



Knights of Columbus

BC & Yukon State Council

Coats for Kids Program 2026-2027

Overview:

Did you know that many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter? Low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic needs and cannot always afford this vital winter necessity. That's why the Knights of Columbus developed the Coats for Kids program, which enables councils across North America to put their faith into action by purchasing new winter coats at a discount for children in need in their communities. More than 1,000,000 new winter coats have been distributed throughout the United States and Canada since the program began in 2009.

Community Outreach:

This program's primary goal is to help kids stay warm in the winter when a child's family does not have the resources to adequately meet this need. A warm coat means a child can more realistically attend school, go to after-school programs, fit in with other children, play and do all the things that kids do to be kids. In a very real sense, a warm winter coat means mobility. Our mission is to make this seemingly small part of life a little bit easier for these families.

The secondary goal of the Coats for Kids program is to better connect your council with your parish and your community. Let the people around you see the good works of your council, so that they want to support it and be a part of it.

How It Works

The Supreme Council offers a BOGO (50/50 matching) incentive for coats purchased by State Councils, and distributed through the fall. It is better to distribute these coats before the onset of winter.

Only purchases from State Councils qualify, not from local councils. Coats will not be ordered until funds have been received. However, local councils can distribute the coats purchased by the State Council on their behalf, and/or contribute funds to the State Council for the State Council's distribution.

Instructions to Order Coats:

1. Due to limits on free cases available to us, the matching is only available while quantities last. Local councils interested in participating in this matching program must complete the order form and send it with payment to:
Knights of Columbus BC & Yukon State Council
Attention: Jim Williams, State Treasurer
2195 Neptune Road
North Saanich, BC V8L 5J4
Email: jimw.kofc@gmail.com



Knights of Columbus

BC & Yukon State Council

2. Donation with tax-deductible receipts – Individual members are encouraged to write donation cheques through their council to claim individual tax-deductible receipts. Please see the separate instructions.
 - a. Donor councils will write a cheque, for the entire council/group instead of by individual member, and send to:

Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation
Attention: Arcie Lim, Foundation Administrator
2807 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC V5N 4L5
In the memo section of the cheque, write: Coats for Kids.
 - b. The Council will send all cheques and funds collected no later than October 15, 2026 to the State Foundation Administrator.
 - c. The Council will provide all relevant individual donor information (i.e. name, address, amount donated, phone number, etc.) to the Foundation Administrator to allow issuance of a charitable donation tax receipt.
 - d. The Foundation Administrator will issue the cheque to the State Council.
 - e. When funds are sent to the State Foundation Administrator, the Council will submit the Order Form, as well as any additional funds required, to the State Treasurer, with a note indicating the amount submitted to the Charity Foundation. He will place the order on behalf of the Council, including matching quantities.

Additional information on the coats and sizes can be found in the Coats for Kids Order Form attached.

Prices are \$381 CDN per case/box of twelve coats (includes ground shipping only) for orders shipped to addresses in Canada. Coats are only sold by the full case. Pre-packed cases will contain either boys' coats, girls' coats, or adult coats.

Here is the link to Supplies Online - Canadian website, for more information: [K of C Coats for Kids Canada \(mybrightsites.com\)](https://www.mybrightsites.com/KofC/CoatsforKidsCanada)



Knights of Columbus

BC & Yukon State Council

To organize a successful Coats for Kids distribution:

Action Steps

- Consider appointing a **Coats for Kids** chairman or assigning the task to the council's community program chairman.
- Contact the State Community Director to coordinate a BC-wide coat drive and determine how your council or assembly can support it.
- Councils hosting their own coat drive should choose a location and time for the event. Consider inviting local veterans, athletes, TV personnel, local fire and police departments, and the parish priest.
- Make sure you order enough coats by contacting your local communities, parishes, and schools to get a list of children who need a coat.
- Order Coats through the State Council.
- Publicize the event through local media and through the local communities, parishes and schools you are serving.
- **Coats for Kids** is a Youth Activities Program under the Service Programs Activities. Don't forget to turn in your Reporting Form (#10784) when done with this Program.

Membership Opportunities

Set up a Knights of Columbus membership booth at the Coat Distribution to allow parents the chance to learn more about the Knights of Columbus. Hold a church drive a week after the distribution to give men a chance to learn about the program and the good works of the Knights of Columbus.



Knights of Columbus

BC & Yukon State Council

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I order coats?

Councils should order their coats using the included order form and send a cheque or e-transfer to the State Council, c/o the State Treasurer.

How much does a case of Coats cost? How much is shipping?

Each case costs \$381 CDN for delivery to a Canadian address. Coats are sold only in full, pre-packed cases containing boys' coats, girls' coats, or adult coats. Ground shipping is included in the price and confirmed at the time of purchase.

How many coats are in a case?

A case contains 12 coats.

Do cases come with a mix of boys and girls? Can I customize my case? Is there a mix of styles?

Cases include either all boys' or all girls' coats, with a diverse assortment of sizes. We cannot mix boys' and girls' coats together, and we cannot customize your order based on style preference.

However, please note that when multiple cases are ordered, each case will likely contain a different style than the last.

Do the matching coats need to be the same size as those being purchased?

No; for each case your council purchases, you can order a free one of whatever gender and size you wish, while quantities last.

How does shipping work? How long does delivery take?

Shipping takes several weeks from the date of order. Coats will be sent to the distribution sites indicated on the order form. Tracking information will be emailed upon shipment.

How are the coats manufactured?

The factories producing the coats undergo an annual audit by a 3rd party firm to review and ensure they follow ethical business practices and maintain a safe work environment.

Does the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council or the BC & Yukon State Council profit from councils purchasing coats through Knights Gear?

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and the BC & Yukon State Council do not profit from council purchases of coats through Knights Gear.

For more information, please contact any of the following:

- Edgar Nacar, State Deputy (enacarkofc@gmail.com)
- Jim Williams, State Treasurer (jimw.kofc@gmail.com)
- Ariel Estrada, State General Program Director (arielkofc@gmail.com)
- Ardee Bautista, State Community Director (ardeeb.kofc@gmail.com)