



Cost of BSA Registration for Scouts and Scouters in 2020-21

The BSA, to ensure that they have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting, has updated (increased) the national membership (registration) fee for the 2020-21 Scouting program year. The new registration fees are as follows for 2021:

- \$66 for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts participants
- \$42 for Exploring participants
- \$42 for all Scouters (adult volunteer leaders), which includes the background check fee
- \$75 for a unit Charter fee (effective August 1, 2020 for all new and rechartering units)

Starting August 1, 2020, there will also be a one-time \$25 joining (New Scout) fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts. However, there is no joining fee for Exploring participants, returning participants previously registered in any BSA program, those transferring from one program to another, or current adult volunteer leaders.

2021 fee example: A new (not previously registered) Cub Scout joins a Cub Scout pack in September 2020. During the online registration process, his or her parents will pay a prorated Registration Fee for 2020 (\$5.50 per month/\$22), and a New Scout fee (\$25). Their Registration Fee for 2021 will be \$66, which will likely be collected by the pack prior to Recharter.

These registration fees are not part of the Scouting unit's operational budget – these fees go to BSA National, and it is important that this distinction is made and understood. Packs, troops, and crews likely have their own dues or operating expenses that they expect to receive from their Scouting families. The packs should also provide a means of fundraising (Trail's End popcorn, Christmas wreaths, mulch sales) to help their families defray the cost of Scouting.

American Legion Posts and Sons of the American Legion Squadrons typically cover the annual Charter fee cost (\$75 in 2021) on behalf of their Scouting units.