

2027 OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BUDGET HANDBOOK

This year will be a one-year budget cycle. The Budget Committee has decided to allocate an inflation increase to all crews Supplies and Services and will not be accepting budget requests this year. They will review goldenrods issued in 2026 and will adjust crew passes based on known needs. Please contact your Staff and/or Budget Liaison if you believe your crew needs adjustments.

Communications with the Budget Committee can be made through either email or direct mail to the OCF office.

Budget Committee
Oregon Country Fair
442 Lawrence Street
Eugene OR 97401
Email: budgetcommittee@oregoncountryfair.org

There are updates to the Budget Liaison list. The contact list is where you can find your current Budget Liaison.

We will have a January coordinators' meeting before the budgets go to the Board for approval. It is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13th, 2027, from 630p-8p. This will be a Zoom meeting. The January meeting is an opportunity to hear what the budget committee plans to recommend to the board. The Budget Committee will present operating budgets to the Board on Monday, January 25, 2027. The board will vote that night on the budgets.

Guide to Budget Request Form:

Provide the name, phone and email address of the crew coordinator or team leader to contact with any questions about the budget. Teams are groups that have not been made into crews by the Management Team, but operate as a budget entity.

Coordinator Expense Reimbursement

Coordinator expense reimbursement is meant to offset some of the costs coordinators and crews incur as volunteers. Crews can divide the total among coordinators as they choose but may not be reimbursed for more than the maximum for their crew size. Office staff will provide reimbursement and mileage forms to you. Request or copy as many as you need.

The minimum Coordinator budget is \$250, and the maximum is \$1000. See the chart below to determine your coordinator expense allocation.

Coordinator Expense Lookup - locate column with number of crew and row with number of coordinators

		Number of Crew & Trade passes		
Number of Coordinators		1-50	51-100	101+
	1	250	250	250
	2	500	500	500
	3	500	750	750
	4+	500	750	1000

Eligible Coordinator Expenses – Please read this carefully to ensure you can be reimbursed correctly

- Mileage for Fair-related business. To be reimbursed, you must keep a log of your mileage that includes where you drove, for what purpose and how many miles were driven. Mileage will be reimbursed at a Board set rate. That rate will be stated on the mileage reimbursement form. **THE FAIR DOES NOT REIMBURSE FOR GAS RECEIPTS.** Please use the mileage form that office staff provides.
Exception: For crews that have designated “runners” (Construction/QM), mileage should be included in the Supplies & Services budget, not Coordinator Expense. If your crew has runner needs, reach out to QM.
- Snacks for work parties and other meeting expenses
- Childcare for required fair meetings or required crew work parties.
- Special crew appreciation items including things such as t-shirt printing, laminates, or water bottles.

Expenses listed above should not be charged to Supplies & Services. Personal items such as coolers, tents, chairs and tools or equipment that do not remain in the Fair’s possession are not eligible for reimbursement. **NO REIMBURSEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT RECEIPTS. OCF WILL NOT PURCHASE OR REIMBURSE FOR ALCOHOL FROM ANY BUDGET.**

Reimbursement Process

Reimbursement requests must be accompanied by receipts for the purchases made. You can send the form and receipts by email to melissa@oregoncountryfair.org or submit by postal mail or in person. If emailing, please send PDFs of each receipt. They can be all sent in the same email, but PDFs are preferred over JPEGs or in zip files. We will try our best to issue your check within a week of receipt of the request, but very busy times (right before or after the Fair) may mean a slightly longer wait. Thank you for your patience. The deadline to submit for expense reimbursement is August 31st, 2027.

Food Vouchers

The food voucher system is OCF’s way of providing meals for crews that schedule shifts during the Fair from noon Thursday through noon Monday on the weekend of the event. The Food Voucher value is \$4.

If your crew has volunteer shifts before noon Thursday of Pre-fair, or after noon on Monday Post-Fair, do not include them in your food voucher count. Meals during this time are provided by Main Camp Kitchen.

Food Vouchers are redeemable only on the OCF site and only for food or sauna entry, not for crafts, or at Saturday Market. They are redeemable from Thursday noon to Monday noon the weekend of the fair.

It is a coordinator's responsibility to inform crews that food vouchers are not redeemable for cash at any time for any reason, except as change when paying for food. Coordinators may not trade food vouchers for cash, extra shirts, wristbands, or SOPs.

Entertainment crews: please list crew and entertainer food vouchers separately, in the space provided on the form.

COORDINATOR FOOD VOUCHER POLICY

We will retain the same level of Coordinator food vouchers moving forward. This is a set amount of 32 food vouchers per Coordinator.

Supplies and Services

Supplies and services are items crews need to perform their volunteer roles. There are three categories in this section:

- Supplies
- Contracts and Services
- Rental Equipment

Please itemize each of these three categories in your budget request. Refer to your transaction report for help in establishing line-item totals. Supplies include general administrative costs such as phone calls and office supplies. Rental equipment will be ordered by staff. If the rental equipment is approved, staff will assign the cost of the rental equipment and it will be budgeted for through Motor Pool.

A costly one-time purchase should be treated as a capital project request and not included in Supplies and Services. See Capital Projects below.

Coordinators, not crew members, are authorized to spend budgeted money. **If you have not requested and been approved for an expenditure on your budget, you are not authorized to spend the Fair's money.** If you spend money out-of-pocket for supplies and services, you must have a receipt to be reimbursed.

Supplies and Service funds cannot be used to purchase S.O. passes, vehicle stickers or alcohol.

Inventory/Wristbands

Wristbands - everyone over 12 years of age must wear an OCF issued wristband or photo ID, to be on site after 7pm during the event. See the current guidelines for all pass prices.

Wristband Categories:

- **Crew wristbands** are issued to volunteers and requested on the budget form. See volunteer hour requirements below.
- **Trade wristbands:** some crews use these for services provided to the fair. Entertainer passes are in this category. **Trade wristbands do not come with t-shirts or SOPs.** Food vouchers or vehicle stickers are considered on a case-by-case basis.

- **Wristbands to sell** are used primarily by the entertainment crews, elders, Community Village and Energy Park. **Wristbands to sell do not come with staff t-shirts or SOPs.**
- **Teen** passes are required for all youth ages 13–18, who are not on Teen Crew. We will not be tracking the number of Teen passes as part of your budget request. We will be monitoring the number of passes sold. You must request these wristbands through your Coordinator. Every Teen on a crew list must provide their date of birth and the full name and crew affiliation of the adult legal guardian for them. No Teen passes will be issued without this info. Teen passes do not come with vehicle stickers, t-shirts or food vouchers. Teen passes are purchased passes.
- **SOP wristband** numbers will be calculated at 75% of crew numbers. All SOP wristbands are purchased passes. **SOP wristbands cannot be purchased with Crew budget funds from any category.** Payments for SOP wristbands are not refundable.

If you are requesting increases in any of the first three Wristband categories, you will need to talk to your Staff Liaison and/or Budget Committee liaison and may be asked to attend a Budget Committee meeting.

T-shirts

Oregon Country Fair staff t-shirts are given to wristbanded volunteers who serve in an authorized fair position a minimum number of hours to help put on the Fair. The general requirement is 20 hours during the event, or 50 hours during Main Camp, or 10 hours/month August-May, or some combination of the above. The budget committee recognizes that each crew has its own criteria for determining qualifications for crew status and those criteria extend beyond the Budget Committee minimum hours. Volunteers during the event must attend humanistic intervention training. It is up to coordinators to inform their crews of this expectation.

Volunteers are not eligible to receive more than one t-shirt. Your t-shirt request should be equal to or fewer than your crew wristband number. If requesting extra shirts, please explain who and what they are for.

Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers allow fair family to park their cars in the OCF lots overnight. Vehicle stickers will be allocated at a percentage of the crew, entertainment and vendor wristbands. We have not yet determined the exact percentage of sticker type and allocation yet.

Entertainment crews get an allotment of complimentary vehicles stickers for entertainers; any additional vehicle stickers are purchased at crew prices. As parking is limited, encourage your crew to carpool or ride the worker shuttle buses and park off-site.

There are multiple types of vehicle stickers:

- Regular Onsite Crew/Entertainers/Vendor Vehicle Stickers (RVS)
- Far Side Crew/Vendor vehicle stickers (FVS)
- Emergency Vehicle Stickers (EVS)
- Service Vehicle Stickers (SVS)
- Oversized Vehicle Sticker (OVS) – You must purchase a regular vehicle sticker and an Oversize Vehicle Sticker for vehicles over 22', or a vehicle plus trailer. Request this type of sticker through the OCF database.

If your crew member needs access to restricted areas for service delivery or security purposes, please request the Service Vehicle Sticker (SVS). Emergency Vehicle Stickers (EVS) are very limited and are for fire or medical emergencies.

Entertainment crews: List the vehicle sticker for your crews and entertainers separately (see forms).

Please attach a list of who (person or position) will use each SVS or EVS. We need more information this year to support requests for Service or Emergency Vehicle Stickers.

South Miss Piggy's stickers will continue to be handled separately. Only those people previously approved for camping on the Far Side may request Far Side stickers. No increases to Far Side sticker requests will be considered.

Day Passes

Day Passes do not entitle people to either a vehicle sticker or free parking on the Fair site. Encourage day pass people to ride the free LTD bus or the Worker shuttle bus. Please indicate at the bottom of the back page who the day passes will go to, and why.

Worker Day Pass

Worker Day Passes are good Wednesday through Sunday of Fair week. Each pass provides one-day access to the site beginning at 7 a.m. and ending with the sweep. Worker Day Passes are used for entertainers, speakers, booth workers, or service providers who need access before the Fair is open to the public. If requesting worker day passes, please explain to your staff liaison why they are necessary for your crew's operation.

V.I.Peach Pass

The V.I.Peach Pass is given as trade for services and to neighbors and community partners. This pass allows access only during the time the Fair is open to the public. The VIP pass is good any one day of the fair. We are asking crews to look carefully at their VIP requests.

Capital Projects

The year-to-year capital projects describe our on-going practice of approving capital projects for the current year. For projects not completed by December 31 of each year, the approval expires—and the project must be treated as a carryforward in the next year, and re-approved, to continue.

In December 2019, the Board approved creating the category of long-term capital projects.

Long Term Capital Projects:

1. Are considered to be complicated and large enough to merit special handling (note, the creation of this category doesn't preempt other policies for purchasing, such as bids for contracts over \$5000 and conflict of interest disclosures)
2. These projects may be considered complex because of permitting, land use, coordination between crews or contract size.
3. These projects require a project manager, who is a paid staff person.
4. These projects will be assigned a time-frame, up to 5 years, that the approval can carryforward, along with unspent funds from the initial approval.

A capital project must be \$2000 or more to qualify. One-time purchases that don't fit into a crew budget that are smaller than this, can be vetted by staff to come out of a contingency budget. You can request a Capital Project form from your staff liaison or find it on the .net site under Coordinators Info and Forms. Please submit the completed form to your staff liaison by January 31, 2027. Capital projects are approved at the March Board meeting.

Thank you for your careful stewardship of our shared resources!

Careful budgeting is one of a coordinator's primary responsibilities. We know this is a lot of information to keep track of, and this is one of the reasons each crew has a staff and budget liaison. Please call them with questions and concerns. By working together, we can continue to do more for our family and community, care for our land and resources, and realize our dreams for the future while ensuring the Fair's financial stability.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR THE FAIR!