



**UNLEASH STRONG!**

**BE A GIRL SCOUT.**

**GETTING STARTED  
WITH GIRL SCOUTS**



# FROM OUR CEO

## Welcome to Girl Scouts!

You've made a wonderful decision for your daughter's future. As a Girl Scout, your daughter will have fun, age-appropriate experiences that will build her confidence and widen her horizons as she learns to work with others and on her own. Her experiences in Girl Scouting will help her become a leader in her own life and in her world.

Adult volunteers receive training from the council and serve as role models for girls. Volunteers are instilled with the core values of Girl Scouting and help girls Discover their world, Connect with others, and Take Action in their community.

There are many, many ways for parents to participate and volunteer, such as becoming trained leaders themselves, presenting short term programs, and helping with communication, transportation, and special events. Parents may also participate with their Girl Scouts in the many individual girl events you'll learn about in council publications and communications. Thank you for supporting your troop's leadership. Volunteers give a part of their lives to help your daughter discover her potential.

To learn more, visit us often at [gseok.org](http://gseok.org).



Roberta Preston, Chief Executive Officer

Since March 12, 1912, when the original **G.I.R.L.** (**Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader**)™ powerhouse, Juliette Gordon “Daisy” Low, organized the very first Girl Scout troop in her hometown of Savannah, Georgia, Girl Scouts has provided girls of all ages and backgrounds with thousands of unique, girl-led experiences. Through Girl Scouts, girls are challenged, taught, connected, and encouraged to take meaningful action at every turn.

We're not stopping until **every girl** is prepared to **empower herself** for a lifetime of **leadership, success, and adventure.**



# HER GIRL SCOUT EXPERIENCE

As a Girl Scout, your girl will participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience—a proven, one-of-a-kind leadership development program (and the largest in the world!) where she will...

- ◆ Engage in healthy activities!
- ◆ Explore the great outdoors!
- ◆ Participate in hands-on STEM skill building!
- ◆ Connect with girls around the world!
- ◆ Take on meaningful community service projects!
- ◆ Find her entrepreneurial spirit and learn financial literacy!
- ◆ Take the lead—in her own life and in the world!

Every step of the way, she'll lead her experience and learn by doing in a collaborative environment created by and for every **G.I.R.L.** With the support of her peers and caring adults, she'll have so many opportunities to jump in and make amazing things happen.

## DID YOU KNOW...



**50%**

of female business leaders



**80%**

of female Tech leaders



**73%**

of female U.S. Senators



**100%**

of female U.S. Secretaries of State

## ...WERE GIRL SCOUTS?

# You want her to be happy, strong, confident and ready to succeed. So do we.

In Girl Scouts, you'll find that she always has an opportunity to try something new (and so will you!) – engineering a robot, taking an outdoor adventure, volunteering in her community. The skills she learns during her years as a Girl Scout build upon one another, leading to her success in life.

## GROWING WITH GIRL SCOUTS

A Journey for life-long leadership

### DAISIES K & 1st

Learn the importance of helping others, the elements of the Girl Scout Promise, and areas of interest, such as helping animals and protecting the Earth's treasures.

#### Achievements:

- Daisy Petals
- 7 Journeys
- Badges and Leaves
- Take Action Project



### Brownies 2nd & 3rd

Explore their communities through a quest to find three keys of leadership, explore their place in the wide world of girls, or take the lead in saving Earth's water. Focused on working together.

#### Achievements:

- 7 Journeys
- Badges and Patches
- Take Action Project



### Juniors 4th & 5th

Learn that leaders need power (their own, their team's, and their community's), try different roles to discover endless life opportunities, or bring energy solutions to their lives and their world. Girls are encouraged to take a more active troop role.

#### Achievements:

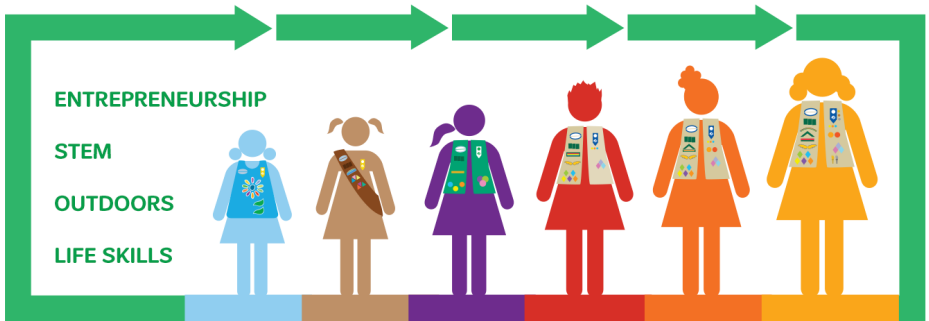
- 7 Journeys
- Badges and Patches
- Encouraged to earn the BRONZE AWARD





# PROGRAM PILLARS: a Foundation for Success

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is built on four core program pillars.



**Entrepreneurship** Starting with the iconic Girl Scout Cookie Program, this pillar explores ways in which girls can change the world by learning business skills and provides them with a variety of entrepreneurship opportunities, including social entrepreneurship.

**Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)** With a focus on high-quality, multi-year programs in engineering, computer science, and outdoor STEM, girls become increasingly interested, confident, and competent in STEM subjects.

**Outdoors** Through progressive outdoor programs for girls of all ages, girls experience nature, build skills, and take action in their communities as environmental stewards.

**Life skills** By partaking in life skills programming, girls enhance the academic skills they learn in school through topics such as civic engagement, healthy living, communication skills, financial literacy, and global citizenship.

# THE TROOP EXPERIENCE:

When your girl joins a **Girl Scout troop**, she'll have fun, make friends, become a leader, and discover all the amazing things she can do!

## **Where does the troop meet?**

You help to decide! Most of the time, troops meet in schools or community centers like libraries or churches that offer free meeting space.

## **How do troops pick activities?**

Girls, volunteers, and families should make decisions together in the troop, such as which Journey to complete, badges to earn, events to attend, and goals to set for the product programs. Always follow the girls' lead.

## **Who pays for what?**

**Troop Funds:** When a troop earns funds through a product program or troop dues, those funds belong to the entire troop, not specific girls. These funds should pay for supplies, some event registrations, badges and awards, and renewal membership fees.

**Families:** Families are typically responsible for uniforms, books, and startup costs as well as some event registrations. (membership fees and troop dues).

# RELIGIOUS RECOGNITIONS

As a member of Girl Scouts, each girl makes a promise "to serve God\*." To help each girl grow in her faith we offer awards that she can earn.

The **My Promise, My Faith** pin is in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* and helps girls connect the Girl Scout Law with her faith. A girl can earn this award every year she is a Girl Scout member. Booklets for this award are available in the Girl Scout Store.

Many different religious groups also offer Religious Recognitions to Girl Scouts. These recognitions are to be earned by the girls individually working with their own religious leaders.

If you have questions or would like more information, contact the Program department.

\*Girl Scouts of the USA makes no attempt to define or interpret the word "God" in the Girl Scout Promise. It looks to individual members to establish for themselves the nature of their spiritual beliefs. When making the Girl Scout Promise, individuals may substitute wording appropriate to their own spiritual beliefs for the word "God."

# What if we have questions?

That's normal! There are loads of resources and a network of support to assist you and your girl on your Girl Scout journey. Just reach out to our Customer Care team at [customercare@gseok.org](mailto:customercare@gseok.org) or 1-800-707-9914

## Girl Responsibilities:

- ◆ To follow the Girl Scout Promise & Law.
- ◆ To be willing to take risks and be supportive towards her troop peers.
- ◆ To attend and participate in meetings and events.
- ◆ To listen to others and show respect for what they are saying.
- ◆ To be prepared and conduct herself in a safe manner.
- ◆ To respect troop leaders and other volunteers.

## Family Responsibilities:

- ◆ Consider volunteering as a co-leader to make sure your girl's troop can start right away with the required two troop leaders.
- ◆ Volunteer with your troop as a parent helper or driver chaperone. Troop leaders cannot do it alone!
- ◆ Actively participate in the troop, and communicate efficiently and in a timely fashion with the troop leaders.
- ◆ Support your Girl Scout through all facets of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.
- ◆ Encourage her to take risks and try new things.
- ◆ Be a cheerleader and allow her to take the lead.
- ◆ When possible, attend council events with your Girl Scout and encourage active participation in troop meetings. Ensure she arrives prepared and on time for meetings or outings.
- ◆ Have questions or concerns? Start with your troop leaders. Discuss issues with them privately, not in front of the girls. Local volunteers and council staff are also here to help!



# ARE YOU READY TO BE A GIRL SCOUT?

## Here are your next steps:

- ◆ Register your girl as a member and pay membership dues at [gseok.org/join](https://gseok.org/join). Once registered, you will receive an email receipt and information to log in to your GS member community.
- ◆ If you registered your girl into a troop, you should hear from your troop leader within a week about upcoming meetings. If you do not hear from them, please contact Customer Care at [customer care@gseok.org](mailto:customer care@gseok.org) or 1-800-707-9914.
- ◆ We have programs and events throughout our state that are open to registered Girl Scouts of all levels. Check them out on our website at [gseok.org](https://gseok.org).
- ◆ Purchase your girl's Girl Scout Uniform and books at our council store located at the Hardesty Leadership Center.





# PRODUCT SALE PROGRAMS

Each year Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma conducts two council-sponsored product programs –Fall Product in October/November and Cookies in February/March.

We want every girl to be a part of the tradition, values, and fun of Girl Scout product program activities! These programs have been specially designed to teach your daughter the kinds of things you want her to know:

- ◆ Goal Setting - ***“I know I can do it!”***
- ◆ Decision Making - ***“I make smarter decisions.”***
- ◆ Money Management - ***“I make change happen.”***
- ◆ People Skills - ***“I get a lifetime supply of confidence in every box.”***
- ◆ Business Ethics - ***“Selling cookies is more than just a business.”***

Troops receive proceeds for selling both fall products and cookies to support the activities of the troop. Girls who sell cookies will earn Cookie Credit based on the range of cookies sold (after reaching sales of 50 boxes). Cookie Credit may be used to discount the cost of Girl Scout activities like day camp, resident camp, or other special events; and for items purchased in the Girl Scout Store that will enrich the Girl Scout experience. Details on these funding opportunities will be provided at the time of participation in the product programs.

Your daughter will receive information about these programs through the group she is meeting with, and/or by email, at the appropriate times. Feel free to contact the director of product sale programs at any time if you have questions about participation in either program. You may also check the Cookies/Fall Product sections on our website, [www.gseok.org](http://www.gseok.org), for information at any time during the year.

# GSEOK STORE

**Getting Started in Girl Scouts (starter kits):** Our store staff are happy to provide personal assistance as you choose a uniform, insignia and resources to get your Girl Scout experience under way. Throughout the year, watch for shop specials and sales! Our store is located in the Hardesty Leadership Center.

## Starter Kits



while supplies last

Everything a girl needs  
to begin her Girl Scout year

... And every girl deserves her own kit

Remember, you can shop 24/7 at [gseok.org/store](http://gseok.org/store)

## Store Schedule

### Regular store hours\*

Tuesday - Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday and Monday

Check out our website at  
[gseok.org/store](http://gseok.org/store)  
for summer hours,  
holidays, special Saturday hours  
and for shop closures.



# FAQs:

**What do girls do in Girl Scouts?** Girls discover their inner G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader) through a collection of challenging and fun activities like earning badges and Journeys, going on trips, exploring science, getting outdoors, selling cookies, and doing community service projects.

**How much does it cost to become a Girl Scout?** Annual girl membership is \$25 for both girls and adults. Most Girl Scout troops also collect dues to defray the cost of their activities. Girls also fund their activities with proceeds earned from their participation in our annual Fall Product and Cookie Sale Programs.

**What does my Girl Scout need to get started?** Girls Scouts are encouraged (but not required) to purchase a Starter Kit, which includes their choice of uniform (tunic, vest, or sash) and official insignia (patches and pins), a Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting, and a Journey book. These start at \$50 and are available at our shop located at the Hardesty Leadership Center.

**When, where, and how often do troops meet?** Troop volunteers choose their meeting times and locations. On average troops meet for 1.5 hours, bi-weekly. Become a troop leader and you can choose a troop meeting schedule that fits perfectly with your family's needs.

**Who can volunteer? Is it only moms or women?** That's a common misconception. Adults who complete the registration process, background check, and attend the appropriate training can volunteer. We welcome dads and granddads to become involved! Every troop must have at least two non-related approved adults present at all events. One of these must be a female.

**How much time does it take to be a volunteer?** As a troop leader, plan on spending an hour or two preparing for each hour of meeting time with the girls. If your troop was meeting twice a month for 1.5 hours, you should plan on 6-8 hours per month.

**What support is provided if I volunteer?** We offer free new leader training. Your first training is available online and takes about an hour. After having received the online training, you can then register for New Troop Leader Training and additional trainings as needed. You also have access to online resources like webinars and the Volunteer Toolkit. Our Volunteer Support Team is also here to help.

# FAQs:

**Who do I call for information or help?** We encourage you to ask your troop leader first or call your service unit manager. You may call the Girl Scout Hardesty Leadership Center to obtain her/his name and phone number at 1-800-707-9914.

**What can Girl Scouting offer me?** Girl Scouting is an opportunity for you to spend quality time with your daughter, to sense her pride in new accomplishments, to see her accept responsibility, to realize that Girl Scouting is helping her develop her full potential—all of these are available to parents who work in small or large ways with their daughter's Girl Scout troop.

**How can I participate if I am not a troop leader?** Perhaps you do not have the time necessary to lead a troop, but you want to be a part of what is happening in your daughter's life through Girl Scouting. Girl Scouts has many flexible ways for you to participate. Lend your skills and expertise to the troop leader and help girls earn a specific badge. Assist in managing the Fall Product and/or Cookie Sales. Accompany the troop on a camping trip or outing. Membership and background checks are required.

**What are my financial responsibilities beyond membership dues?** If your daughter is in a troop, it is common to have troop/group dues that help cover the cost of supplies and other activities. These can be from \$0.25 to \$2.00 per meeting and are set by the troop. Troop/group financial records are available for parents to review upon request.

**How can I support GSEOK?** There are several ways to contribute to Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma.

- Make a donation when you register for membership.
- Work with the Fund Development department for corporate support such as a matching gift or a volunteer service grant.
- Consider Girl Scouts for in-kind donations. We have a variety of needs, please check with the Fund Development department, 918-745-5202.

# ABOUT MY TROOP

Troop # ..... Grade Level .....

Service Unit: .....

Meeting Day and Time: .....

Meeting Location: .....

Procedure in troop if parent/guardian is late picking up daughter in emergency situations:

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.....  
.....

***Prior notice by parent or guardian is required if another person is to pick up your child.***

Troop Dues: Amount \$..... per .....

Leaders/Volunteer Contact Information:

..... Phone .....

..... Phone .....

..... Phone .....

Notes:

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# NOTES

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## The Girl Scout Promise

*On my honor, I will try:*  
To serve God and my country  
To help people at all times  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## The Girl Scout Law

*I will do my best to be:*  
honest and fair,  
friendly and helpful,  
considerate and caring,  
courageous and strong,  
and responsible for what I say and do,  
*and to*  
respect myself and others,  
respect authority,  
use resources wisely,  
make the world a better place, and  
be a sister to every Girl Scout.



**4810 South 129th East Avenue | Tulsa, OK 74134**  
**[gseok.org](http://gseok.org) | 1-800-707-9914**  
**[customercare@gseok.org](mailto:customercare@gseok.org)**