Financial Assistance Request Procedures and Guidelines

Guidelines:

- A Scout Assistance Fund Application must be completed in full by parent/guardian and Unit Leader before consideration. Incomplete applications will be returned to the Unit's Leader.
- Parents must complete the Comments section and Leaders the "Comments/Recommendation" section of the Application. These areas are strongly considered during the review process.
- Applications may be submitted and will be considered for any camp, activity or training of the Cherokee Area Council or one of its Districts.
- Requests to participate in camps or activities of other Councils cannot be considered.
- Consideration will be given for BSA training courses not offered by the Cherokee Area Council and available by the Region/National or hosted by another Council.
- Much of the available funds have restrictions for use, either by program or geographic area.
- Requests that do not qualify for restricted grant funds may be funded out of the general operating fund of the Council. These funds are made possible by the generous gifts of individuals and businesses through the Friends of Scouting campaign, United Way allocations, popcorn and Camp Card sales and other general revenues of the Council.
- Providing assistance for Scouts (youth) will be primary. Assistance for adult leaders will be secondary and available as funds are available.

Assistance Funding Parameters:

- Registration: It is strongly suggested the parent/guardian/Scout pay the annual fee ($15) as a "buy-in" to join Boy Scouts of America (National).
- Uniforms: A set amount up to $40.00 (parent/guardian will pay any difference in cost)
- Handbooks: A set amount up to $7.00 (parent/guardian will pay any difference in cost)
- Camps & Events: Assistance may range from 25% - 75% of the cost of the camp/event. Scouts/families are asked to pay/earn a portion of the fee and will typically be asked to make the initial camp/event deposit with any assistance applied to the remainder of the balance.
- Assistance grants will be determined using all of the information requested/provided on the application, including income, number of siblings in Scouting, if the parent is a volunteer, and the Scout's/family's participation in the popcorn and camp card fundraisers.
- Falsification of information by a parent/guardian will disqualify the Scout from any current and future assistance considerations. Falsification of information by a Unit Leader may disqualify all Scouts from their Unit for assistance consideration.

REGISTRATION:

A request for registration assistance must be attached with a membership application or copy of the Unit's recharter paperwork.

UNIFORMS & HANDBOOKS:

Uniform and handbook assistance approvals will be valid for 30 days upon notification, after which, the monies will be released and made available for other requests. **Please recycle to your Unit any uniform parts purchased with assistance to assist other Scouts in need**.

CAMPS & EVENTS:

The actual transfer of funds will not occur until the attendance of the individual receiving assistance has been confirmed. Assistance cannot be transferred to other Scouts.

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

Assistance in excess of 75% may be considered in demonstrated dire circumstances.