



Gift Cards for Fraternal Activities

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Gift cards can be a simple way to make fraternal events feel more fun, welcoming, or meaningful. Whether you're offering a small thank-you or helping members take part in an activity, they can add a nice touch when used thoughtfully.

Because every event is different, leaders should use good judgment when deciding if gift cards make sense. Keep purchases reasonable and connected to the purpose of the event.

Ways to Use Gift Cards to Enhance Member Experiences

Door Prizes

Gift cards make great door prizes and can bring a little excitement to your events. They're an easy way to show appreciation and help members feel valued.

Ideas include:

- Encouraging members to bring a guest to be entered into a gift card drawing.
- Starting an educational event with a fun trivia question.
- Thanking frequent attendees with a small gift card.

Social Activities

Gift cards can be a helpful alternative to giving out cash at social events. Small-value cards can encourage participation and make activities easier to manage.

For example, instead of handing out \$2.50 in cash, a chapter might give each attendee a \$5 gift card to a local vendor. It streamlines the process and adds a little extra value to members.

Hometown Hero

To recognize someone making a difference in the community, chapters may give a small gift card to their Hometown Hero. This can take the place of items like balloons or cake while still making the recognition feel special.

Service Projects

Gift cards aren't typically needed for service projects, but there may be meaningful moments to use them. Chapters and youth clubs may choose to include small-denomination cards in care packages, hygiene kits, goodie bags, or other donated items.

As a general guideline:

- Chapters should keep service-project gift card spending under **\$100 per year**.
- Summit chapters should stay under **\$50 per year**.
- Use good judgment and keep amounts modest and mission-focused.

Best Practices for Gift Card Spending

Avoid giving away large sums through gift cards. Doing so can overshadow the true spirit of fraternalism. Focus on creating meaningful experiences - like offering fun items or making hands-on service projects - which often have a bigger impact and leave lasting memories.

The Fraternal Department may review gift card purchases made with chapter or youth club funds. Leaders should ensure gift card amounts are reasonable for the event and a responsible use of chapter dollars.

If a gift card purchase seems unusually large, the department may reach out to confirm the intent and make sure funds are being used in a way that benefits members and the community.