



Announcement of New Insurance Fee

Dear Aloha Council leaders and Scouting families:

Recently, we provided information about the possibility of an added fee with this year's rechartering processes. The initial announcement indicated that the cost could range from \$15-39 per year in addition to the annual registration fee of \$33.

The Aloha Council Executive Board approved the fee of \$15 annually, the lowest of the options considered. The Aloha Council Board felt it was important to keep the additional fees on the lower end and with continued participation in Friends of Scouting and product sales, we could continue to keep the costs at a reasonable price.

The new cost per Scout and leader will be \$48 per year, or \$4 per month which includes the \$33 National Registration fee. The fee applies to new members recruited in 2018 and to all members beginning with the 2019 recharter cycle.

We're confident that if you review the value of Scouting for your kids and their future you will find that \$48 is a relatively modest fee. Aloha Council continues to remain committed to providing excellent customer service for our leaders to deliver a quality program to growing number of youth.

This added fee is being put in place as we find our financial model in Aloha Council to be challenged right now. Friends of Scouting and product sales are two areas that have been decreasing over the last 5 years. It is an important piece of our funding model and we haven't been keeping pace. While our expenses have not been going up significantly, our income has been decreasing making it difficult to meet the overall council budget.

All funds collected will be used by the Council to defray the costs the Council incurs to provide a variety of annual insurances (Accident Insurance, Property & Auto) with liability insurance being the most expensive.

Although Scouting has seen many changes in the past few years, we look forward to the opportunities ahead of us. We are happy to report that our program metrics are very strong. Camp attendance has increased, and the transformation of our Makahiki to a STEM-focused event has been very successful. Aloha Council has earned Gold Journey to Excellence two out of the past three years and Silver in 2017. Membership has grown consistently over the past four years. We look forward to the opportunity to continue our success in membership with the addition of girls joining Cub Scouts this fall and Scouts BSA next year.

Should you have any questions, please contact Billy Rayl at billy.rayl@scouting.org.

Yours in Scouting,

Billy Rayl
Director of Field Service