

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.

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.

**Members may substitute for the
word God in accordance with their
own spiritual beliefs.*

Frequently Asked Questions

What makes Girl Scouts unique?

- Girl Scouts is **girl-led**. From selecting the badges they'll earn, to deciding the trips and adventures they want to take, Girl Scouts of all ages choose how to follow their dreams and grow their skills.
- Girl Scouts **learn by doing**. Not only are hands-on activities more fun, they also encourage Girl Scouts to shape their own experience. Girl Scout activities build skills in STEM, the outdoors, leadership, the arts, citizenship, entrepreneurship, and more!
- Girl Scouts engage in **cooperative learning**. They experience firsthand that teamwork, respect, and collaboration can fuel them through any challenge that comes their way.

How do I join?

- New families can register their child for Girl Scouts online by visiting girlscoutsrv.org/Join or by calling Girl Scouts River Valleys at 800-845-0787.

How does my child get into a troop?

- Many Girl Scouts participate as part of a troop. A troop is a group of Girl Scouts and their families, often in the same or similar grades, who live in a specific area. If you already know what troop you want to join, you can register directly into it online or ask a staff member to place you into that troop when you register over the phone. If you aren't sure what troop to pick, you can register as "Looking for a troop near..." and a staff member will follow up to help you find a troop that works for your family.

- ◆ Girl Scouts River Valleys offers troops that center the experiences of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Girl Scouts. These volunteer-led troops provide girls of color the opportunity to be a part of ethnically diverse or culturally specific Girl Scout troops led by volunteer troop leaders of color. Through Mentored Troops, girls develop a sense of belonging and sisterhood in a culturally relevant environment as they work toward badges and patches.

How much does it cost?

- ◆ Annual Girl Scout membership dues are \$25 per year, whether you're a girl or an adult member, and are valid through September 30 each year. **New Troop Leaders and their Girl Scout join for free.**
- ◆ Daisy (grades K-1) and Brownie (grades 2-3) parents report spending an average of \$130 per year, including uniforms, books, program materials, activity costs, and membership dues. There is financial assistance available for all of these costs, and many troops cover these costs with their earnings from the Cookie Sale and Snacks & Magazines Sale.

When and where do troops meet?

- ◆ Each Girl Scout troop sets their own meeting schedule. Many troops have meetings monthly, bi-weekly, or a mix of meetings and field trips throughout the year. Most troops meet throughout the school year, and some choose to go camping or do activities over the summer. Common meeting locations include schools, libraries, community centers, and faith communities.

Who leads the troop?

- ◆ Troops are led by trained, background-checked volunteer troop leaders, who are often (though not always) parents or caregivers of Girl Scouts in the troop.

What's expected of me as a parent or caregiver?

- ◆ Girl Scouts is an activity for the whole family. Parents and caregivers are expected to take an active role in their child's Girl Scout experience, whether by helping with meetings, keeping track of troop finances, chaperoning field trips, or coordinating snacks or transportation. Talk to your Girl Scout's troop leaders to find out how the troop's needs match up with the time and skills you have to offer!