



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

LASALLE COUNCIL 1919-2019

From the Office of the Scout Executive,

Earlier this week, the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America notified all local councils that a membership fee increase for youth members and adult leaders is likely. These new fees would take effect as of January 1, 2020. We recognize this is neither easy information to hear, nor to convey, but we want to be transparent as we receive information to share so you can prepare your units appropriately.

This anticipated change is due to the significant cost increase of the liability insurance the BSA must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. At this time, the National Council has not yet determined the amount of the projected membership fee increase. A team of volunteers and staff from across the country is currently working on specifics to identify viable options and determine the best way forward. Any change in fees requires the National Executive Committee's input and approval.

The funds of youth member and adult leader registration fees go to support the operations of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. The LaSalle Council also pays a membership fee to the National Council and purchases at an additional cost, many services from National, including employee benefits, training for staff and volunteers, and a variety of computer services.

The National Council has committed to providing the new registration fee no later than October 23, 2019, which would take effect on January 1, 2020. This will have an immediate impact as units begin the re-chartering process for 2020. The on-line re-chartering system will officially open as planned on October 1, 2019, for December re-charters to allow units to do their roster work. This process will go forth as usual except for the "calculate fees" portion, which won't be functional until November 1, 2019.

Please know that the organization is only considering this change out of necessity, and we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. That is why, in anticipation of a likely increase, the National Council is working to establish a donor-funded BSA Registration Assistance Fund to provide financial support to those who need it. This fund will be in addition to the many existing council and unit membership assistance funds.

John M. Cary | Scout Executive / CEO

