

2025–26 New Scout Checklist Troop 97 BSA

It takes a lot of “stuff” to get started in Scouts. This checklist can help make sure nothing gets overlooked.

Things to give to the Scoutmaster:

- Completed “**General Information**” sheet
- Completed **BSA health form** (pages A/B1/B2), or completed A/B1/B2/C with doctor signatures for summer camp if you’re joining in the spring
- Payment for troop **annual fee & summer camp** (you are welcome to pay in several installments; Zelle, check payable to BSA Troop 97, cash, or credit card)

Things to get from the Scoutmaster:

- Troop 97 Annual Calendar**
- Troop 97 hat** (included with annual fee)
- Troop 97 neckerchief & slide** (included with annual fee; presented on first campout)
- Shirt insignia** (special one-piece numeral 97, patrol medallion, shoulder loops; included with annual fee)
- Nametag** (included with annual fee; we order these a couple times a year)
- Scout Handbook** (included with annual fee)



Scout Uniform:

- See *sewing template and checklist for items to buy from the Scout Store or the T97 uniform exchange. The troop provide much of the uniform for free.*

Things to order online:

Several troop uniform items can be ordered online twice a year. Ask the Scoutmaster for details:

- Troop 97 T-shirt**; also several *optional* items

2025–26 New Scout Checklist (continued)

Hints for summer camp and general activities:

- Thoroughly read the parent & Scout information booklets for summer camp (available about March), as well as the troop newsletter each month.
- Turn in camp medical form signed by parent & doctor (~**May 2026**, details pending from the camp; see SUMMER CAMP instructions below).
- Make sure you have the items on the summer camp checklist.
- Come to the new parents orientation meeting on **Monday, 13 April 2026**.
- Sign up for outings by turning in the **permission form** enclosed with each newsletter. Note that BSA now requires ALL adults who attend any overnight activity to be BSA-registered.
- Pay food money for *most* outings to the Scoutmaster (Zelle, check payable to BSA Troop 97, or cash).

SUMMER CAMP—Summer camp is vitally important for all Scouts, especially new Scouts, and they will get to have fun adventures at a variety of BSA summer camps in several states while learning and accomplishing a year’s worth of Scouting in one week. Our annual Pasta Supper provides a substantial subsidy for the cost of summer camp. 2026 summer camp will be at **Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch** (in the Black Hills of South Dakota), from **12–18 July 2026**.

BSA CAMP MEDICAL FORM—The BSA require that each Scout or adult attending summer camp have an annual physical, signed by a doctor. If you or your Scout have not had a physical within the year prior to camp (since 18 July 2025), you can get a walk-in physical for about \$35 to \$60 at many Urgent Care Center and ‘Little Clinic’ locations.



Welcome to Troop 97 !



Here’s How to Sign Up

Scouting America (BSA) registration is now online. See on back the steps to register your son or daughter, or yourself, with Troop 97. You’ll need Internet access and a credit card to pay the National BSA and Adventure West Council registration fees (contact the Scoutmaster if you need financial assistance). If you don’t have an Internet connection, we can help you at a troop meeting.

*Be sure to give the Scoutmaster the **T97 General Information sheet** and **BSA health form**.*

Scouting Expenses

Please see the Troop 97 “**What does it cost**” handout for details about annual fee, BSA registration, summer camp, and other year-round costs, along with ways to reduce costs, and financial assistance.

You can pay for troop expenses via:

- #1—**Zelle** (transfer to the troop email: info@troop97.net);
- #2—**check** (payable to BSA Troop 97) or **cash** (give to the Scoutmaster);
- #3—**credit card** (must be handled by the treasurer, but this requires a 3% service charge; ask the treasurer for exact credit card cost).

Note that after your initial registration, the troop will pay for your annual renewals, which cover both National BSA and Adventure West Council registration fees. The troop has to budget for these:

Youth	Adult	
\$ 85	65	BSA Annual Registration Fee
	83	Adventure West Council Annual Fee
~5	~3	BSA-required 3% credit card fee
\$ 173	99	Total

[National & Council registration fees effective 5/1/2024]

How to register your *son/daughter* with Troop 97:

IF YOUR SON/DAUGHTER *IS* CURRENTLY REGISTERED (in a local pack or troop)—

- Our Scoutmaster can *probably* 'pull' their registration into the troop IF you give him your child's **registered name, BSA ID#, date of birth, and ZIP code**. If you don't know the BSA ID#, we'll need to check with the old pack or troop.

IF YOUR SON/DAUGHTER IS *NOT* CURRENTLY REGISTERED—

- Go to the www.troop97.net website. Near the bottom of that page click on the appropriate blue "Adventure!" button (one for boys and one for girls). These buttons will take you directly to the correct signup page in beascout.org for Troop 97.



- Then follow the indicated steps for "Youth". At the end you'll need to pay the National BSA and Adventure West Council registration fees with a credit card (see below). Regardless of when you join, you'll be charged the annual fee for the next 12 months. *Note that the troop budget covers Scout registration fees after the first year.*

Online Registration Fees for Youth

\$ 85.00	National BSA Annual Registration Fee
83.00	Adventure West Council Annual Fee
15.00	Scout Life magazine one-year subscription (optional)
3%	BSA administrative (credit card) fee
\$ 173.04	TOTAL (no Scout Life)
\$ 188.49	TOTAL (with Scout Life)

Contact the Scoutmaster if you need financial assistance (info@troop97.net).

How to register as a *volunteer adult* with Troop 97:

The BSA now requires *all* adults who go on any overnight activity to be BSA-registered. Plus we know that Scouts are more successful with parental involvement. We encourage at least one parent of every Scout to register, and the troop provides a discount toward the annual BSA registration fee for active parents.

STEP 1:

- If you haven't taken the BSA online "Safeguarding Youth Training" (takes 90 minutes) in the past year, go to my.scouting.org, and either login to your "MyScouting" account or create an account if you don't have one. From there you can take the latest course. Be sure to email the completion certificate (which BSA automatically sends to you within a few hours of completing the course) to the Scoutmaster (info@troop97.net).

STEP 2 (whether or not you are currently registered):

- Go to the www.troop97.net website. Near the bottom of that page click on the appropriate blue "Adventure!" button (based on whether you have a son or daughter in the troop—choose either one if you have both a daughter & son in the troop). These buttons will take you directly to the correct signup page in beascout.org for Troop 97.
- Then follow the indicated steps for "Adult". You can use the same "MyScouting" account you created when registering your Scout. If you are currently registered, you shouldn't have to pay anything. If not currently registered, you'll need to pay the National BSA and Adventure West Council registration fees for one year with a credit card.

Online Registration Fees for Adults

\$ 65.00	National BSA Annual Registration Fee
31.00	Adventure West Council Annual Fee
3%	BSA Administrative (credit card) Fee
\$ 98.88	TOTAL for a new adult

Contact the Scoutmaster if you need financial assistance (info@troop97.net).

Staying Connected with Troop 97

- **BAND app**—Troop 97 uses the social media app "BAND" for communicating announcements, calendar events, chat messaging for campouts, and to share photos of our activities. It's also private (only current Troop 97 Scouts & families). Click on the link near the top of the troop97.net Member Only Page, and follow the simple instructions. **Every troop family needs the BAND app to stay informed—otherwise you'll miss important dates or calendar changes!**
- **Website**—The www.troop97.net website has tons of useful information. For information directly helpful to T97 Scouts, leaders, & families, click on "Troop 97 BSA" or "Troop 97 Info" on the left-side menu.
- **Member Only page**—The secure Member Only page has non-public info like the troop roster, recent newsletters, annual calendar, advancement & camping records, forms for campouts, summer camp, and high adventure treks. From anywhere on the troop97.net website, click on "Troop 97 BSA" or "Troop 97 Info" on the left-side menu, then click on the "Member Only Area" button near the bottom of that page. You'll need your user ID and password (get from the Scoutmaster).
- **Newsletter**—The troop mails a regular newsletter, including campout/activity permission/signup forms.
- **Email**—The troop sends out reminders and late-breaking news via email. You can also email the Scoutmaster with questions: info@troop97.net.
- **Free King Soopers credits**—If you shop or buy gas at King Soopers/Kroger, they will send a percentage of your purchases to the charity of your choice. If that is Troop 97, your credit goes into your Scout account to use for any Scouting expenses. Be sure to use your Soopers affinity card when you shop. To set up your account, just go to www.kingsoopers.com. Under "Save", click on "King Soopers Community Rewards", then on "Enroll Now". Finally, you need to select the organization to receive your credits. For Troop 97, under "Community Rewards" in your account, select either "VM833" or "Scout Troop 97 BSA in Fort Collins". [Note that there may be other "Troop 97's" in other states.] **Encourage your relatives, friends, neighbors, members of Congress, etc, to designate "Scout Troop 97 BSA in Fort Collins" too! It doesn't cost them anything to do so.**