



## Program Aide Project Overview

Girl Scouts Heart of Central California | 6601 Elvas Avenue Sacramento, CA 95819 | [www.girlscoutshcc.org](http://www.girlscoutshcc.org)

Are you interested in leadership, helping out at Girl Scout events and being a role model? Program Aide training will help you become a confident, effective leader and will teach you skills for working with younger troops. You will use these skills if you are helping at a day camp, a service unit event, a council event, or with a troop.

Program Aide Training is designed to give Cadette Girl Scouts skills to use if they are helping at a day camp, a service unit event, a council event, or with a troop. In the class, they practice teaching songs, games and crafts to each other and learn how to serve as role models and leaders to younger girls. There are a few changes for this year as we transition to new Program Aide requirements in **The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting**.

### To become a Program Aide girls must:

- Earn a LiA, Leader in Action, award. This is a new requirement that takes effect in the 2011-2012 membership year. To earn a LiA award, girls work with a group of Brownies who are completing a Girl Scout Brownie "journey". Information about the first LiA award is found in the Brownie Quest 'How to' leader guide, thereafter LiA awards are in the Cadette Breathe and MEdia 'How to' leader guides.
- Have completed 6th grade prior to taking Program Aide Core class.
- Complete Program Aide Core class. The class schedule is posted in the Older Girl Training Calendar.
- After a girl completes Program Aide Core and serves for 25 hours as a Program Aide, she submits a Program Aide Log showing documentation of her hours and then receives her Program Aide pin (in the past the pin was given at Area of Concentration classes).

**New this year: Program Aide Areas of Concentration will not be required in 2011-2012.** Instead, to enhance girls' Program Aide skills after taking PA Core, we are offering a new, optional class: *Program Aide Skills Workshop*. These workshops will be especially helpful for girls who plan to be a Program Aide at a council event. See the description and schedule in the Older Girl Training Calendar for these workshops.

Since Areas of Concentration will not be required and will not be offered by the council, service units or groups of service units are encouraged to offer opportunities for Program Aides to enhance their skills. These could be workshops in certain skill areas that Program Aides want to learn, like songs or ceremonies; or, they could be an orientation to teach girls activities they will lead at a specific service unit event. The council adult development department is available to talk to Program Aide Coordinators or other service unit volunteers about plans for local sessions. We also have electronic versions of materials created for Areas of Concentration. You may request these to use for workshops in your area.

**Also new this year:** Girls who took PA Core in 2010-2011 or before, but didn't take an Area of Concentration, may request a Program Aide Pin when they complete their Program Aide log showing 25 hours as a PA, and send it to the Older Girl Training Specialist at the Program Center in Sacramento. Program Aide patches and Advanced Program Aide Pins have been discontinued.