



MOUNT BAKER COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

2023 OPPORTUNITY FUND MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROCESS & WORKSHEET

Through generous grants and contributions, the Mount Baker Council, Boy Scouts of America, can offer assistance to registered youth and adults so they may fully participate in the Scouting program.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MOUNT BAKER COUNCIL

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Opportunity Fund (Opp Fund) Membership Assistance Application Process & Worksheet

Unit Leadership (Committee Chairs, Membership Coordinators, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors, etc.) should help families with the Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance application process. Completing this worksheet for EACH applicant before starting to enter the application information into the MBC website is helpful.

To be eligible, the following guidelines must be met by the youth applicant to qualify for financial assistance for National Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Membership (includes New Member Joining Fee-\$25) and Council Activity Fees:

- Currently registered within the Mount Baker Council prior to completing an application.
- OR
- Completing a new registration with the Mount Baker Council. **A completed PAPER BSA application must be submitted to the council registrar for the Opp Fund application to be reviewed.** *Note: Online BSA registration through BeAScout forces payment in full and refunds for Opp Fund grants are not possible.*

In keeping with the philosophy of “earn your own way”, each youth should help fund a portion of the fee annually. The council also reserves the right to consider the unit’s and Scout’s participation in council-administered fundraising programs as demonstrating a concerted effort to raise these funds. The family and unit are expected to contribute to the cost of the Scouting experience. BSA Membership and Council Activity financial assistance is awarded based primarily on need. The more information provided about the Scout’s particular need, the better.

The Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance application is available online via the Mount Baker Council website. Participants may qualify for **up to 90%** of National BSA registration fees and **up to 90%** of the Council Activity Fee, and uniform parts, handbook, and Scout Life magazine. Unit dues are not covered by Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance awards. For consideration for the 2023 program year and the 2024 charter renewal, all membership assistance applications must be submitted by **OCTOBER 31ST** to allow time for review, allocation, and notification. Access the form at <https://247scouting.com/forms/606-OppFundMembership2023> **AFTER** completing pages 3 and 4 of this worksheet.

1. Apply online separately for each Scout needing assistance. All information requested on this WORKSHEET is needed when applying online.
2. Assistance will be considered based on need and the youth/unit support of the mission of the Mount Baker Council including participation in Council fundraising.
3. **For 2023 Membership Assistance Awards & 2024 Charter Renewal, all requests must be submitted online by Oct. 31, 2023. 2024** Membership Assistance for applications not on charter renewal, can be submitted starting November 15, 2023.

All Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance applications submitted on time will be considered based on the financial need of the Scout in relation to the other applications received and available funds. Any Opportunity Fund applications received after the deadline will only be considered if there are funds remaining.

4. Your request will be reviewed by council personnel. Opportunity Fund awards and information will be kept confidential.
5. After review, the applicant’s family and Unit Leadership will be notified by email of the details of any award.
6. The Membership Assistance award is to a specific individual and is not transferable to anyone else.
7. Completeness of the information when applying online will help determine membership assistance allocations.
8. There are no refunds on unused awards and Membership Assistance awards will not be reimbursed for expenses already paid by the applicant.

Questions? Please email susan.mccaughan@scouting.org or speak to your District Staff



This worksheet is to help gather all information needed for the application process. Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance applications are only accepted online via the Mount Baker Council website at <https://247scouting.com/forms/606-OppFundMembership2023>

Unit Leadership (Committee Chairs, Membership Coordinators, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors, etc.) should help families with the Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance application process. Completing this worksheet for EACH applicant before starting to enter the application information into the MBC website is helpful.

Opportunity Fund Membership Assistance Worksheet

This worksheet is to help gather all information needed for the application process. Application is to be completed online via the Mount Baker Council website at - <https://247scouting.com/forms/606-OppFundMembership2023>

Part 1 – Member and Eligibility Information

Unit Type: _____ Unit #: _____ Council: _____ Mount Baker Council

Youth Applicant's Name: _____

Age _____ Grade _____ Male or Female (check selection)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Applicant's Address: _____
Street

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

New to Scouting? (Please check correct box): Y N If no, how many years has the applicant been involved? _____

If a current Scout, did the applicant participate in Council-sponsored unit fundraiser (Popcorn Sales and/or Hike-a-thon) this program year? (please check): Y N If YES, dollar amount raised: \$_____ (A Scout is expected to help earn their own way.)

Eligibility Information

If you don't meet the eligibility guidelines, but you believe you have a unique situation, submit the financial application. Your application will be reviewed, and you may receive a follow-up notification for more information to help determine your eligibility status. As soon as we receive your response, your application will be further reviewed, and your eligibility determined.

Is the applicant eligible to receive free or reduced lunches through their school program? Y N

Is the applicant a foster child? Y N

What is the total number of people in your household (children plus adults)? _____

Family's combined household annual income before taxes (including work pay, child support, alimony, pensions, Social Security, etc.?)

Please check one.

Less than \$20,000

\$20,001 - \$30,000

\$30,001 - \$40,000

\$40,001 - \$50,000

\$50,001 - \$60,000

\$60,001 - \$70,000

\$70,001 - \$80,000

\$80,001 - \$90,000

\$100,000+



Please check box for which you are requesting assistance:

(up to 90% maximum award for BSA Membership Fees and up to 90% maximum award for Council Activity Fees)

<input type="checkbox"/>	National BSA Membership Registration Fee (Includes New Scout Joining fee when required)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uniform – includes shirt, designated patches, hat, neckerchief, slide, and belt (If applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Council Activity Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Handbook
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Scout Life Magazine Subscription

Note: A new Opportunity Fund Application must be completed each time assistance is requested. BSA Membership, Council Activity & uniform requests can be submitted anytime during the year. Camp Grants require a separate application available through the council camping pages and online registration sites for summer camp programs.

Part 2 – Parent/Guardian Statement (Allocations will be based on this section. Be descriptive and complete.)

Explain any special circumstances why this applicant needs financial assistance. (Employment, family situation, number of Scouts in the family, etc.)

Parent’s name writing statement: (please print) _____

Please make sure your unit leader is aware of your application. Notification of any award is sent to both the unit leader and the recipient’s family.

Unit Leadership Contact info:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Phone Number: _____ E mail: _____

Name of person completing online submission: _____ Date: _____

(Keep a copy for your records)