

# GGAC Council Program Fee FAQs

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- **Why is this the first decision that the board made after the merger finalized? (or, the Council Program Fee (CPF) is directly a result of the merger; therefore the merger was a bad decision.)**
  - It was anticipated that the board would have to address the issue of declining FOS support in the annual campaign at some point in the near future, especially the family giving portion. Unfortunately (and unforeseen), our status quo has completely changed over the last few months due to COVID-19, which has accelerated the need for this decision. The decrease in revenue from not being able to run a full summer camp program, not being able to hold council level fundraising events, and a decrease in FOS contributions as compared to a typical year are the major reasons for instituting this fee. Although the merger is temporally related, this fee is NOT a direct result of the merger. In fact, the merger places the legacy councils in a stronger financial position together, rather than individually to weather through this storm. The timing of the decision was also necessary to adhere to the June 30 deadline of BSA for recharter software input. We appreciate that the timing of the announcement is not ideal, but we wanted to give districts and units adequate opportunity to communicate the need for the fee and to determine how a unit might further subsidize this additional cost.
- **Will I still be asked multiple times per year to contribute to a family FOS campaign?**
  - No, the traditional family FOS will still be a part of our culture, but it will become an additional donation opportunity for families who want to and are able to donate.
- **Is the increase in fee intended to help pay for any abuse settlements or the bankruptcy filing at large?**
  - No, the CPF will stay local within the council and support our Scouts.
- **Where is the fee going? How does National Council use its half? What does GGAC intend to use the other half for?**
  - See flyer, which has a breakdown that addresses this question

- **What other program fees or family experiences are comparable to Scouting/more value compared to Scouting/less value compared to Scouting?**
  - Single season, competitive under 11 youth soccer - \$1675.00
  - Single season, recreational under 11 youth soccer - \$375.00
  - Single season little league club fee - \$200.00
  - Oakland Boys and Girls club annual fee - \$65.00
  - Local YMCA fee – varies, minimum \$252.00
  - Dance classes -\$40.00-\$160.00/month
    - STEM classes - \$20.00-\$30.00/hour long class
  - Disneyland age 10-17 single day pass - \$115.00-\$125.00
  
- **National BSA fees were historically low. What are the reasons for the more frequent increases recently? Is this fee increase the first of several future increases? What is the long-range plan for this fee?**
  - The cost associated with Scouting (including the cost of liability insurance) continues to increase and the organization is not able to subsidize the increased cost as it has in the past. The council will continue to reassess its financial position year to year, but there is no immediate plan to increase the CPF in the future. The national organization has raised its' fees as follows:
    - 2010 - \$10 to \$15
    - 2014 - \$15 to \$24
    - 2017 - \$24 to \$33
    - 2019 - \$33 to \$60
    - 2020 - \$60 to \$66

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