CMP Membership Program Frequently Asked Questions

50 questions and answers | Updated October 29 2026

Your membership donation supports the CMP Scholarship Fund. This guide explains annual membership, required safety validation, member rewards, and purchasing requirements. All members have the same fulfillment priority status where offered. The Terms of Service, published sales policies, and transaction-specific terms govern participation and purchases.

Program and scholarship support

1. What is the CMP Membership Program?

The CMP Membership Program connects supporters with the Civilian Marksmanship Program through annual Bronze, Silver, and Gold memberships. Members participate as Program affiliates and may access the rewards CMP publishes for their level after required validation.

2. Where does my membership donation go?

All membership revenue goes to the CMP Scholarship Fund as a donation. Selecting a higher membership level increases your contribution to that fund. Membership does not give you authority over scholarship selections or the use of CMP funds.

3. Who may join, including juniors or people living outside the United States?

Enrollment is subject to the eligibility requirements CMP states when you join. Check the published age, location, and consent requirements before paying for yourself or another person. Program enrollment does not establish eligibility to purchase a firearm.

4. Must I join this Program to buy from CMP?

Direct Program membership is not a universal requirement for every CMP purchase. Eligibility depends on the product and sales program. Recognized affiliated-club pathways continue to exist; check the current requirements for the item you want to purchase.

5. Does membership give me voting rights or ownership in CMP?

No. Members are Program affiliates only. They have no voting, governance, ownership, distribution, or organizational decision-making rights. Authority remains with CMP's Board of Directors and authorized executive leadership.

6. What membership levels are offered?

The individual annual levels are Bronze, Silver, and Gold. They have different donation amounts and total annual M14 purchase limits. All three levels have the same member fulfillment priority status where CMP offers that reward.

7. What are the annual donation amounts?

First Adopter Pricing through December 31, 2026, is Bronze $65, Silver $150, and Gold $300 for the first annual term. Beginning January 1, 2027, the announced annual amounts are Bronze $100, Silver $300, and Gold $500.

8. Does First Adopter Pricing lock in my rate forever?

No. It applies to your first annual term only. It saves $35 on Bronze, $150 on Silver, or $200 on Gold compared with the announced January 1, 2027 amounts. Renewals use the amount disclosed at renewal.

9. How long does membership last, and when does it begin?

Membership is annual and continues for one year from the date stated at purchase or activation, unless suspended or terminated under the Terms. Review the dates displayed during enrollment. Any special enrollment or pre-sale terms must be expressly stated by CMP. (Early adopters will get additional time pre-2027. All early adopters will have their renewal date be January 1, 2027.)

10. Does membership renew automatically?

Membership expires at the end of its stated term unless renewed (Automatic renewal is being built, but currently not active). It will not renew automatically unless CMP clearly discloses automatic renewal at checkout and you separately and affirmatively consent. Applicable cancellation notices and legal rights still apply.

Enrollment and safety validation

11. How do I enroll, online or during a store visit?

Use the enrollment method and instructions CMP publishes on its official website. Before a store visit, confirm the available enrollment assistance. Do not assume an ordinary store-register transaction completes membership enrollment, training, and validation.

12. Does paying my donation immediately activate all rewards?

No. Payment alone does not validate membership. You must complete CMP's designated safety training and satisfy the applicable verification and eligibility requirements before accessing rewards that require validated membership.

13. Must I complete both a safety video and a quiz?

Complete the designated CMP safety training, including the required video and quiz under the published training instructions. Follow the passing standard and completion steps displayed in the course. CMP must verify successful completion before applicable rewards become available.

14. Am I exempt from membership training because I am a veteran, instructor, or experienced shooter?

No. The membership validation requirement applies under the Program Terms. Prior military service, certifications, or experience do not automatically waive it.

15. What if I delay training or have trouble completing it?

Contact membership support for help and follow the course instructions for any available retakes. Rewards requiring validation remain inactive until requirements are met. Delayed completion does not automatically extend your annual term or create a refund right.

16. How can I confirm that my membership is validated?

Check the confirmation and status information CMP provides through its enrollment or account process. If you paid and completed training but validation is not reflected, contact membership support with your account and transaction details. A payment receipt alone is not proof of validation.

17. Do I need a physical membership card, or is digital proof acceptable?

Use the current credential or proof CMP specifies for the transaction. Ask support if your credential is missing or your status cannot be verified.

18. Should I create another account if my membership is not showing?

No. Unless CMP authorizes otherwise, maintain one Program account per participant. Contact support to correct missing or duplicate records. CMP may consolidate duplicate accounts and adjust rewards or limits to prevent duplication or misuse.

19. Can I upgrade my membership during the year?

Ask CMP whether an upgrade is available and review its disclosed donation amount, effective date, and expiration treatment before paying. The Terms do not promise a specific proration or credit. An upgrade does not reset annual M14 purchases.

20. Can I buy membership for someone else or share mine with my family?

If enrolling another person, you must be authorized to accept the Terms for that person; that participant must meet the requirements. Memberships and rewards are personal and cannot be shared, transferred, resold, or assigned unless CMP expressly authorizes it in writing.

Fulfillment priority and purchase limits

21. What does member priority fulfillment mean?

CMP makes best efforts to prioritize eligible member M14 orders over nonmember orders where that reward is offered. Priority depends on inventory, complete documentation, eligibility verification, and operational capacity. It does not guarantee approval, inventory, or a delivery date.

22. Do Gold members receive faster fulfillment than Silver or Bronze members?

No. The priority distinction is Member versus Non-member. Bronze, Silver, and Gold have the same member priority status. A higher tier does not provide a higher position within the member fulfillment queue.

23. If I join after placing an order, will it jump ahead of existing orders?

Membership does not guarantee advancement ahead of every existing order or retroactive priority. Contact the sales team to confirm whether your validated status can be applied to that order under the applicable published policy.

24. How long will my order take, and why might a nonmember receive an item first?

There is no guaranteed membership delivery time. Different inventory, order readiness, documentation, eligibility checks, and operational requirements can affect processing. Another customer's timeline does not establish when your order will ship. Contact the responsible sales team for your order status.

25. Can a nonmember still order an M14?

Yes. Eligible citizens may purchase up to two M14 rifles annually under CMP's published sales policy. Bronze has the same total limit of two; Silver allows three and Gold allows four. All purchases remain subject to availability, applicable law, documentation, and CMP eligibility requirements.

26. What are the total annual M14 purchase limits?

The baseline annual limit is two M14 rifles for eligible citizens. Bronze also allows two total; Silver adds one for three total; Gold adds two for four total. These are total annual limits, not new allowances each time you enroll or change levels.

27. Do M14 purchases made before I join count toward my limit?

Yes. Prior purchases count toward the applicable annual total. For example, if you have already purchased one M14 during the applicable annual period and become a validated Bronze member, the total limit of two leaves room for one more qualifying purchase.

28. If I upgrade from Bronze to Gold, do I get four more M14 purchases?

No. Gold allows four total annual purchases under the applicable policy. If you already bought two during that period, the Gold total leaves room for up to two more, subject to inventory and eligibility. Buying another membership does not create another allowance.

29. Does renewal reset my M14 limit, and does annual mean calendar year?

A membership renewal does not itself create a new purchase allowance. The applicable annual counting period is controlled by CMP's published M14 sales policy. Confirm that period with CMP; do not assume it matches your membership anniversary or resets when you renew.

30. Do the M14 limits or member priority apply to every CMP firearm?

No blanket extension is stated. The M14 limits are product-specific, and priority applies where CMP offers it. M1 Garand, 1911, auction, and other sales programs retain their own rules, limits, documentation requirements, and fulfillment procedures.

Affiliated clubs and purchase eligibility

31. Does Membership by itself qualify me to purchase a firearm?

No. All purchases remain subject to applicable CMP eligibility requirements and purchasing policies. Follow the current transaction instructions for accepted affiliation documentation. Membership does not waive citizenship, age, marksmanship, background-check, shipping, or product-specific requirements.

32. Does the Garand Collectors Association remain a valid CMP-affiliated club?

Yes. The Garand Collectors Association remains a CMP-affiliated club. Direct Program membership does not invalidate GCA affiliation or change an affiliated club's status. Use current proof of qualifying club membership when required by the sales instructions.

33. If I belong to GCA, another affiliated club, or a recognized military or veterans organization, am I automatically a Bronze member?

No. Qualifying affiliation for a purchase and enrollment in this individual Membership Program are separate. Existing affiliation does not automatically enroll you in Bronze, Silver, or Gold or grant this Program's rewards. CMP's sales rules determine which organizations and service documentation satisfy purchase requirements.

34. What proof of citizenship and age do I need?

Use the documents listed in the current CMP sales instructions. These include specified citizenship documents and proof of age; a driver's license alone should not be assumed to establish U.S. citizenship. Membership does not replace these records or waive applicable age restrictions.

35. Must I be a competitive shooter to satisfy the marksmanship requirement?

Not necessarily. CMP's purchase rules list several accepted ways to document marksmanship-related activity, including certain service records, licenses, training, or competition records. Check the current list and product-specific exceptions. Program enrollment alone does not establish that requirement.

36. Does the membership safety video replace live-fire training or purchase documentation?

No. Membership validation and firearm purchase qualification are separate requirements. Complete the Program training and provide whatever marksmanship or other records the particular sales program requires. Only an expressly published CMP policy can establish an accepted substitution.

37. If I am over 60, must I still complete membership safety training?

Yes, unless CMP expressly publishes a Program exemption. A purchase-policy exception from proof of marksmanship for certain buyers over 60 is separate from membership validation. Other purchase documentation and legal eligibility requirements continue to apply.

38. Do I need membership or club affiliation to buy ammunition or merchandise?

Requirements vary by item. CMP's current ammunition page distinguishes surplus ammunition, which requires qualifying club affiliation and citizenship documentation, from commercial ammunition, which does not require those two documents. Check the product instructions; ordinary merchandise has separate rules. Program membership does not waive any applicable restriction.

39. What should I bring before traveling to a CMP store?

Check the store's current hours, inventory notices, and the relevant sales checklist before traveling. Bring accepted identity, citizenship, affiliation, marksmanship, and state-required documents as applicable. Membership does not guarantee that an item is in stock or that enrollment assistance is available at the register.

40. Does membership waive a background check, dealer transfer, permit, or state restriction?

No. Membership does not override federal, state, or local law; background checks; documentation; shipping restrictions; dealer-transfer requirements; or CMP sales rules. Review the current instructions for your state and the specific product before ordering or traveling.

Rewards terms and customer support

41. How do I know which rewards are available now?

Rely on the current reward descriptions CMP publishes for your tier and transaction. Rewards may have eligibility, capacity, inventory, location, timing, and separate-fee conditions. A general description of possible rewards does not establish that every offering is currently available.

42. Will I receive a membership hat or an annual gift?

A recognition gift is provided only as described in the offer CMP publishes for your enrollment. Check the stated item, availability, and distribution method. Do not assume a hat ships immediately or that membership creates an entitlement to a new gift every year.

43. Are future discounts and rewards guaranteed, and can rewards change?

Forthcoming rewards become available only when CMP announces their implementation. CMP may modify, suspend, replace, or discontinue tiers or rewards for the reasons stated in the Terms. Material changes affecting a paid term receive notice as required by applicable law.

44. Are partner discounts, products, or events included automatically?

Only offers CMP or a participating partner actually publishes are available. Each partner offer is subject to its stated eligibility, availability, exclusions, deadlines, and transaction terms. Membership does not guarantee a discount from every vendor or free access to partner events.

45. Does membership include free range access, classes, competitions, or automatic admission?

Only if a specific published offer expressly includes it. Membership does not generally guarantee admission, a class seat, range access, or waived entry fees. Facility rules, safety requirements, capacity, registration, waivers, and any separate charges still apply.

46. Can I get a refund if I do not use rewards or cannot buy the rifle I want?

Membership contributions are final and nonrefundable except where a refund is required by applicable law. Nonuse, incomplete validation, purchase ineligibility, unavailable inventory, or changed rewards do not create a refund or proration right. CMP may grant a discretionary courtesy exception without establishing a continuing entitlement.

47. Is my entire membership donation tax deductible because it supports scholarships?

CMP does not guarantee full or partial deductibility. Any allowable deduction generally depends on applicable law and the contribution above the fair market value of goods, services, or privileges received. Scholarship allocation does not remove those rules. Retain CMP acknowledgments and disclosures and consult your tax adviser.

48. Can I cancel, and can CMP suspend or terminate membership?

You may cancel future participation using CMP's provided method. CMP may restrict, suspend, or terminate access under the Terms for reasons including unsafe conduct, fraud, misuse, nonpayment, loss of eligibility, or conduct covered by its conduct provisions. Cancellation or termination does not create a refund right except where law requires one.

49. How are my account information and communications handled?

Provide accurate information, keep it current, and protect your login credentials. CMP's Privacy Policy governs personal information. Transactional messages administer your membership; marketing messages remain subject to your choices and applicable law. Report suspected unauthorized account access promptly and obtain permission before redistributing protected Program content.

50. Where can I get help with membership, missing credentials, orders, or a suspicious payment message?

Use the official contact information published at TheCMP.org. Membership materials list membership@thecmp.org. Include your name, account, and relevant order number. Verify uncertain payment requests through an independently obtained official contact before sending payment or sensitive information.

Research and source notes

For CMP editors and customer service staff

The 50 questions are an editorial selection of likely customer concerns, informed by accessible public discussions and Program documents. They are not a statistical ranking of question frequency. Forum content was used to identify questions, not to establish CMP policy. No claim is made that every forum or private discussion was reviewed.

Policy sources and precedence

- Primary policy: Membership_Program_TOS_Updated.docx, last updated October 29, 2026, sections 1–10, 14, and 16. The source remains marked Draft for legal and executive review.
- Language guidance: CMP_Membership_Trifold_Language_Edit_Suggestions.docx, October 14, 2026. Applies donation and reward terminology, scholarship funding, video and quiz validation, best-efforts priority, conditional recognition gifts, and no standalone purchase-eligibility promise.
- Operational context: CMP_Membership_IPR_Due_Outs_2026-10-14.docx. Proposed launch, pre-sale activation, renewal configuration, quiz details, and gift fulfillment were not treated as settled customer promises.
- Controlling correction from Luke Tyus, October 29, 2026: M14 baseline is two for eligible citizens and Bronze; Silver adds one for three total; Gold adds two for four total. This supersedes the one-rifle nonmember limit in TOS section 3.1.2 for this FAQ. Update that TOS section to match before publishing the documents together.

Official public references

Purchase eligibility
https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/eligibility-requirements/

Ammunition requirements
https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/ammunition/

Affiliated clubs
https://thecmp.org/clubs/

IRS guidance on contributions with goods or services
https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/charitable-contributions-quid-pro-quo-contributions

Public pages can contain legacy language, including statements that direct CMP membership does not exist. The FAQ uses the October 29 Program TOS and current language guidance for Program policy. Product-specific qualification continues to follow current sales instructions.

Forum research and publication checks

Representative public discussions reviewed

Reddit r/M1Rifles — physical cards, receipts, and proof of membership
https://www.reddit.com/r/M1Rifles/comments/177ivym/
FAQ topics: Questions 16–18 and 31–33

Reddit r/M1Rifles — missing affiliation confirmation
https://www.reddit.com/r/M1Rifles/comments/1lp9l95/
FAQ topics: Questions 16–18 and 50

Reddit r/M1Rifles — order updates and payment-message verification
https://www.reddit.com/r/M1Rifles/comments/1s2s65u/m1_cmp_rifle_order/
FAQ topics: Questions 23–24 and 50

AR15.com — CMP 1911 orders, club affiliation, and wait times
https://www.ar15.com/forums/general/CMP-1911-on-the-way/5-2800196/
FAQ topics: Questions 24, 30–33, and 50

The Armory Life Forum — CMP overview and separate eligibility requirements
https://www.thearmorylife.com/forum/threads/what-is-the-civilian-marksmanship-program-cmp.21398/
FAQ topics: Questions 4 and 31–40

Sniper's Hide — Advanced Maintenance Course and limited class seats
https://www.snipershide.com/shooting/threads/cmp-m1-advanced-maintenance-course-build-your-own-expert-grade.7210487/
FAQ topics: Questions 32–33 and 45

GON Forum — CMP sale, store changes, and product eligibility
https://forum.gon.com/threads/cmp-sale.1081317/
FAQ topics: Questions 38–39 and 41–45

Search coverage included CMP Forums, Reddit communities discussing CMP and M1 rifles, AR15.com, M14 Forum, Gunboards, Sniper's Hide, The Armory Life, and GON. CMP Forums returned an access restriction (403); M14 Forum and Gunboards searches did not provide usable relevant results in this search. Some discussion content was available only through indexed excerpts. No private or authenticated boards were accessed. Research checked October 29, 2026.

Before public release

Reconcile TOS section 3.1.2 with the corrected M14 baseline; confirm enrollment availability, any pre-sale start dates, the annual M14 counting period, the published quiz standard, recognition gifts, and support contact details. Obtain approval of the current TOS draft. The FAQ avoids promising unconfirmed launch dates, an automatic renewal configuration, guaranteed order advancement, or future rewards.