

Getting Started as a Girl Scout Volunteer

Are you looking for the perfect opportunity to be a role model for girls? Do you want to help girls discover the possibilities within them? There are a variety of different volunteer positions available with Girl Scouts Heart of Central California. You can choose to volunteer with a specific troop in your area, with your local Girl Scout Service unit or at our Girl Scout council events, summer camps and activities.

Volunteer Requirements

Register as a Member

Many of our volunteer roles require you to register as a member of Girl Scouts Heart of Central California. If you already have a specific troop in mind, choose that troop's number during the registration process. If you are interested in a different volunteer position, please choose Unsure in the registration process, our experienced staff will contact you to assist you in choosing a role that suits you. If you have questions about registration or are interested in roles that don't require membership, please contact customercare@girlscoutshcc.org or 800.322.4475.

Complete a Background Check

To ensure the safety of our Girl Scouts, volunteers must have eligible Live Scan electronic fingerprints on file with Girl Scouts Heart of Central California (GSHCC). If you have already completed Live Scan electronic fingerprinting for another organization, you will still need to complete Live Scan electronic fingerprints for GSHCC. Once you have selected your volunteer role you will receive an email with details on how to complete the Live Scan process.

Complete Required Training

All volunteers who work directly with girls are required to complete mandated reporter training. We also ask that volunteers complete our GSHCC Orientation which reviews general information regarding the Girl Scout program. The courses take around 2.5 hours to complete. Once you have selected your volunteer role you will receive information on how to access the training. Some roles may require additional training.



Girl Scout Volunteer FAQs

Do I have to be a parent to be a volunteer?

No! We welcome all interested adults, ages 18 and older, to apply as Girl Scout volunteers. Girl Scouts is volunteer-driven, and we need all hands on deck. We currently have Girl Scout volunteers who are community leaders, senior citizens, college students and others who don't currently have daughters who are Girl Scouts.

How much time does it take to volunteer

There are different positions available, some are a one time commitment for a specific event or activity that could be four to eight hours. If you are servicing as a volunteer within a specific troop you may be asked to help once or twice a month at troop meetings. Some positions such as Troop Cookie managers are seasonal and may require five to ten hours a month during the season.

How long am I committed to being a Girl Scout volunteer?

Volunteers must renew their membership and roles annually and can change roles at any time during the year or serve in multiple roles.

I wasn't a Girl Scout, what do I need to know?

The GSHCC orientation provides training to help volunteers understand the Girl Scout philosophy, policies and procedures.

Is volunteer training provided?

Yes! Web-based, self-study and live virtual trainings are available throughout the calendar year and council geography.

How much does it cost to join Girl Scouts?

The annual membership fee for Girl Scouts is \$25/person. The membership fee goes directly to Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) at our national headquarters, where it is used for program development, activity insurance and management to support councils.

Does Girl Scouts run background checks on volunteers?

Yes. Protecting our girl members is a top priority, and screenings and background checks are integral parts of our due diligence process and procedure.

Do I have to become a registered Girl Scout to volunteer?

Adults who work directly with girls on a regular basis must register as Girl Scout members. Registration is easy with our online system. Limited financial assistance is available for adults who serve in key volunteer roles. There are some volunteer positions that do not require membership, if you are interested in them please check out the volunteer page at girlscoutshcc.org.

What help can families give?

There are many roles that adult family members can play in assisting troop leaders. Adult volunteers can help with regular meetings, organize the fall product or cookie sales, drive girls to and from field trips, serve as First Aid/CPR trained adults on trips, manage the troop treasury, etc. If you can ask, families will help! We recommend that at least one adult from each family register as a Girl Scout member and volunteer.

Why do I have to take Mandated Reporter Training?

Under the California's Child Abuse Neglect and Reporting Act (AB 506) any volunteer that works "more than 16 hours in a month or 32 hours in a year" is required to be a certified mandatory reporter. Since we do not track volunteer hours we have decided that all GSHCC volunteers must complete this requirement. If you have completed training for another organization within the last two years you can upload proof of that training. Details on that process will be emailed once you have selected your volunteer role.