

Program FAQs for Volunteers and Members

Girl Scouts – Diamonds is committed to offering dynamic and engaging program to all members throughout the 2020-21 membership year. Programmatic opportunities are widespread across our council through virtual and in-person offerings. All opportunities can be found in our Girl Scout Field Guide [here](#) and [website event calendar](#) on the Girl Scouts – Diamonds website. Please also like and follow our council Facebook Page [here](#) for the most up to date resources and information.

Girl Scouts continues to adjust amidst the challenges that COVID-19 creates; however, Girl Scout members stick together. We support each other in the mission of bringing Girl Scout opportunity to EVERY girl. With that, our members may have some questions during this period about how programmatic opportunity is available during COVID-19. We hope this FAQ will help provide the answers you need. As always, please reach out to us directly at info@girlscoutsdiamonds.org should you have any further questions or concerns.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What do I do if my Girl Scout or a member of their troop has a known exposure to COVID-19 or is presenting symptoms?

Members should email incident@girlscoutsdiamonds.org in the event of a COVID-19 positive test result or known exposure. An assigned council point person will lead the COVID-19 communications and responsibilities related to the reported incident. All health information is private/confidential to be shared only on a need to know basis. Council staff will notify parents and others about a positive test result in order to protect the tester's identity.

2. Can my service unit, troop or family travel for Girl Scout activities during this time?

Service units, troops and families may participate in day and over-night travel for Girl Scout activities at this time. Overnight camping and activities such as family camp, service unit camping and troop camping is permitted. Council properties are available to reserve and on-site programs, such as horse and STEAM programming, are active! Travel to program partner events or council program events is also permitted. Trips are allowed to travel within council jurisdiction or within other states currently in phase three of reopening. As always, volunteers must seek council prior approval (Troop Travel Application) before planning any overnight stays.

3. Can I carpool with other Girl Scout families?

Carpooling between non-related members is allowed under strict guidelines. All members must meet the following criteria to be eligible for carpooling.

This criteria includes:

- All individuals must be comfortable participating in carpooling services
- All individuals must be registered Girl Scout members
- All individuals must be able to pass the pre-screening questionnaire
- All individuals must not have had contact with a known case of COVID-19 or be in a quarantine period themselves.
- All individuals must be able to wear a mask during the length of the carpool time period.

4. What are the guidelines for mask wearing at Girl Scouts?

Girl Scouts wear face coverings (masks) not only to protect themselves but to protect others. Face masks should go home with members at the end of every in-person activity to be sanitized or discarded before the next Girl Scout event. Some girls or volunteers may not be able to wear masks, due to medical conditions such as asthma. Members who have a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that may also limit the ability to wear a mask, should be excused from this recommendation as long as all other screening criteria are met. Face coverings should be worn at all indoor activities. Face coverings do not have to be worn outdoors during activities such as hiking if social distancing is maintained.

5. Will I or my Girl Scout have to be screened when going to a program or event?

Program leaders will ask verbal screening questions at an entry point before any member is admitted to an in-person event. Members who answer “yes” to any one question on the screening checklist will not be admitted to the meeting. Results of the pre-screening outcomes are not public information and will never be written down.

These questions include:

- Have you (for participating volunteers or parents)/has your child (for caregiver/guardians of participating children):
 - had a fever of 100.4°F or greater within the last 72 hours?
 - had any one or combination of other symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 72 hours? Possible symptoms include fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- During the previous 14 days, have you (for participating volunteers or parents)/has your child (for caregiver/guardians of participating children):
 - been advised to self-isolate or quarantine by a doctor or health authority?
 - been in contact with a person who has exhibited any of COVID-19? Possible symptoms include fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea?
 - been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the previous 14 days?

6. What Girl Scout opportunities are available to families outside of the troop?

Girl Scouts provides a myriad of program opportunity available to families, Juliettes/individually registered Girl Scouts and Girl Scouts in troops. Parents and their Girl Scouts may attend council signature events, STEAM Center events, program partner events and outdoor program events even if their troop isn't doing so. Additionally, many of our events are open to the whole family including the Cardboard Boat Regatta, Cookie Palooza, Girl Scout Jamboree, select program partner events and seasonal encampments at our camps, and families are always welcome to camp at our properties. For a list of programs, check out our [Program Field Guide](#) or [website event calendar](#).

7. What do I do if I haven't heard from my Girl Scout's troop leader?

COVID-19 has brought many difficulties for many of our volunteer members. We suggest three communication attempts be made to your troop leaders before reaching out to the Diamonds council at info@girlscoutsdiamonds. Please try to be as understanding as possible to the situation your Girl Scout's troop leader may be experiencing. We are all in this together! If communication cannot be established with the troop leader, the council will try to place your Girl Scout in another troop, transition them to virtual programming or try to facilitate an alternative volunteer to help lead the troop.

8. Is there a virtual troop that my Girl Scout can enroll into?

Some service units may have virtual troops within the service unit, so make sure you check in with your service unit team volunteers first! Girl Scouts – Diamonds is also launching staff-led, virtual only Girl Scout troops for Daisy, Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts. Cadette Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts may enjoy virtual events including [G-Team TV hangouts](#), [virtual events](#) from GSUSA and councils across the country and [other older girl opportunities](#).

9. Will Girl Scouts sell fall product and cookies this year?

Absolutely! The Girl Scout Cookie Program is a time-honored tradition that is the financial lifeblood of the Girl Scout movement. This program is vital to both Girl Scouts of today AND tomorrow. The Diamonds Council encourages all members to participate in product program as they are able in partnership with the council to support our Girl Scout sisterhood for generations to come!

10. How can I help Girl Scouts – Diamonds this year?

Girl Scouts – Diamonds relies heavy on volunteer and member support for a variety of needs. We are a member driven and supported organization. The best thing you can do to help is spread the word! Help bring in new members to Girl Scouts and check in on current members that you know. Participate in product programs which bring in around 80% of Girl Scouts – Diamonds annual revenue. Most importantly, let us hear your voice. This year will take all of us working as a Girl Scout sisterhood and putting our heads together as a team to come up with new and innovative ideas to empower and support our girls.