

Annual dues are required of all Scouts. All Scouts pay the same dues and are invited to participate in all activities without incurring additional expenses. Dues are usually calculated at the June Committee meeting for the coming academic year. The costs are based on trips selected by the youth combined with other anticipated troop expenses. TroopCrew 56 establishes dues on an annual basis to provide for equitable opportunities for all scouts. Each scout can choose to attend any or all opportunities and events during the year at no additional cost. Annual dues are required of all Scouts, and are the responsibility of the Scout and their family.

- A minimum of 50% of the annual dues are the responsibility of the scout. The other 50% of the annual dues are typically paid by the scout's parent or guardian.
- A scout may perform fundraising either through Troop supported fundraising efforts or their own to fulfill their portion of the dues. The purpose of this requirement is twofold; (1) to promote work habits and buy-in from the youth and (2) to promote economic equity by de-stigmatizing fundraising for those youth whose families could not simply pay their way.
- Dues will be assessed on an academic yearly basis, and be paid in two installments. First payment is due by October 1 and the second payment is due by February 1. The amount of each payment is usually determined at the last committee meeting in June of the previous year.
- A Scout in good standing is the status assigned to a scout that is current in their dues obligations.
- Only Scouts in good standing may attend trips or receive Scouting advancements. A Scout may be denied attendance at activities if dues are not current.
- The Troop year aligns with the academic calendar and starts in September.
- Dues are the same for all scouts regardless of the number of activities or advancements achieved by the Scout. This allows for financial equity across the organization.
- If there are hardships to cover dues, the scout and or caregiver must communicate in writing to the troop treasurer and scout masters to create a payment or assistance plan.
- If a parent or guardian of a scout and or a scout would like to contribute more than their dues to support scouts with hardship. They should advise the treasurer and their funds will be allocated to a special scholarship fund available for those who cannot meet their dues obligations.
- College age youth under age 21 or younger scouts away at boarding school may remain registered members in good standing without paying the annual dues; they may attend trips by paying the per-trip fee.

Dues cover:

- Advancement: The costs of advancement, educational materials, other incidental expenses, and registration fees are covered by dues.
- Uniforms: One class B shirt upon joining.

- Fees: As part of the annual trip list, Camping and troop excursions, campsite fees, museum entry fees.
- Capital expenditures: Such as tents, backpacks, and other long term equipment required for TroopCrew events.
- Rentals: Trailers, bikes, skis and other equipment required for specific scouting events.

Dues do not cover:

- High adventure trips.
- Adults driving to facilitate their own schedule are not reimbursed.
- Adult Lodging and rentals and scouting attendance fees for events or trips, beyond the planned adult group leaders planned and required for the trip.
- Costs for summer camp, high adventure trips, NYLT, Jamborees,
- Costs for food for adult leaders on the trips.
- Class A uniforms and other uniform components.
- Transportation: Payment for gas for automobiles to scouting events. Rental cars are not reimbursed unless exceptions approved in advance by the treasurer and scoutmasters.

Accounts:

- All funds for the Troop will be held in a troop bank account. This account will be the responsibility of the Troop Treasurer(s). This account is known as the TroopCrew 56 General Account.
- Payment of any and all fees are encouraged to be paid by check made payable to Cambridge BSA Troop 56, unless cash is requested by the activity or outing leader. Drafts drawn on a Scout Account can be used in lieu of a check, providing there are adequate funds in the Scout Account to cover the amount of the draft. A note on the check or draft indicating what fees the check or draft represents is appreciated and helpful to both the treasurer and the parent.
- Scouts joining or crossing-over other than at the beginning of the year will be charged a prorated share of dues at the time of joining.
- Dues are required to be current and a Scout may be denied attendance at activities if dues are not current.
- The Committee may provide for or limit the extent of what said fees can cover. All special fees must be paid in advance and in full by all participating Scouts. (e.g advance payments for summer camps Jamborees, travel)
- Fundraising activities will be scheduled to raise money for individual Scout's Scouting-related fees. Funds raised by the Scout during these activities will be held in a bank account within the Troop Crew 56 General Account. This account will be known as the Scout Account. The Troop Treasurer will have the responsibility of accounting for each individual Scout Account. Scouts are entitled to know the balance of their own Scout Account, and an annual accounting will be available to each Scout at each Court-of-Honor assembly.

- Funds may be dispensed from the Scout to the TroopCrew 56 General Account to pay for annual dues.
- In the event of transfer or decision to be inactive, no credit or refund will be provided.
- Scouts who terminate their membership in TroopCrew 56 will forfeit all funds designated to their Scout Account. These funds will then convert to TroopCrew 56 General Account funds, to be used for TroopCrew 56 expenses.
- Scouts who are reinstated in TroopCrew 56 who submit a written request for reinstatement of their Scout Account may have a part or all of their funds transferred back to their Scout Account upon approval of a consensus of the Committee.
- Scouts who transfer to another Scouting organization may submit a written request for their share of their Scout Account. Requests should include the name and address of the new Scouting organization's Treasurer. Upon approval of a consensus of the Committee, a check for the balance of the Scout's Scout Account may be issued to the Scout's new Scouting organization. Under no circumstances will a check be issued to the Scout for a balance of the Scout's Scout Account. Funds raised by the Scout were done on behalf of Scouting, and therefore must remain within the Scouting program.

The Trusts:

Cambridge Scouting is supported by the Lyon and Owen Trust. The Anna Lyon and Ernest Owen Trusts were established for the purpose of making grants of camperships, scholarships and supporting Scouting related activities and administrative services provided to Scout units located within the City of Cambridge.

As of January 2019, grant applications are due by March 1st and October 1st of each year and will be decided on by March 30th and October 30th. Exceptions can be made to the timeline for extenuating circumstances but decisions may take longer.

Grant applications are submitted by the TroopCrew 56 Treasurers. In the past, the trusts have subsidized summer camps, portions of high adventure trips such as Philmont and Maine High Adventure, Adult and youth training opportunities such as Wilderness First Aid and Wood Badge, and scholarships to support individual scout dues. Past support for Troop activities should not indicate guaranteed future support for any activity from the Trust.