

Support Group Member Benefits

SMHEA now includes cooperatives in the definition of “support group” in our bylaws. We define a “cooperative” as any group of home schooling families meeting together for mutual support in groups organized around home schooling academic or extracurricular activities. This could include, but not be limited to, cooperatives that offer classes or organize around activities like speech and debate, scholars bowl, clubs like American Heritage Girls, or athletic teams. Cooperatives that choose to affiliate with SMHEA will receive the benefits traditionally offered to SMHEA support groups when they meet the conditions for official status listed in our bylaws. Contact Cory at president@smhea.org for more information on how to achieve official SMHEA support group status.

Benefits

We entered into an agreement with Office Max that will allow our support groups to do their printing at their lowest corporate prices and to purchase all office supplies in the store at a corporate discount. If the products are on sale at a lower price, the lower price would apply. We are also able to give support groups access to our tax free number so that supplies at Office Max can be purchased tax free. Office Max will ship or pick up and deliver free. By combining our buying power we all get a much better deal.

Here are some other benefits of your group maintaining or establishing an official up with SMHEA:

Use of the SMHEA tax exempt number to purchase support group supplies.

Free listing of events and activities on the SMHEA Web page and in the Smoke Signals newsletter and through our e-list

SMHEA helps with training expenses of our official support group leaders. This will come in handy at THEA and HSLDA parent and leadership events.

Access to homeschool legal advice through our attorney

Mediation service in event disagreements arise in your support group

Training and support for support group leaders

Access to our leaders toolbox which will be posted on our website

Access to the resources and support of the Tennessee Home Education Association which includes training conferences and activities for leaders

All of these services and more are what makes associating with a SMHEA great deal.