



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®

MID-AMERICA COUNCIL

TROOP RESOURCE

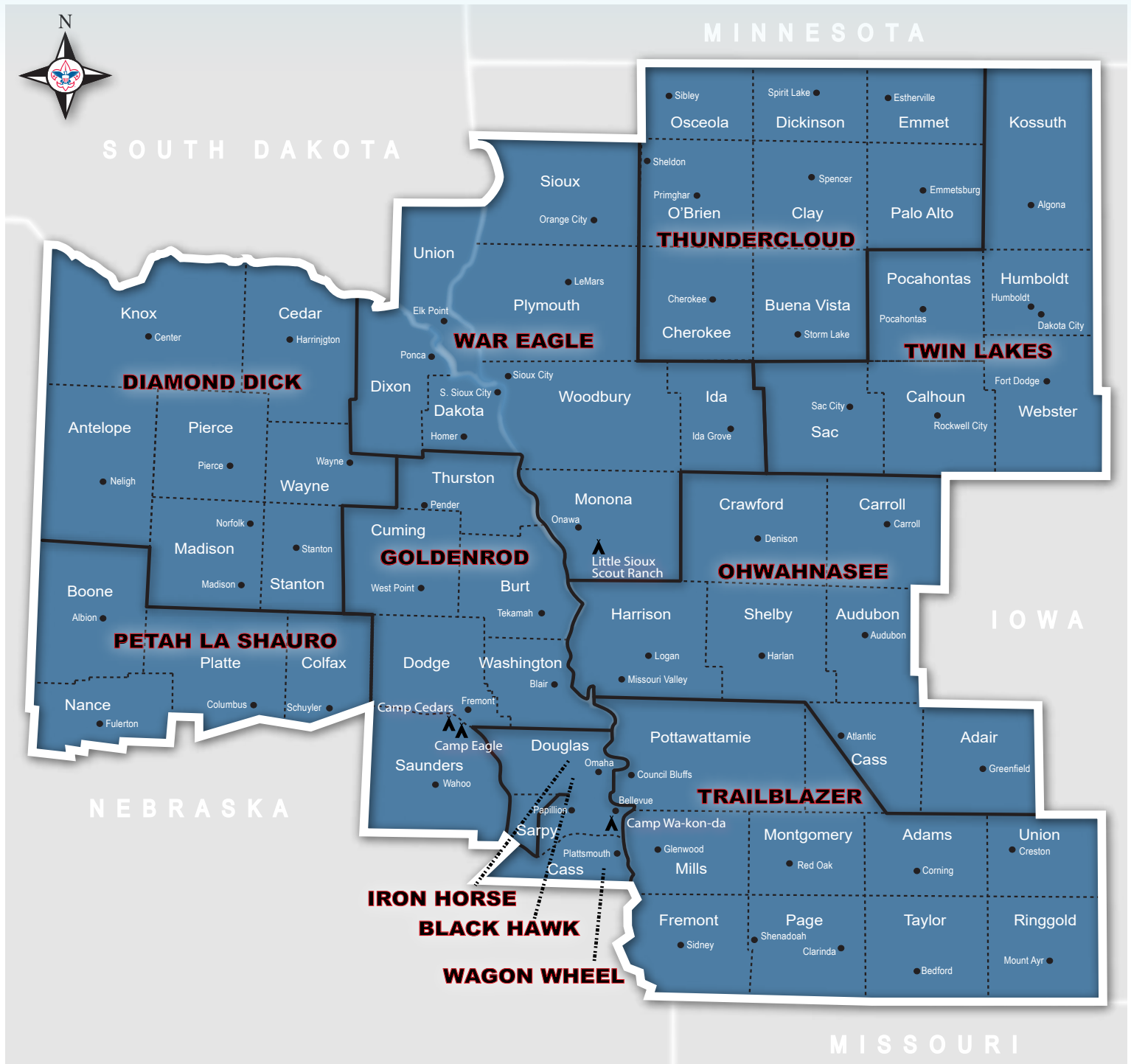
IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING

2022-2023



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MID-AMERICA COUNCIL

MID-AMERICA COUNCIL SERVICE AREA



This guide, and addition Ideal Year of Scouting Resource can be found online at www.mac-bsa.org/Scouting-tools/IYOS

Dear Unit Leader,

As we are sure is true for you, 2021 was a year filled with many challenges again. Now, well into the 2022 calendar year, we know we will continue to navigate through additional charges related to the national organization restructuring and the global pandemic. Scouting continues to remain visible in the communities and we are thankful for units adapting to safe protocols to keep our youth active.

Our camps, activities, advancements, sales of popcorn and camp cards all had good participation. We have seen a growth in service projects and Scouts identifying needs in their communities and taking action. While a bit smaller in membership, Scouting remains strong in the Mid-America Council. Our current families are engaged and active members. We are hopeful that 2022 bring a significant positive impact on thousands of families across the 58 counties we serve. YOU make Scouting possible in each community we serve. Thank you for helping transform today's youth into tomorrow's leaders. Part of making units attractive to families is having a plan for the year, with a clear budget for financial expectations. These items help eliminate stress on the unit leadership, as well as, the parents. We know this guide will help you prepare for a strong year of Scouting.

Thank you for your participation in this process and for your continued support of Scouting here in the Mid-America Council!

Yours in Scouting,

Chris, Steve & John



Chris Mehaffey
Scout Executive



Steve Seline
Council Chairman



John Shores
Council Commissioner

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ABOUT THE MID-AMERICA COUNCIL

Vision Statement

Unparalleled experiences create value, enthusiasm, robust growth and retention of program participants.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Mid-America Council, Boy Scouts of America to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Mid-America Council Beliefs

We believe Scouting...

- Makes families stronger; families make Scouting stronger.
- Provides youth a variety of experiences to learn through success and failure.
- Inspires youth to live the core values of Scouting so they are able to serve as active and engaged leaders of the community.
- Creates an environment that helps instill values that inspire servant leadership.
- Creates values-based courageous leaders who have a life-long connection.
- Is a pacesetter for youth serving organizations.

Mid-America Council Parameters

- We will always seek to work within the framework of the national organization.
- We will always deliver programs that inspire and grow all youth.
- We will always strive to act in the best interests of Scouting.
- We will always have outdoor activities be a part of our overall program.
- We will always seek to keep Scouting accessible and affordable.
- We will always accept and consider feedback.
- We will always be good stewards of our assets.
- We will always conduct ourselves with integrity.
- We will always operate as a volunteer-driven, professionally guided organization.
- The safety of our youth will always be paramount.



SCOUTING»»FORWARD
GROWING. MOMENTUM. TOGETHER.

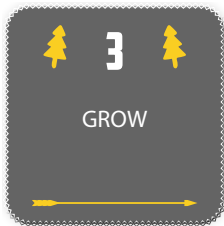
IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING STEPS



1. Plan: Work your way through this guide and map out the advancement, activities, camping and training you'll need for your Ideal Year of Scouting.



2. Fund: Determine the expenses from all the activities, advancements, camping and training your units wants to do, then decide how much fundraising your unit must do to cover those expenses.



3. Grow: When you have a good plan, communicate to your current and potential Scouts to engage more boys and girls in the Scouting program, along with their parents to help make it all happen.



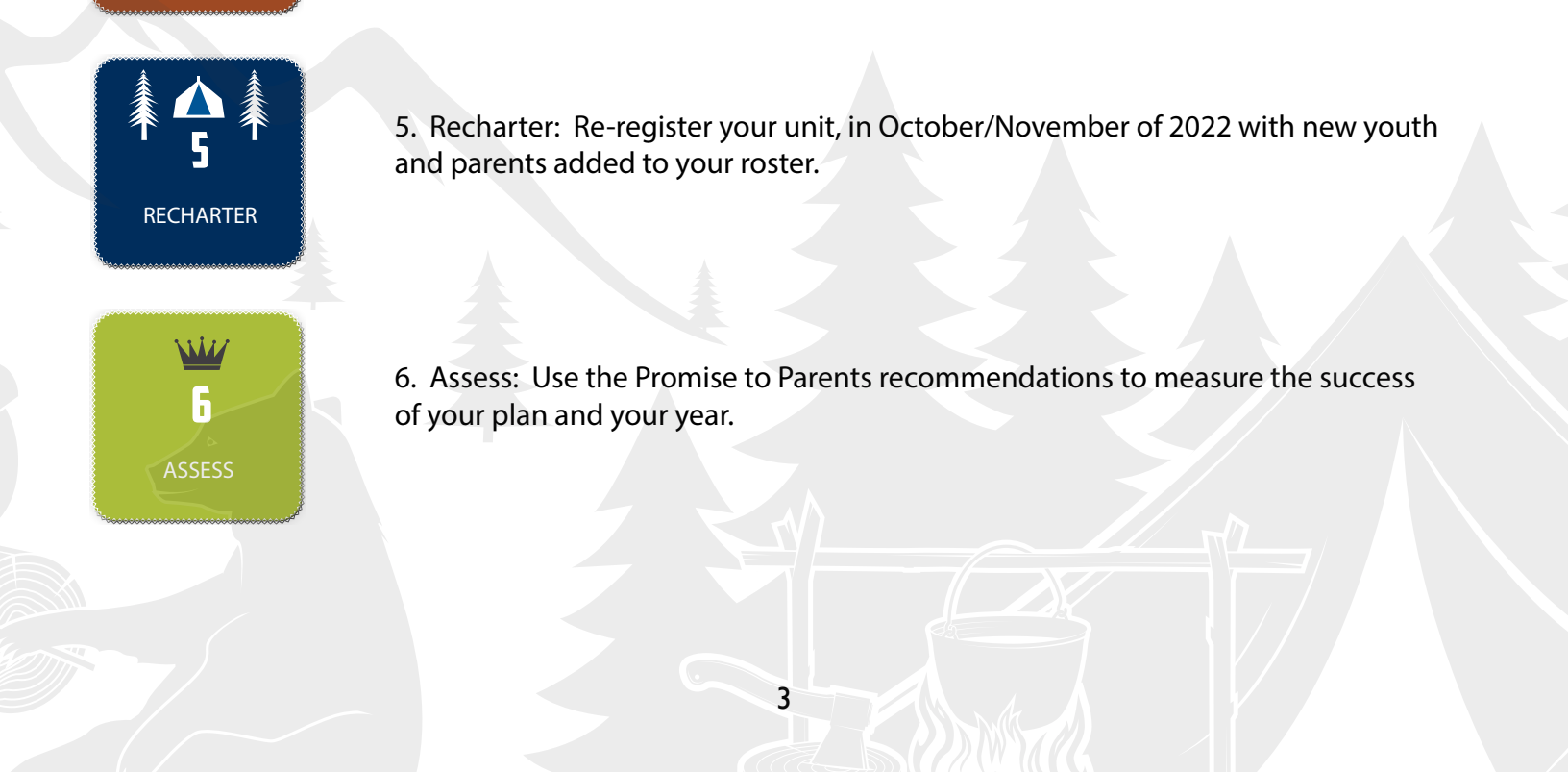
4. Train: Plan to promote trainings to your current and new leaders; every Scout deserves a trained leader.



5. Recharter: Re-register your unit, in October/November of 2022 with new youth and parents added to your roster.



6. Assess: Use the Promise to Parents recommendations to measure the success of your plan and your year.





Planning your program and a corresponding budget is the first step in the Ideal Year of Scouting process. Use this guide to plan your program and provide unparalleled experiences for your Scouts.

Promise to Parents Recommendation

- a. Use the [Troop Program Features](#) Volumes I, II and III to make planning easier
- b. Determine what advancements each scout will need for next rank
- c. Hold a [troop planning conference](#) to decide what activities the scouts will do
- d. Decide what camping opportunities to participate in and be sure to consider your District Camporees and Webelos Woods
- e. Plan at least one charter partner service project and [Scouting for Food](#)
- f. Recognize those scouts who advance with at least 3 Court of Honors each year
- g. Utilize the [Unit Program Planner](#) to create a calendar and corresponding budget

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN PLANNING:

- Key school dates, like holidays, homecoming, and exams
- Community event dates, including those the unit might want to participate in and dates you should avoid
- The chartered organization's key dates, again considering opportunities to collaborate as well as potential scheduling conflicts
- Personal dates, such as family vacations, that may affect the unit's activities
- Key district and council dates
- Data collected from the troop resource survey or activity interest survey
- Last year's annual plan, if you have one
- Troop priorities and goals
- Advancement records for each member

SCOUTS BSA IS A YOUTH LED PROGRAM

What adults do is just as important to a [youth led](#) troop as what adults don't do. Adults should help Scouts maintain focus on fulfilling the promises of Scouting and understand the limitations and definitions of the program. Through guided discover, adults should encourage cooperation and let youth leadership find their own answers. Ask questions that help them define the goal or the problem and then let them seek a plan or resolution. Don't provide answers – provide guidance. Respect the autonomy of our Scouts giving them the latitude to fail within the bounds of safety and program guidelines.

ACTION ITEM: [Submit](#) your calendar and budget by June 30

UNIT IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING SAMPLE TROOP CALENDAR

2022-2023 Troop 111

August			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
8/4	Mtg-Totin' Chip		
8/11	Fi remanship MB		
8/16	Indian Caves Campout		
8/18	Fi reman's Chit		
8/25	Fire Building		

October			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
10/6	Dutch Oven Cooking		
10/11	Eagle Campout		
10/18	Cooking Safety		
10/20	Nutrition		
10/27	Troop Cookbook		

December			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
12/1	Troop Night at the Movies		
12/8	Court of Honor		
12/22	Card & Board Games		
12/29	No Meeting		

February			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
2/2	Sports Merit Badge		
2/9	Church Service Project		
2/16	Fitness Speaker		
2/21	YMCA Campout		
2/23	Blue & Gold Support		

April			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
4/4	Hiking Basics		
4/11	Scouting For Food		
4/20	Leader Training		
4/25	Spring Camporee		
4/27	Fontenelle Forest Hike		

June			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
6/1	Public Speaking		
6/8	Summer Camp Cedars		
6/15	Not Determined		
6/22	Court of Honor		
6/29	Not Determined		

September			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
9/8	Sustainability MB		
9/15	Storm Chasers Game		
9/20	Little Sioux Campout		
9/22	Speaker NRD		
9/29	Court of Honor		
9/30	Webelos Woods		

November			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
11/3	Knots & Lashings		
11/10	Orienteering Review		
11/15	Mahoney Campout		
11/17	Camp Gadgets		
11/24	Not Determined		

January			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
1/5	Guest Speaker Police Dept		
1/12	Cold Weather Camping		
1/17	Winter Camporee		
1/19	COPE activity		
1/26	Mahoney Sledding		

March			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
3/2	Personal Budgets		
3/9	School Service Project		
3/16	New Scout Orientation		
3/21	Camp Eagle Campout		
3/23	Court of Honor		

May			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
	First Aid Skills		
5/11	Health Professional Speaker		
5/18	CPR & EpiPen Training		
5/25	PreSummer Camp review		

July			
Date	Activities	Time	Location
7/6	Water Safety		
7/13	Canoeing Basics		
7/18	Niobrara River Trip		
7/20	Troop Pool Party		
7/27	Lake Zorinski Bike Ride		

Cubmaster: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____
 Chair: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____
 New Member Coordinator: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____
 Website: _____ Facebook: _____ www.mac-bsa.org District: _____

For a fillable document, please visit www.mac-bsa.org/Scouting-tools/IYOS.

This calendar can be shared with potential new parents to showcase the amazing program you have planned!

UNIT IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING SAMPLE BUDGET PLANNER

2022-2023 Troop 111 Program Budget

District (select for dropdown)

IRON HORSE

Unit Type

TROOP

Unit #

111

Number of Youth

58

Unit Commission %

50%

ONLY ENTER DATA IN HIGHLIGHTED SPACES

1. Enter Information in the yellow highlighted portions
2. Enter your number of scouts & adults, and unit commission.

Adults 15

August			Attendance				Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate		Actual		Difference	Date	Notes
8/4	Mtg-Totin' Chip	\$0.00	38	\$ -	35	\$ -	\$ -		
8/11	Fi remanship MB	\$0.00	38	\$ -	36	\$ -	\$ -		
8/16	Indian Caves Campout	\$15.00	30	\$ 450.00	31	\$ 465.00	\$ 15.00		
8/18	Fi reman's Chit	\$0.00	38	\$ -	32	\$ -	\$ -		
8/25	Fire Building	\$0.00	38	\$ -	41	\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
Monthly Program Totals:		\$15.00	\$ 450.00		\$ 465.00		\$ 15.00		

September			Attendance				Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate		Actual		Difference	Date	Notes
9/8	Sustainability MB	\$0.00	38	\$ -	35	\$ -	\$ -		
9/15	Storm Chasers Game	\$7.00	38	\$ 266.00	35	\$ 245.00	\$ (21.00)		
9/20	Little Sioux Campout	\$15.00	38	\$ 570.00	31	\$ 465.00	\$ (105.00)		
9/22	Speaker NRD	\$0.00	38	\$ -	40	\$ -	\$ -		
9/29	Court of Honor	\$0.00	38	\$ -	54	\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
Monthly Program Totals:		\$22.00	\$ 836.00		\$ 710.00		\$ (126.00)		

October			Attendance				Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate		Actual		Difference	Date	Notes
10/6	Dutch Oven Cooking	\$0.00	38	\$ -	41	\$ -	\$ -		
10/11	Eagle Campout	\$15.00	38	\$ 570.00	25	\$ 375.00	\$ (195.00)		
10/18	Cooking Safety	\$0.00	38	\$ -	38	\$ -	\$ -		
10/20	Nutrition	\$0.00	38	\$ -	27	\$ -	\$ -		
10/27	Troop Cookbook	\$0.00	38	\$ -	45	\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
Monthly Program Totals:		\$15.00	\$ 570.00		\$ 375.00		\$ (195.00)		

November			Attendance				Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate		Actual		Difference	Date	Notes
11/3	Knots & Lashings	\$0.00	38	\$ -	37	\$ -	\$ -		
11/10	Orienteering Review	\$0.00	38	\$ -	33	\$ -	\$ -		
11/15	Mahoney Campout	\$15.00	38	\$ 570.00	41	\$ 615.00	\$ 45.00		
11/17	Camp Gadgets	\$0.00	38	\$ -	39	\$ -	\$ -		
11/24	Not Determined	\$0.00	38	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
Monthly Program Totals:		\$15.00	\$ 570.00		\$ 615.00		\$ 45.00		

December			Attendance				Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate		Actual		Difference	Date	Notes
12/1	Troop Night at the Movies	\$9.00	38	\$ 342.00	35	\$ 315.00	\$ (27.00)		
12/8	Court of Honor	\$0.00	54	\$ -	55	\$ -	\$ -		
12/22	Card & Board Games	\$0.00	38	\$ -	37	\$ -	\$ -		
12/29	No Meeting	\$0.00		\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		
Monthly Program Totals:		\$9.00	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		

***actual budget will continue through July of next year ***

Inputting information in the calendar will auto-populate your budget. Then identify the cost of each activity **per scout**. For a flat rate activity, calculate cost using the anticipated number of scouts who will attend.

UNIT IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING SAMPLE BUDGET PLANNER (CONT.)

Pay particular attention to the bottom portion of the Budget Planner.

Registration Budget (Per Registrant)			
\$75	National Youth Registration	\$60	Youth Council Program Fee
\$45	National Adult Registration	\$14	Adult Council Program Fee
		Subscribers (Qty.)	
\$12	Scouts' Life Subscriptions	48	
		\$4,176	Total Registration Fees
Unit Programming Budget (Per Youth Registrant)			
\$15	Advancements	\$12	Rank Book
		\$10	Other Expenses
\$2,730	Program Estimants		

**** Please note change of National Fees as of August 1, 2022****

BSA FEE CHART

National BSA Membership Fee Effective August 1, 2021		MAC Program Support Fee		National/MAC Annual Dues		Unit Fees	
Prorated at time of sign-up		Only charged at recharter time					
All fees go directly to National BSA		All fees stay Local					
Youth	\$72 \$75	+	\$60	=	\$132 \$135	+	
Adult Leaders	\$45	+	\$14	=	\$59	+	

You can utilize the [Fillable Unit Fee Chart](#) outlining costs for new parents. Be sure to enter your troop dues!

Current National BSA fees will auto-populate in your budget. You will need to indicate the number of Scout Life subscriptions you anticipate.

You will also estimate the cost of advancements per Scout. If you provide a Program Book, indicate that (leave as \$0 if not applicable). Costs not associated previously with an activity can be entered under other expenses (Leader Training, Neckerchiefs, Troop website renewal fees, etc.)

Funding Your Program			
Council Fundraising Opportunities			
Camp Card Sales (Unit Total)			
500	Est. Number of Cards Sold (Earn \$2.50/Card)		
Estimated Revenue	\$	1,250.00	
Popcorn Sales			
Popcorn Goal	\$	13,000	
Estimated Revenue	\$	6,500	
Unit Expense Summary			
\$4,176	Total Estimated Registration		
\$2,730	Total Estimated Unit Activity Costs & Expenses		
\$200	Other Unit Expenses (Input Total)		
\$7,106	Total Unit Estimated Expenses		
Unit Income Summary			
\$1,250	Estimated Camp Card Revenue		
\$6,500	Estimated Popcorn Revenue		
\$100	Other Unit Revenue (Input Total)		
\$7,850	Total Unit Estimated Revenue		
\$744	Budget Surplus/Deficit		

The final portion of the Budget Planner helps you identify your Camp Card and Popcorn goals. Enter the anticipated number of Camp Cards your Troop will sell as well as the overall retail goal for your troop's Popcorn Sale. You can determine the Scout goal by dividing this number with the number of Scouts in your Troop. Also be sure to enter the total amount of fees and additional fundraising money. Ideally your final Budget Surplus/Deficit will be near \$0. All money collected through fees and fundraising should go back into the program for that year.



2

FUND

Imagine kicking off your Scouting year with a 12-month program that doesn't have any out-of-pocket expense to your families! Our Council's board approved fundraisers, selling popcorn and camp cards, are great ways to fund your program.

5 STEPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL POPCORN CAMPAIGN

1. Establish an annual plan and budget using the Ideal Year of Scouting Guide and the Unit Program Planner tool.
2. Utilize the bottom portion of the budget template to identify a unit popcorn sale goal and break it down to a per-scout-goal.
3. Put together an exciting incentive program for your unit along with the prize program. For example, hold a pizza party for the highest selling patrol!
4. Conduct a FUN unit popcorn kick-off to communicate the goals to families.
5. Utilize all sales methods available to make sure your unit and Scouts hit their goals.
 - Take orders
 - Show & sell the products
 - Online sales
 - Parents selling at work help their Scouts hit their goal
 - Store front sales: look for further information on coordination through Trail's End this year

Our 2022 popcorn campaign is September 9 through October 28. Commission is as follows:

Commission Type:	Commission Percentage:
Traditional	50%
Online Direct	40%

Encourage Scouts to use the [Trail's End App](#) for easier tracking of sales, product inventory and management of Store Fronts!



Additional information, tools and resources for a successful popcorn sale can be found at <https://mac-bsa.org/scouting-tools/popcorn/>

ACTION ITEM: [Commit](#) to sell Popcorn by June 30

CAMP CARDS

Go to camp for FREE! The Mid-America Council is offering a fundraising opportunity to help pay for camp! Each unit will earn 50% commission for each card sold: \$2.50 for each card. In addition, Scouts who sell the specified amounts can attend camp for free.

Summer Camp Experience	Cost	# of Cards to Sell
Cub Family Weekend Campout <i>Multiple Sessions at Camp Cedars and Little Sioux Scout Ranch</i>	\$15.00	15
Cub Scout 1-Day Day Camp <i>Multiple Sessions in Local Communities</i>	Varies	20
Cub Scout 3-Day Day Camp <i>Multiple Sessions in Local Communities</i>	Varies	60
Cub Scout 5-Day Day Camp <i>Multiple Sessions in Local Communities</i>	Varies	80
Camp Amikaro Cub Scout Resident Camp <i>Multiple Sessions at Camp Cedars and Little Sioux Scout Ranch</i>	\$115.00	80
Camp Cedars Scouts BSA Resident Camp <i>Multiple Sessions</i>	\$315.00	180
Jubilee 2022 <i>Friday, Oct. 7th - Sunday, Oct. 9th, Mahoney State Park</i>	\$25.00	20

Note: Camp Cards sold cannot count towards more than 1 camp however multiple camps can be earned by selling the required number for each camp (ex. sell 60 for 1-Day Day Camp and Jubilee)

Create a fun and engaging Camp Card Sale with these additional incentives!

- **GRAND PRIZE:** The top-selling Scout receives a \$250 Scout Shop gift card
- **Top 3 Individual** Scout Camp Card Sellers receive
 - » Omaha Storm Chasers "VIP Package" including 2 Sleepover Packages for Scout Night and multiple opportunities of recognition throughout the game
 - » Collectible "Slushie Pass" for Summer Camp, worth 5 slushies.
- **Top Selling Unit** receives a group overnight outing at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium for up to 20 people.
- **"On My Honor" Weekly Drawings** starting in March. Complete your entry for selling 25 cards each week by that Friday at noon.

Further info on the Camp Card sale and incentives can be found at

<https://mac-bsa.org/scouting-tools/campcards/>

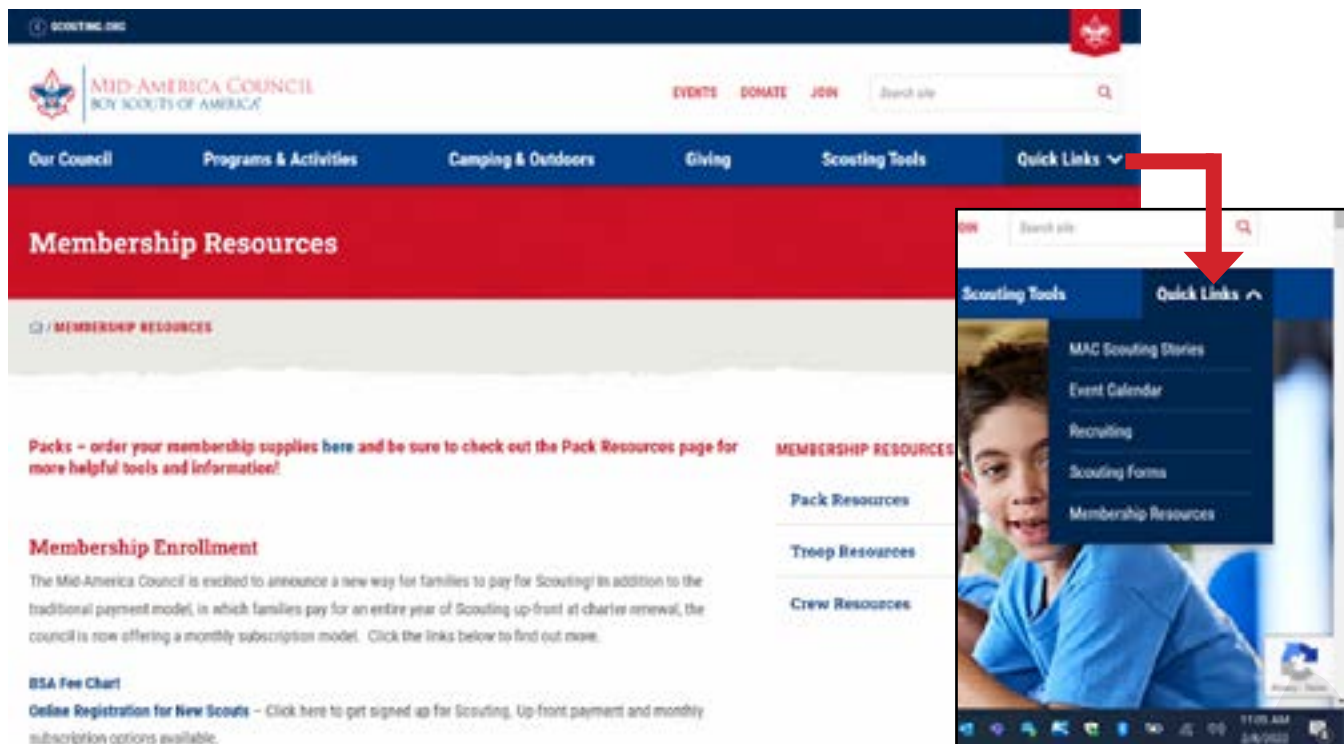
UNIT MONEY-EARNING APPLICATION

If your pack, troop or crew is interested in doing a fundraiser outside of the two board of directors approved fundraisers (popcorn and camp cards), please submit the [unit money-earning application](#) to your district executive no later than 14 days before the fundraising activity. Our Council simply needs to be made aware of additional fundraising you are doing to field any potential inquiries. No portion of the funds raised will be expected at the Council level nor will any portion of the activity be monitored or overseen. These additional fundraisers are purely the responsibility of unit leadership and must abide by BSA National Guidelines listed on the back of the application. Keep in mind, Cub Scouts should participate in no more than 2-3 fundraising events within a program year.



Growing the Scouting program is essential to our success. Communicate your calendar with current and potential new Scouts to show the fun and exciting year you have planned. Focus on a [year round recruitment](#) model for the best success!

The membership resource page on the MAC website is full of tools and resources to help grow your Troop <http://www.mac-bsa.org/membership-resources/>



CREATE A SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE ON FACEBOOK

For many families, the decision to join your troop will happen online. That's where our potential scouts and their parents spend a lot of time. More than 75% of people in the US use social media

[Creating A Facebook Page](#)

[Creating An Event](#)

Follow these DOs and DON'Ts for your Social Media Campaign:

- DO create multiple administrators and maintain 2 deep leadership online (no private messages to youth!)
- DO post consistently, ideally at least once a week but no more than twice a day
- DO encourage interactivity through photo contests, opinion polls, trivia questions, etc.
- DO consider having a dedicated volunteer to monitor your page frequently and promptly reply to any inquiries or ensure all posts conform to the Scout Oath and Law
- DON'T post last names of youth members or any identifying information such as birthdates, addresses or contact info
- DON'T create a page that sits dormant giving the idea that your Unit is not active
- DON'T forget to complete the About section with relevant info including the dates & times of your meetings and contact info for your New Member Coordinator
- DON'T allow private groups that cannot be monitored appropriately

BEST PRACTICES

Posts containing pictures or video get 39% more interaction, than simple text posts!

Utilize hash tags such as #AdventureOn, #ScoutsBSA, #BeAScout, #CubScout

Tag other Facebook Pages such as your School, PTA, your Scouting District and/or the Mid-America Council. (ex. @BSAMAC)

UNIT NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR

It is important to identify a dedicated person to spearhead your recruitment campaign. This person focuses on inviting new members to join and engaging their families so that they feel welcomed and want to stay!

Find more information on [New Member Coordinator Resources](#)

SUBSCRIPTION MODEL

Keeping Scouting affordable is a top priority. In addition to the traditional payment model where families pay for an entire year of Scouting up-front, we also offer a monthly subscription model.

[Online Registration Page for new Scouts](#)

[Online Registration for existing Scouts](#)

- There is a one time enrollment fee based on the time of year they enroll. Subsequently on the 15th of each month, their \$15 payment will be automatically collected.
- Unit's can add their Troop dues on to this automatic payment. Be sure to indicate the amount you would like added on by emailing mac@scouting.org. These additional funds will be deposited into the Unit's UDA at the office. You can set up your UDA account to withdraw these funds at anytime. Initially you will need to complete the [authorization form](#) indicating where the ACH deposit should be made. Then simply email mac@scouting.org anytime you would like a deposit to be made.
- This convenience eliminates the need for Troop Leaders to track down payment of fees for recharter.
- Families can discontinue their membership with 30 days notice by submitting an email to mac@scouting.org. Likewise, if a family earns their membership fees through the Popcorn Sale or other fundraising efforts, troop leaders can discontinue the payment plan via email.
- Troop leaders will be notified of all families opting into the subscription model. These fees will be deducted from the amount owed at recharter.
- If a credit card is declined or out of date, Council staff will attempt to rectify with the family. If unable to do so, troop leadership will be made aware their membership has ceased.

In addition, financial assistance is available for those in need. Families must submit an online application and Council Staff will work with them to identify the necessary assistance.

Troop leaders will be informed of anyone who qualifies for financial assistance.

[New Scout Financial Assistance](#)

[Current Scout Financial Assistance](#)

RECRUITMENT MATERIALS

Many marketing elements are available for your use to recruit new Scouts

- Flyers
- Parent Guides
- Brochures
- Parade Flyers
- Peer Cards
- Yard Signs
- Banners

...and more!

Keep in mind an effective recruitment campaign will incorporate multiple marketing elements to effectively communicate your message!

WEBELOS TRANSITION

A successful [Webelos transition](#) is crucial to the livelihood of the Troop. Have [Den Chiefs](#) in place at nearby Packs to establish a relationship. Host [Open House events](#) to invite both Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts to visit your Troop. Communicate regularly with Pack Leaders to ensure each Scout continues their journey at a meaningful [Crossover or Bridging Ceremony](#).

ACTION ITEM: Order your recruitment materials online at
www.tinyurl.com/MACMembershipSupplies

A large part of growing your Troop is reliant on retaining your current Scouts. Be sure to have an engaging and comprehensive program!

PATROL METHOD

The team system, or patrol method as referred to in Scouts BSA, is the basic organizational structure of the Troop. It is composed of small groups of young people supported by the adult. Each patrol, normally comprising 6 - 8 young people, operates as a team providing their own leadership. Encourage camaraderie amongst a patrol by having them select a patrol name, emblem, flag and yell.

SCOUT LEADERSHIP

To earn certain ranks such as Star, Life and Eagle, a Scout must be active in an acceptable position of responsibility. Acceptable positions include:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Patrol Leader | • Junior Assistant Scoutmaster | • Scribe |
| • Senior Patrol Leader | • Chaplain Aide | • Librarian |
| • Asst. Senior Patrol Leader | • Instructor | • Historian |
| • Troop Guide | • Webmaster | • Quartermaster |
| • Order of the Arrow Troop Representative | • Outdoor Ethics Guide | • Bugler* |
| | • Den Chief | |

**Not accepted as leadership position for Eagle Rank*

Elections should be held every 6-12 months to identify new leadership. Voting is conducted by secret ballot and all Scouts are eligible to vote.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP SKILLS

[NYLT](#) is designed to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops and elsewhere. The 6 day course centers around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what a leader must KNOW, and what a leader must DO. First Class Scouts at least 13 years old are eligible to attend with a Unit Leader recommendation. The Troop should help these scouts complete the [Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops \(ILST\)](#) prior to attending.



ADVANCEMENT

One of the core methods of Scouting is the advancement program. Scouts learn and grow in the program by setting goals and reaching them, receiving public recognition as they progress through the ranks. It is important that this recognition occur in a timely manner, ideally at quarterly Court of Honors. Troop scouts plan their own advancement and progress at their own pace as they meet each challenge.

SCOUTBOOK

[Scoutbook](#) provides access to valuable tools and resources that will help with the day-to-day management of a unit, giving every leader more of what they need most: TIME.

Meetings and activities should be entered into your Troop's calendar through Scoutbook. Automatic reminders can then be sent to your families via email or text. Recording activities through Scoutbook will help you track advancements, service hours and camping requirements.

A listing of our [Council's Merit Badge Counselors](#) can also be found through Scoutbook.

ACTION ITEM: [Record Advancements](#) in Scoutbook

SCOUTS BSA CAMPING



CAMP CEDARS

For many Scouts, [Camp Cedars](#) is the highlight of their year in Scouting. Troops camp as a unit from Sunday evening through Saturday, with a Parents Night celebration on Friday evening. Individual scouts are welcome to join as a provisional camper if they are unable to attend with their Troop. Camp provides numerous opportunities for Scouts to earn merit badges towards their advancement as well as BSA and local camp recognitions.



HIGH ADVENTURE

[National High Adventure](#) is the opportunity to take your Scouting experiences to the next, adrenaline pumping level. Each base delivers a wilderness and learning adventure that lasts a lifetime. Our Council offers [contingent Troops](#) containing scouts from various units to attend these 4 National High Adventure Bases:

- Philmont Scout Ranch
- Northern Tier
- Florida Sea Base
- Summit Bechtel Reserve



JUBILEE

[Jubilee](#) is Scouting at its best! Hosted at Mahoney State Park in October, families are welcome to camp for the entire weekend or simply join for a day of fun on Saturday. Entertainment, bands, activities, fireworks and fun for the whole family!

Jubilee 2022

Oct. 7-9

Stay up to date on news and announcements on this event through the [Jubilee Facebook Page](#).

For more info visit www.GoScoutCamping.org

HONOR CAMPING



[Order of the Arrow \(OA\)](#) - This national program recognizes Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. They are known for maintaining and promoting camping traditions and spirit as well as providing cheerful service.



[Covered Wagon Challenge \(CWC\)](#) - This honored camping program is local to Camp Cedars and program is offered each week during resident camp. The purpose is to reinforce the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, and to encourage continued participation in Scouting with special emphasis on the long-term summer camp experience

CAMP LOCATIONS

Camp Cedars, Camp Eagle, Little Sioux Scout Ranch and Camp Wa-kon-da are available for Troops to [reserve](#) for their own outdoor adventure! Descriptions of these camps, facilities and maps can be found by clicking on the appropriate property in the right scroll bar on the [Council Facilities](#) portion of the website.

CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM

Our [council campership program](#) makes summer camp available to deserving Scouts who could not otherwise afford the experience. Paying a Scout's way is a joint effort of the Troop, the Chartering Organization and the Scout's family with camperships providing up to 1/2 of the camp fees. Applications are due in April and all information obtain is kept confidential.

ACTION ITEM: Check out the [National Outdoor Awards Program](#) for any scout that excels in outdoor participation.

SERVICE PROJECTS

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

[Scouting for Food](#) is an annual council-wide service project aimed at addressing the issue of hunger in our communities. Through a partnership with United Way of the Midlands, the Food Bank of Siouxland, and the Food Bank for the Heartland, Scouts collected nearly 200,000 food items for those in need. This is the equivalent of approximately 114,000 meals.

Sticky notes will be available at your March or April roundtable. We encourage each Scout to collect at least 25 items of food.

Where do we take the food once it's collected?

Packs, troops and crews in the Omaha area can take their food to their local Hy-Vee for collection. Siouxland packs, troops and crews can take their food items to the Food Bank of Siouxland. In other areas, please check with your Scouting for Food chair for local food pantry or church partners.



EAGLE SERVICE PROJECTS

Assisting older scouts in their Eagle projects is a great way to get your Troop involved in a service project. The proposal, the logical first step, should emphasize the scout's intention to give leadership to others through proper planning and development. The [Eagle Service Project Workbook](#) will guide the Scout through the planning and execution. He or she should regularly communicate with the beneficiary often to ensure the project meets the organization's needs once it is completed.

OTHER IDEAS FOR SERVICE PROJECTS

Remember to check with your unit's chartered organization to see if they have any projects.

- Place American flags on gravesites for Memorial Day
- Assist agencies that provide food to those in need
- Participate in caroling at a nursing home
- Adopt-a-park
- Send cards to service members and spouses
- Plant trees

HOW TO LOG YOUR SERVICE HOURS

Each pack, troop and crew is encouraged to participate in service projects, with one benefiting your chartering organization.

[How to Log Your Hours](#) – NEW METHOD FOR RECORDING SERVICE HOURS!!!

[VIDEO TUTORIAL](#) – Internet Advancement Activity Logs

Tracking the progress of unit members in the following activities is made fun and simple with the Activities module in Internet Advancement



A key component to offering a great experience in Scouting is having trained leaders. How well we influence the lives of these youth depends on their leaders' understanding of the program and their responsibilities.

DIRECT CONTACT TRAINED LEADERS

SM – Scoutmaster S11, S24, Y01, SCO_800
ASM – Asst. Scoutmaster S11, S24, Y01, SCO_800

All training is found online through my.scouting.org EXCEPT Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS - S11). This course must be taken in person and is typically offered at the MAC Indoor Conference (Nov.), the MAC Outdoor Conference (May) as well as resident camp (June-July). Check the [calendar](#) on our website to find more opportunities for this training in your area.

[Trained Leader Reports](#) can be pulled from my.scouting.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Mid-America Council is committed to protecting our youth members. This required training also:

- Educates Scouting members to protect youth
- Strengthens policies to increase protection

- Encourages Scouts to report improper behavior
- Swiftly removes and reports alleged offenders

TAKE YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING ONLINE

Take YPT online at My.Scouting.org:

1. Log on or create an account at My.Scouting.org.
2. From the My.Scouting.org portal, click on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection Training.
3. Upon completion, you will be emailed a certificate of completion to submit to Troop Leadership.
4. Retake every two years.
5. Must have current YPT training to attend summer camp.

Once registered, ensure your future training is correctly linked to your account by [verifying your BSA number](#).

MANDATORY REPORT OF CHILD ABUSE

All persons involved in Scouting shall report to local authorities any good faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused, physically or emotionally neglected, exposed to any form of violence or threat, exposed to any form of sexual exploitation including the possession, manufacture or distribution of child pornography, online solicitation, enticement or showing of obscene material. No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.

Notify our Scout executive at 402.431.9272 of this report, or of any violation of BSA'S Youth Protection policies, so that he may take appropriate action for the safety of our Scouts. Also notify the following investigating agencies to report child abuse or neglect in your area:

Iowa • (800) 362-2178 • <http://www.dhs.iowa.gov/>

Nebraska • (800) 652-1999 • <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Child-Abuse.aspx>

South Dakota • (800) 422-4453 • <https://dss.sd.gov/childprotection/protective.aspx>

How often do I need to take trainings?

- Position Specific - 1 time
- IOLS - 1 time
- Youth Protection – every 2 years
(must be current at time of registration/recharter)
- Hazardous Weather – every 2 years
- National Camping School – every 5 year
- Safe Swim Defense – every 2 years
- Paddle Craft Safety – every 3 years
- Aquatics Supervision/Swimming & Water Rescue – every 3 years
- BSA Lifeguard – every 3 years
- Accreditation training – every 2 years
- Lead Climbing Instructor – every 5 years
- Climbing Instructor & COPE/Climbing Inspector – every 2 years
- Safety Afloat – every 2 years
- Chain Saw Safety – every 2 years
- Trainer's EDGE – 1 time
- Physical Wellness – every 2 years
- Climb On Safely – every 2 years
- Trek Safely - every 2 years

Youth Protection Training MUST be completed before new leader applications can be accepted.



The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) issues a charter through a local council to a Chartered Organization (the church or other organization that owns your unit). The charter is a formal agreement allowing that organization to use the Scouting program to serve youth in its community. BSA requires that the charter be renewed annually to continue using the program. We call that annual renewal “recharter”.

RECHARTERING TIMELINE



September

- Review a copy of your roster through my.scouting and audit your membership.
- Collect and submit membership applications for new youth and adult members to council office.

Make sure:

- » Birth date, social security numbers and position codes are on all adult applications
- » Updated Authorization and Disclosure Statement is signed on all adult applications
- » Birth date and parent signature is included on youth applications
- » Re-confirm all signatures are present on all applications
- » Turn in to the Mid-America Council

October Roundtable (first Tuesday or Thursday of the month)

- Pick up your re-charter information for your log-in to the online system
- Participate in your fall membership inventory. Contact your district executive to set your date.

October/November

- Go online to verify your membership roster and that new applications have been added.
- Make sure all positions are updated.
- Update charter organization information on printed paper version of charter.
- Set up a meeting with your charter partner to review charter/roster and obtain all signatures or explain the process of signing electronically.

November Roundtable

- Turn in your charter to your unit commissioner, district commissioner or district executive
- All charters should be turned in at your November roundtable (first Tuesday or Thursday of the month)

SPECIAL NOTES:

- Required positions needed for recharter include: Charter Organization Representative, Committee Chair, 2 Members of Committee, and Scoutmaster.
- Executive Officers and Charter Representatives are the ONLY individuals that can hold multiple positions. They may also serve as Committee Chairs or Committee Members.
- Female Troops must have at least one registered female leader at all activities and events.

Once your charter has processed in mid-February, plan a presentation for your Chartering Organization. Print your Charter Certificate to give to your organization and present an update on the amazing things your Troop has done throughout the year! This is a great way to strengthen the relationship with your Chartering Organization and further your partnership.

ACTION ITEM: Turn completed applications into the office or your District Executive as soon as you receive them.



Scouting needs your unit to fulfill “Our Promise to Parents”. The Boy Scouts of America has a commitment to providing safe unparalleled experiences. Your Troop can pledge to uphold these standards by striving for the following.

OUR PROMISE TO PARENTS IN A TROOP

- Use the Ideal Year of Scouting (IYOS) program plan and submit troop calendar and budget to the district executive by June 30.
- Recruit new youth into the troop to grow the membership. Including a Webelos-to-Scout recruitment plan.
- 60% of Scouts BSA will advance one rank during the scouting year.
- 100% direct contact leaders trained.
- Participate in weekend camping and/or Scout BSA resident camp with a goal of 60% of your scouts attending.
- Participate in Scouting for Food and a service project for your troop’s charter partner, middle school or feeder pack(s) elementary school(s).
- Recharter submitted by November Roundtable with all errors corrected and payment made by December 1. Charter is submitted with at least 75% of your scouts retained.
- Each unit submits two adults annually to serve one-year terms as unit commissioners for cub scout packs who feed into the troop.

Gold 7/8

Silver 6/8

Bronze 5/8

Promise to Parents runs annually from August 1 through July 31. Keep this in mind as you receive quarterly updates throughout the year at Roundtables. Some categories may not reflect progress until the end of the program year.

You can always manually adjust this data if it is inaccurate through the [Promise to Parents self reporting tool](#).

Use this information to congratulate your leaders on what you have done well and identify what you may want to focus on in the upcoming year.

**ACTION ITEM: Share your Promise to Parents reports
with your Leadership Team**



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®
MID-AMERICA COUNCIL



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12401 W Maple Rd. • Omaha, NE 68164

Sioux City Office
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