



South Dakota American Legion
 Scouting Campership
 PO Box 67 / Watertown, SD 57201-0067
 Phone: (605) 866-3604
 Email: hq@sdlegion.org



The South Dakota American Legion seeks to award Scouts who are members of Scouting America in the State of South Dakota with scholarships (“camperships”) up to \$400 to attend any Scouting America weeklong camp in South Dakota. All Scouts who are in their first year of Scouting America membership and who have not yet attended a week of Scouting Summer Camp are encouraged to apply with the recommendation of their Scoutmaster and approval of the Troop Committee Chair. All applications must be received no later than April 1st of the year that the Scout intends to attend camp.

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name: First: _____ Last: _____	Date of Birth: _____
Scouting America Membership Number/PID#:	Date Joined Scouting: _____
Scouting Rank at Time of Application:	Troop Number: _____
Troop Sponsoring Organization:	Council: _____

Parent or Guardian Information:

Applicant’s Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Name: First: _____ Last: _____	Relationship to Scout: _____
Street/PO Box: _____	
Address: _____ City & Zip Code: _____	
Phone Number: _____	Good time to call: _____
Email: _____	

Demographic Information:

The following information is considered by the Scholarship Committee, but is NOT a requirement for application or award of the Scholarship. Award is based on the whole application packet. The Applicant Scout, the Scout's family, and the Scoutmaster shall complete this section to the best of their ability. Check the appropriate column (yes/no) and provide evidence as requested. If you require more space, please use additional sheets of paper attached to this application.

Question	Yes	No	Explanation / Evidence
Are the Scout's Parents Veterans? If so, when and where did they serve? <i>If the Scout is a "Gold Star Youth" as a result of their parent's service please note to the right.</i>			
Is there another relative of the Scout who is a Veteran? (examples: Sibling, Aunt/Uncle, Grandpa/Grandma) If so, when did they serve?			
Are any of the above members of an American Legion Post, Legion Auxiliary Unit, or Sons of the American Legion Squadron? If so, please provide their membership number(s).			
Have any of the Scout's relatives or siblings participated in American Legion Youth Activities like the Oratory Contest, Boys State, Girls State, Shooting Sports, or Youth Trooper Academy?			
Does the Scout participate in other social activities within the community? (examples: youth sports / church groups / 4H / other youth group-based activities)			

Recommendations to attach to the application:

1. A letter written by the Scout of no less than five sentences in paragraph format, but no more than three paragraphs, from the Scout explaining why they want to go to Summer Camp and how they see Scouting benefiting them in the future.
2. A no-more-than-one-page letter from the Scout's Scoutmaster explaining why this Scout should have the opportunity to go to Scout Camp. The Scoutmaster MUST INDICATE 1) WHICH CAMP, and 2) WHICH WEEK THE TROOP WILL ATTEND during the upcoming camping season.
3. If the Scout or their Parents/Guardians would like to submit other letters of recommendation, no-more-than-one-page in length each, and no more than three total, they will be considered by the Campership Committee.

Approving Signatures:

	Applicant Scout:	Scout's Parent/Guardian:	Troop Committee Chair:
Signature:			
Printed Name:			
Date:			



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The American Legion recognizes that Summer Camp is a key activity to meeting the goals of Scouting to create citizens who are “Prepared for Life” by learning and understanding the Scout Oath and Scout Law. By attending Scout Summer Camp, the Scout is immersed in a positive culture surrounded by good role models and safe challenges which will help the youth develop into a productive member of society able to participate with, and lead, others in pursuing the dream that is “America”.

Application Process Guide:

1. This application is open to all Scouts in the first year of their Scouting America (*formerly Boy Scouts of America*) career. Membership in the Cub Scouting Program does not disqualify them from this campership.
2. The applying Scout must be recommended by their Scoutmaster. It is the intent of the awarding committee to focus on Scouts who would likely not otherwise be able to attend Summer Camp.
3. Steps in applying:
 - a. The Scoutmaster identifies a Scout who needs assistance to attend Summer Camp.
 - b. The Scoutmaster works with the Scout and the Scout’s parents, or guardians, in preparing the application. The application must be completed to the best of their ability. If the group completing the application doesn’t know a response within the “Demographic Information” section, that is okay – it WILL NOT disqualify a Scout from award of a campership.
 - c. Letters of Application:
 - i. The Parent/Guardian will work with the Scout to prepare their application letter. Note that it must be by the Scout. It shall be written in letter format and must be in the “Scout’s voice”.
 - ii. The Scoutmaster will prepare a short letter of recommendation on why they recommended the Scout.
 - iii. The Scoutmaster or the Scout’s Parents/Guardians may submit additional letters of recommendation from others who may help the Scout’s case for award of the Campership.
 - iv. The letters submitted are considered confidential to the application and shall not be shared outside of the American Legion Scouting Campership Committee unless required to by law. They will be destroyed after August 31st of the application year.
 - d. Review and Approval by the Troop Committee Chair must be completed before sending the application packet to the Department of South Dakota American Legion Headquarters address at the top of the application.

4. What happens afterwards:
 - a. Upon receipt of the application, the South Dakota American Legion will email the parent / guardian noted on the application form verifying receipt.
 - b. All applications must be received no later than NOON April 1st of the year the Scout intends to attend camp.
 - c. The Scouting Campership Committee will meet no later than April 15th to review applications with a decision to award occurring no later than April 22nd.
 - d. All applicants will be informed of the Committee's decision to award camperships no later than April 29th by US Mail.
 - e. The South Dakota American Legion will coordinate payment to the Scout's Council and verify receipt of payment with the Scout's Troop.
5. If any member of the group assembling the application have questions, they shall be directed to the South Dakota American Legion Headquarters. Contact information is in the letterhead of the application.