remain on the unit's roster until the Scout is officially dropped from the unit's membership roster during the charter renewal process.

Q: If a family unsubscribes from Scouting, will the unit owe any funds or be otherwise penalized for the dropped subscription?

A: No, your unit will not be penalized.

Q: If a family signs up for Scouting using the Membership Subscription model but then wants to renew their membership for the following year using the normal recharter process, how do they go about making this change?

A: A family or unit can change their payment preferences by calling the Mid-America Council at (402) 431-9272 or by sending an e-mail to mac@scouting.org. The monthly charges will continue through December 31 of that year, when the existing charter expires.

Q: Does the unit collect the fees for families participating in the Membership Subscription?

A: No, the unit does not collect the fees. The family will set up recurring payments with the Mid-America Council. The unit dues collected in the subscription, if any, will be deposited into the Unit Deposit Account (UDA) at the Mid-America Council.

Q: What payment methods are accepted for the Membership Subscription?

A: The Mid-America Council will accept recurring credit card and debit card payments and checking account withdrawal authorization.

Q: How does my unit access the monthly dues collected in our Unit Deposit Account (UDA)?

A: Your unit can use these fees for Scout Shop purchases and event registrations at either our Omaha or Sioux City offices. You can also request a check by submitting a written request to mac@scouting.org. The request must be made by an authorized user of the Unit Deposit Account and approved by at least one other authorized user of the account.

Q: Can a Scouting unit enroll in the Membership Subscription for its charter renewal?

A: No, a unit may not enroll in the Membership Subscription at this time.

Q: What if I have additional questions about the Membership Subscription?

A: Please contact the Mid-America Council at (402) 431-9272 or mac@scouting.org.