



# SCOUTS BSA YOUTH CAMPERSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

The Order of the Arrow promotes camping and, in this spirit, does not want any Scout or Venturing Scout to miss the opportunity to attend a summertime camping or training program, offered by our Council and/or National BSA that provides a BSA camping and/or learning experience.

A Scout is Thrifty. The Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow encourage every Scout to pay their own way to Scouting activities, as this philosophy supports the basic aims of Scouting. However, we realize that Scouts need a little extra help at times to participate.

Camperships are limited to registered youth members of the Great Southwest Council. Lodge Camperships may not be used for out-of-Council programs, other than National BSA sponsored programs.

We encourage units to help Scouts earn funds. Here are some suggestions:

1. Sell Popcorn! Choose camp dollars as the prize option.
2. Organize a fund raising project solely for youth attending camp. Each Scout should be given credit towards camp fees based on the amount of effort he puts in.
3. Each Scout should be encouraged to save money on his own, i.e., birthday gifts, mowing lawn, shoveling snow, or other odd jobs.
4. If a Scout needs assistance finding a job, the Unit Committee should contact their Chartered Organization to secure further resources for jobs and funding. If money is given, the Scout should work for it by doing projects for his church, school, or community.

If after trying all of the above, the Unit finds that a Scout still needs financial assistance, the Order of the Arrow will attempt to provide assistance. The Unit Leader or the Unit Committee Chairperson must carefully follow the procedure outlined below:

1. Verify that there is a true need. Make sure that you have exhausted all other sources before requesting assistance. Campership funds are limited, and we are not able to meet all requests. We need your help to see that campership dollars are provided to those who most need assistance. Requesting funds for someone who doesn't truly need it may prevent a needier Scout from receiving assistance.
2. The Unit Leader or Unit Committee Chairperson must fill out the Youth Campership Application. The comments on each application will be treated as confidential and only members of the Campership Selection Committee will have access to this information. The application must be filled out completely and correctly signed.
3. Once completed, applications must be submitted to the Lodge Campership Selection Committee via the Council Service Center no later than **April 2nd**. If for any reason you must deviate from this procedure, you must attach a statement of adequate justification to support the deviation.
4. Each application will be carefully and objectively reviewed by the Committee, based solely on the degree of need as indicated on the form. However, please be aware that although the Committee would prefer to provide 100% funding for each and every application, a lesser amount may only be possible, subject to the total number of applications received versus available funds.
5. Selections and notifications to Unit Leaders will be made on or before **April 12th**.