

Five Ways AAA Membership Pays for Itself

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Tuesday, 22 November 2016 15:05 -



by Kelly Potts

If you don't already have a membership to AAA, you're missing out on more than just roadside assistance for you and your family. And if you do have a membership, there are some perks that you may not realize come included with your annual dues.

With a AAA Classic membership starting at only \$57, which is less than \$5 per month, you get access to a variety of savings and benefits. That includes these five perks, which can more than recoup your membership cost:

Car troubles. It happens to the best of us. You lock your keys in the car, your car won't start or you experience a flat tire on the freeway. Without a AAA membership, a call to an emergency roadside assistance provider can cost you at least \$78 or more for a lock out or flat tire, and tow service will cost at least \$85. Unlike other roadside assistance options, AAA membership follows the member, not the vehicle, so you're covered whether you're the driver or passenger. And you'll never have to file for reimbursement. With your AAA membership, you get four free service calls a year – why risk it?

Go team go! Save big when you use your AAA membership to purchase sport and event tickets. Members save up to \$9 on select Arizona Diamondbacks tickets and up to \$11 per ticket on select Arizona Cardinals tickets. Fans looking to cheer on the Phoenix Suns can save up to 40 percent per ticket, with the prices varying per game and seat. Arizona Rattlers fans can save 50 percent per ticket. Attend a handful of games per year with your discount, and you've saved enough to pay for your membership.

Phone home. AAA members receive significant benefits from Sprint. In fact, with the new expanded partnership, Sprint now covers AAA Classic membership renewal fees for new and existing customers. The carrier also gives AAA members discounts on Sprint's unlimited calling plans.

Expand your horizons. Looking for something different to do on the weekends? Head to the local museums and art exhibits – with your AAA discount! Ticket prices vary per event and show, but your AAA discount stays the same. Members save \$8 per adult ticket at Sea Life Aquarium at the Arizona Mills, 20 percent at Phoenix Art Museum (about \$4 per adult ticket), Phoenix Symphony (up to \$15 a ticket) and at the Tucson Art Museum. A few family trips or date nights a year can easily add up to cover membership costs.

Pet project. AAA views pets as an extension of their members' families, and offers savings to help you spoil and protect them even more. This includes benefits like \$30 off pet sitting service and 15 percent off grooming providers, so one out-of-town trip and a couple visits to the groomer can easily save you more than \$50 a year. On top of that, AAA members receive discounts on pet insurance and pet prescriptions for medicines that are not available at the vet.

For more ways you can save with your AAA membership, visit AAA.com/discounts.