

Hill Country Home School Association

Co-op FAQ

What do we have to do to attend Co-op?

The Co-op is an organization sanctioned by the HCHSA. To attend Co-op, one must become a member of the Association. Once membership dues are paid for the year, the family has access to the communication forums and the co-op registration.

Who has to be at Co-op?

The Co-op requires that we have a LEGAL guardian on the campus during the entire time a student is in attendance. Grandparents or older (adult-aged) siblings are welcome to come as a visitor, but we need to have a LEGAL guardian. The legal guardian is so we can avoid any issues with “day-care” type regulations and scrutiny. Also, our organization is call a Co-op because we all work together to make it work. We need all parents to be available to fulfill assigned positions.

When is Co-op, typically?

Co-op is held twice a year. The Fall Co-op, generally, has registration the last week of August, with Co-op beginning around the third week of September then counting 9 weeks into November. The Spring Co-op, generally, has registration the last week of January, with Co-op beginning around the third week of February then counting 9 weeks into April. Lately, we have not taken a week off for “Spring Break”.

During our 9 weeks, we meet on Tuesday mornings at the Kerrville First Baptist Church at 9:30 for opening. Classes begin at 10 and continue until 12. We have 2 one hour classes during that time.

How much does Co-op cost?

We have a registration fee of \$40 per family for each semester. The individual teachers set the cost for each of their classes. Generally, classes range from about \$5 – 20 depending on the amount of materials needed to be purchased for that class.

Why are late registrations not accepted?

Our officers are volunteers. The leg work required to call teachers, open up classes, redo schedules and rework fees for teachers is a bit overwhelming after registration is closed. We know you are valuable! Truly, but our registration is advertised (the best of our ability) for two weeks before the registration dates. All families have at least two days in which to register.

Who can teach a Co-op class?

Teachers for our Co-op come from parents who have attended our Co-op at least one previous semester. Also, our teachers have read, signed, and believe the Statement of Beliefs of our Association.

How are classes chosen for Co-op?

Our teachers are precious volunteers. Since they are giving of their time, they get to choose the class they would like to teach. The Co-op Leadership Team does some suggesting and

encouraging toward class topics so that classes are more diversified within a given semester. We encourage our parent teachers to look around their homes for homeschool materials they have purchased and really want to do with their kids, but have not found the time for and bring those to Co-op as a class.

Are grades given at Co-op?

Our Co-op is an enrichment Co-op. That means we get together to enjoy learning and exploring things that we might not have time or resources to do with our small group of kids at home. Grades are not given by the Co-op teacher. Homework might be assigned so that the material is being better understood. The parent gets to decide how to proceed from there.

What about this “Statement of Beliefs” thing?

Our Co-op is one part of the Hill Country Home School Association. Everything we do is accountable to the HCHSA Board of Directors. The Statement of Beliefs is a very strong part of our Christian home school association. As the Co-op Leadership Team, with direction from the HCHSA Board of Directors, we have chosen to allow any family to attend our Co-op who is willing to read the Statement of Beliefs and know that we teach and function under these Beliefs. We will not be shy in our Beliefs. However, if a family of a differing faith wishes to be part of our Co-op, they are welcome to attend and enjoy with us. On the other hand, we do insist that our teachers actually sign and believe our Statement of Beliefs.

Why is Co-op on Tuesday?

“Because it has always been that way.” Truly. Over the years we have taken surveys of a day that would be better for all involved. Every time, Tuesday has been the ultimate choice.

Why is Co-op only 9 weeks?

We like being able to be sorry to see Co-op end each semester.

What is covered in the Co-op Registration fee?

The \$40 per family fee helps us cover basic paper goods, a love offering to the First Baptist Church, coffee supplies, nursery supplies, and PayPal fees.

Are our teachers paid?

No. Our teachers and our Co-op Leadership Team are all volunteers. None of us claim to be professional, but we enjoy being able to serve our families and provide this precious opportunity to our children.