Scouting America

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local Council Scout Executives and Select Committees
FROM: Scouting America, National Key 3
DATE: October 29, 2026
RE: Member and Unit Charter Fees Effective January 1, 2027

Dear Scout Executives,

Thank you for all you do to bring the life-changing benefits of Scouting to young people and families in your communities. Today, we want to share an important update: **effective January 1, 2027, Scouting America will adjust national membership and unit charter fees.**

This is not a decision we have made lightly. We understand that any fee increase affects families, volunteers, and local councils, and we recognize that many households continue to face financial pressures. We also know that you will be the ones responding to questions in your communities, which is why we want to provide you with clear information and context about this change.

Like families and organizations across the country, Scouting America has experienced significant increases in operating costs. National fees have remained unchanged for more than three years. At the same time, a smaller membership base means those essential costs are shared across fewer participants.

To continue delivering a safe, high-quality Scouting program and the support services councils, volunteers, and families rely on, this adjustment has become necessary. While fee increases are never welcome, this step helps ensure the long-term strength and sustainability of Scouting for current and future generations.

New fee structure

The following fee increases take effect on January 1, 2027:

Registration type	Monthly	Annualized
Youth (Scouts BSA, Cub Scouts, Venturing)	**$8**	**$96**
Exploring Youth	**$5**	**$60**
Scoutreach Youth	**$3**	**$36**
Adults (all programs)	**$6**	**$72**
Unit Charter Fee (all programs)	**$10**	**$120**

We encourage you to share this information with your units and families as soon as possible, especially as we approach the year-end renewal season. Members whose registrations expire on or before December 31, 2026, can renew before year-end to lock in current rates. Because the historical lapse period also ends on December 31, 2026, renewing by then keeps members from dropping their membership. Presenting fees as a simple monthly amount can help families

see the value they receive for the cost of a single cup of coffee or a streaming subscription each month.

We also know that some families will need financial support. As always, we know councils will continue to connect families with the resources available locally, so that cost is never the reason a young person misses out on Scouting.

While fee adjustments are never easy, we also have good news to share. **Scouting is experiencing strong membership growth and recruitment momentum across the country this fall.** More families are choosing Scouting because they see the positive impact it has on their children and communities. That success is a direct reflection of your leadership and the dedication of hundreds of thousands of volunteers who make the Scouting experience possible every day.

Our programs are among the most powerful tools communities have to help young people grow. Scouting helps parents prepare their children for life by building character, confidence, leadership, and resilience. It strengthens the neighborhoods and towns where Scouts live, serve, and lead. And every day, in units across the country, Scouting changes lives.

That mission is worth investing in, and we are committed to ensuring that every dollar entrusted to Scouting America supports a safe, high-quality program that delivers lasting value to youth and families.

Thank you for your partnership, your steadfast leadership, and your unwavering commitment to the young people we serve. If you have questions about the new fee structure, please contact National Council Operations. Together, we will continue building a stronger future for Scouting and for the next generation of leaders.

Sincerely,

Ricky Mason, National Chair
Devang Desai, National Commissioner
Roger Krone, Chief Scout Executive, President and CEO