

2026 FUSION CORE MEMBER INFORMATION SHEET

Administration:

Executive Director – Holly Marino holly.marino@fusioncore.org
Assistant Director – Giustina Ragan - garegan01@gmail.com
Business Manager – Nick Carlson – admin@fusioncore.org
Logistics – Ralph Marino - Ralph@taxsearchnow.com
Admin Assistant – Vanessa Hamilton - vahamilton72@gmail.com

Caption Heads:

Oscar Escobar – Brass Caption Head
Alex Schultheis – Battery Caption
Jacob Behr – Front Ensemble
Evan Black – Colorguard Caption Head
Randy Salinas – Visual Caption Head

GOALS: To provide our members with positive, healthy, productive, experiences on and off the competitive field that will benefit them throughout their life. We want our members to make meaningful relationships that are made in the marching arts activity. Lastly, we want our member's parents to enjoy the experience as much as the members and we hope everyone will be "Changed for Good"

- What are the fees to be a member and what does it include?

The total fees amount to \$2,400.00* and will be paid in monthly installments on ACTIVE. There are six semi-monthly payments of \$400.00 each, starting in May, to meet the July 15 deadline. However, if a member signs up early, they can begin making payments sooner, reducing the total amount of their two monthly payments. We also offer tiered discounts for groups of members from the same school/program, as well as multi-year, family, and "bring a friend" discounts. Monthly payments are preferred, and all fees must be paid in full by July 15, 2025.

This year, we are also offering AFFIRM for an additional fee, but it does give members more time to pay their fees.

Your membership fee includes instructional fees, uniform rental, Equipment rental, buses when provided, meals *when provided*, housing (Saturdays only during spring/summer rehearsals & show site housing), facilities, operations costs (i.e. insurance, equipment maintenance, vehicle maintenance including gas & tolls, etc.)

☐ • Are there fundraisers?

Yes. We typically will do Gertrude Hawk and Krispy Kreme and Calendar Fundraisers and we are open to new ideas. Parents can volunteer and “work” off some of your tuition (see below). We can also provide you with a Sponsorship request form. All donations made to Fusion Core for are tax deductible. There is a one-time MANDATORY, all member fundraiser which goes directly to the Core only and that is a 50/50 fundraiser. Members are obligated to sell 20 50/50 tickets that are \$10.00 each, so start getting together 10 friends now to buy a ticket!!

☐ • Where do most rehearsals take place and when?

Our “home base” is Wekiva High School in Apopka. We may have a rehearsal at a different location if there is a scheduling conflict at Wekiva or if a school invites us to host a clinic at their school. Starting at the end of April, we will meet regularly, every weekend.

• Is there housing for the regular season?

YES! We have secured housing at beautiful Camp Wewa, located in Apopka, not far from our rehearsal facility. These are bunk bed accommodations in air-conditioned cabins.

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• When do the competitions start?

Our competition season starts the end of July, but our season officially kicks off in Maryland for our Fourth of July Tour De Maryland. It's a weekend you do not want to miss. In the near future, you can find our complete season schedule by visiting our website www.fusioncore.org.

☐ • Do I have to be at every practice and Competition?

YES, in order for us to provide you with successful drum corps experience, it is important that our members are 100% committed. We do, however, encourage you to get involved in school events. All we ask is once school and indoor is finished, members are 100% committed to Fusion Core. With such little time, members will need to commit to the process which relies heavily on the schedule.

☐ • What if I have an allergy?

All members are required to fill out a health form in the membership packet. It is CRUCIAL that we have an entire medical history that we can provide a medic in the case of an emergency. If you have a food allergy, we will make sure there is an alternate option available for meals that are provided. If you have severe allergies or have very specific dietary needs, we recommend that you let us know immediately.

☐ • Where and When are Championships and how will I get there?

Championship weekend will be held on the second weekend in August at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. Members will travel by bus. Some families will want to make a trip out of it and plan a family adventure in Indy. That will be tons of fun, but, members must stay with the Core at Core housing and travel via the bus to Lucas Oil for Prelims and Championships.

• Are there any social/leisure trips involved that don't involve competing?

Possibly. Depending on the year, we may include an optional trip. Information would be sent out well in advance if there was going to be such an event.

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- • What are some of the ways my parents can volunteer?

GREAT QUESTION AND GREAT WAY TO OFFSET YOUR TUITION!!

- TRUCK DRIVERS - We have a trailer which requires an F250 pickup truck with tow capacity. No CDL required.
- Cooks – (IF APPLICABLE)The way to everyone’s heart is a good meal. We’ll provide the money if you could provide your “chefly” talents. Good/Easy meals are: Pasta with sauce, tacos, hoagies, etc.
- Food Handlers – Once the food is cooked, the next most important person is the person who serves with a smile. We may have roughly 120 people we’ll need to get through a line in about 30 minutes. We need efficient, calm, friendly people to help make that process happen.
- Merchandising – We are looking for a person(s) who are willing to research, order, label, store, and man the souvie booth or create a schedule for volunteers, specifically at Championships in Indianapolis. The souvie team always has a good time. Just bring a chair and smile. We’ll supply the funds; you have all the fun ordering and setting up “Shop”! 🍌
- Seamstress –Can you sew uniforms or maybe your just someone who can do a quick fix. Sometimes members will need last-minute fixes to their uniforms. That can be very stressful for the members. Having someone on hand to help would be great. So, if you love sewing and can help, please let us know.
- First Aid - Mom, dad, other family members who are medical personnel are always welcome. Drum Core is a physical sport and sometimes having a medic on site is super helpful. They don’t have to be doctors. They can be certified medics or RNs.

☐ Equipment Manager – Are you good with spreadsheets and very organized? We can use your skills keeping track of our equipment.

**Sign up is needed preseason. Spots fill up quickly. Since tuition is due prior to the season ending, you will be responsible for repayment of credits towards sign ups that are not satisfied.*

I'm sure there are things I may have missed so please feel free to ask. No question is a stupid question. The more info you have, the better experience you will have.

Thanks for reading!!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 973-945-5367 or email me at holly.marino@fusioncore.org.

With Maurice's love we started

And a family was born

We pulled it all together

And created "The Core

Who can say if I've Been Changed For the Better

BUT

Because I knew you.....IHBCFG