

IRM Passport

2026-2027



Introduction

Your IRM Journey Starts Here!

Welcome to the wonderful world of being an Individually Registered Member (IRM), also known as a Juliette! Being an IRM allows Girl Scouts to discover, connect, and take action, all while working through a model that's flexible and meets their needs. It's a great way to choose your own adventure, Girl Scout style!

What is an IRM?

An IRM is an individually registered Girl Scout (not in a troop). IRMs may also be known as Juliettes, named after the founder of Girl Scouts USA. IRMs choose not to participate in the traditional troop format but still have access to Girl Scout experiences and opportunities. As an IRM, they have the unique ability to mix and match Girl Scout activities that suit their interests by choosing special events, leadership projects, travel opportunities, and badge work that appeals to them. Youth in any grade (kindergarten through 12) can be an IRM. As an IRM, they can participate in any program, event, trip, or summer camp that is open to their grade level.

With guidance from parents/guardians, Girl Scouts choose how they want to experience Girl Scouts. While conventional Girl Scouts occurs in a troop and allows for learning and teamwork, Girl Scout IRMs may participate in appropriate program level activities as an individual, and in coordination with their caregiver and can be a wonderful pathway for Girl Scouts.

About Girl Scouts

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. Girl Scouts are 2.6 million strong – 2.6 million girls and adults who believe girls can change the world. It began more than 100 years ago with one woman, Juliette Gordon “Daisy” Low, who believed in the power of every girl.

Girl Scouts is a research-backed program that provides girls & youth with opportunities to grow and become their best selves. Our data shows that Girl Scouts achieve more academically, have more optimism about their futures, and ultimately are more successful in life than non-Girl Scouts, across a variety of factors. And with programs and events across our council and beyond, there's a chance for every youth to do something amazing.

Girl Scout Promise & Law

The Girl Scout movement uses the Girl Scout Promise & Law to guide us:

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.

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.**

**Members may substitute wording appropriate to their own spiritual beliefs.*

***Girl Scouts Nation's Capital uses the term sister inclusively to speak to everyone who identifies with the Girl Scouting experience. You may substitute another word of your choice, such as sibling, friend, or family member.*

What do IRMs actually do?

As individual members, IRMs don't have a standard troop meeting monthly or biweekly. Instead, they set the schedule and activities for their Girl Scout adventure. The program is truly yours to design and explore!

Some common activities that IRMs might take advantage of:

- Earning badges or highest awards independently
- Participating in the Fall Product and Cookie Programs
- Travelling with a GSCNC Travel Group or with a GSUSA Destination
- Participating with a GSCNC Special Interest Group, such as an Outdoor Adventure Group
- Register and attend GSCNC Signature Events, such as the Step Showcase, or Program Partner Events, such as Girl Scout Day at the Nationals
- Serve as a delegate for a Service Unit at Annual Meeting, or apply to be a youth member on the GSCNC Board of Directors

Need support or inspiration? Connect with your local Service Unit, visit gscnc.org, or contact councilcare@gscnc.org to be connected with your local Membership Specialist!

IRM Mentors

An IRM mentor is a parent, family member, caregiver, or other adult who guides an IRM during their Girl Scout journey. IRM mentors are not assigned by council staff but chosen by the Girl Scout and their family.

As a mentor, you will:

- Register as an adult volunteer and complete the required background check (registration fee is \$30/year).
- Support your IRM's commitment to Girl Scouting.
- Explore council programs, helping them pick the activities they want to participate in, and plan how they will fund their participation.
- Help your IRM choose the badges and leadership awards that interest them.
- Assist your IRM in purchasing or borrowing the books and materials needed to complete each badge or award.
- Verify that your IRM has completed badge requirements and purchase badges and awards from the Girl Scout Store.
- Retain signed annual health history and permission form for your IRM to participate in product programs, events, summer camp, and other activities.
- Help your IRM participate in product programs by submitting the required forms, completing your training, fulfilling program requirements and following safety guidelines.

Service Units

Our council is divided into geographic areas called service units, and each service unit has a group of dedicated volunteers just like you available to support your Girl Scout while also providing fantastic program opportunities in your own neighborhood.

Service Units have regular monthly meetings for troops to attend; as an IRM Mentor, you are welcome to also attend your monthly Service Unit meeting to get information and hear about local events.

Not sure which Service Unit you belong to? Ask your Membership Specialist or reach out to membershipsupport@gscnc.org

Additional Resources

Volunteer Toolkit

- An online digital resource available to explore prebuilt tracks of badge and Journey activities for each Girl Scout level, make year plans with suggested material lists and printable resources, all customized to your IRM's interests.

Events Calendar

- Enrich your experience with Program Events! From our signature events (like Girl Scout Day at the Air & Space Museum or Camp CEO) to amazing programs run by Program Partners, there's something for everybody! Visit gscnc.org and click "Members" then "Events".

Girl Scout Insider

- This is a list of Girl Scout Programs to sign up to attend – published twice a year!

Ready-made Program Kits

- Take the stress out of earning badges or planning events with a Program Kit! Program Kits are fun, age-appropriate resources and are available for varied subjects such as STEM, Journeys, the environment, healthy living, and teamwork. Available to borrow for free or minimal cost and can be delivered to any council office for pick up. Visit our website <https://www.gscnc.org/en/reservations.html> for more information and to reserve

IRM Rally

Join the IRM Rally here: <https://rallyhood.com/423807/messages>

The IRM Rally helps IRMs and their mentors stay connected, ask questions, and explore new program offerings. Join online and connect with IRMs across the council!

Finances

How much does Girl Scouts cost?

A \$65 annual membership fee, due at the time of registration, goes directly to Girl Scouts of the USA and pays for the various services GSUSA provides to councils, including development of program materials, and activity insurance.

Uniforms and books are estimated to cost about \$60 and last the youth until they change program levels. You can purchase these items from our brick-and-mortar shops or from <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/>

Additionally, youth may need starter costs to pay for program supplies or to attend field trips and events.

Dream, Earn, Do

Girl Scouts are encouraged to earn their Girl Scout funds themselves. Entrepreneurship creates life-changing experiences for Girl Scouts and builds financial literacy in a way no other program can. Imagine a Kindergartener who knows she earned the funds to go on that amazing field trip—or imagine an 11th grader travelling to Switzerland on the money they've earned. By incorporating Girl Scouts earning their own funds, youth build the confidence, leadership, ownership and vision for who they will become.

Girl Scout Promise Fund

We believe Girl Scouts is for all! Nothing should stand in the way of young people reaching their full leadership potential through Girl Scouting. Our Girl Scout Promise Fund is dedicated to removing financial barriers and ensuring that everyone who wants to be a Girl Scout can!

Youth and adult volunteers can use the Fund to help cover the cost of membership, uniforms, dues, and program registration and trips. fees. Training grants are available for adult volunteers to get certified in high adventure and safety courses.

In addition, Girl Scouts can attend summer sleep-away camp at reduced rates or even free of charge. For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.gscnc.org/en/get-involved/financial-assistance.html>

Product Programs & Money Earning

How do IRMs earn money?

To finance activities, Girl Scouts rely on a combination of family partnership and Product Program proceeds. As an IRM progresses through the program levels, their goal should be to become self-sufficient using the Product Program (Fall Product in the fall and Cookies in the spring/winter) to fund their individual Girl Scout program.

The money earned is managed and housed in a Girl Scout Account managed by the Service Unit Money Manager and may only be used for Girl Scout related programs including: Handbooks, uniform pieces, events, camping registration fees and other Girl Scout related leadership and project programs. Programs or activities with other youth service organizations cannot be funded with Girl Scout proceeds.

Girl Scout Product Program

When participating in Product Programs, Girl Scouts learn five skills: Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics. Girl Scout Council Nation's Capital (GSCNC) has important policies and procedures to keep Girl Scouts safe when participating in the product programs.

As an Individual Girl Scout, you will receive information from your Service Unit inviting you to participate. The Product Program Team comes out with a separate IRM Guide to the Cookie Program each year. Some of the key differences for IRMs selling compared to a troop experience are:

- IRMs cannot opt out of physical rewards at any program level
- IRMs can do booths by doing them with another IRM in the area
- Money is processed through the Service Unit Bank Account

Fall Product Program: (September-November) Earn funds early in the year! Girl Scouts earn proceeds and rewards for magazines and nut/candy sales through sales to friends and family. Visit the Cookies + tab on GSCNC's website for more information.

Girl Scout Cookie Program: (December-March) The largest girl-led business in the world. Visit the Cookies + tab on the GSCNC's www.gscnc.org website for more information.

Money Management

How are IRM funds managed, and what can they be spent on?

Funds earned by IRMs, are overseen by the local Service Unit Money Manager in the Service Unit account. Product Program sales for IRMs are processed through the SU bank account. Your Service Unit Money Manager will work with you to ensure the deadlines for the Product Program sales are met.

Funds are Girl Scout property and may only be used for Girl Scout related expenses. Funds can never be used for non-Girl Scout related activities nor given directly to a girl or their family. If a membership lapses or youth ages out, remaining funds will be absorbed into the Service Unit's Account.

An IRM may access their funds to pay for Girl Scout activities by following the Service Unit Money Manager's procedures. This may be a request by email, a Service Unit form, or other means as determined by the Service Unit team. Requesting use of funds in advance ensures that the expense is a viable Girl Scout expense, and avoids situations where families cannot be reimbursed!

Service Unit Money Managers may help an IRM access funds by paying directly for the activity with the SU debit card, or by asking the family to pay and submit receipts for reimbursement.

Travel

Travel and Single Girl Scouts and Individually Registered Members

Family travel is not Girl Scout travel, and Girl Scout money can only be spent on Girl Scout activities. As a result, individual Girl Scouts including Individually Registered Members (Juliettes) or single members from a troop can only travel as part of a Girl Scout travel group, when they are part of the GSUSA Destinations program, or as part of an approved Gold Award project.

Highest Awards

Additional Resources

Every Girl Scout goes above and beyond to make a difference in her community and the greater world. The skills and experiences gained along the way set them up for special recognition through the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, Silver Trefoil, and Gold Awards.

The **Girl Scout Bronze Award** (earned in grades 4 or 5) is the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve, recognizing that a Junior has developed the leadership and planning skills to follow through with a project while making a positive difference in their community.

The **Girl Scout Silver Award** (earned in grades 6, 7, or 8) is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn—gives them the chance to do big things and make the community better in the process. The Silver Award gives youth the opportunity to focus on a local issue they care about, build a team, and implement their Take Action project to better the lives of those around them.

The **Girl Scout Gold Award** (earned in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12) is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Open only to youth in high school, the Girl Scout Gold Award is the most prestigious award in the world for girls—and it's only available to Girl Scouts. By the time a Girl Scout puts the final touches on their seven-step project, they'll have solved a community problem—not only in the short term, but for years into the future.

The **Silver Trefoil Award** is unique to Girl Scouts Nation's Capital that focuses on community service. A Girl Scout may receive this award by providing 100 hours of service to the Girl Scout community, local and national organizations (including government), and global efforts. This award can be earned throughout a Girl Scout's years as a Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador.

While High Awards are sequential, they are not contingent upon earning the lower award. A Girl Scout can start with earning an award at her level even if she did not earn the previous level's award.

To find out more information about our higher awards, visit our website at: <https://www.gscnc.org/en/members/for-girl-scouts/highest-awards.html>

Procedures for Accidents and Emergencies

In Case of Minor Illness

Call a caregiver to come for the child. If no one is available to pick up the child, an adult should take the child home. Ensure that someone is home to care for the child. DO NOT LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED.

In Case of a Minor Accident

- 1.Immediately give first aid or find a first aider; transport the injured person to an emergency room, if necessary, and contact the caregiver.
- 2.Ask the caregiver to come to the site or meet at the emergency room, if appropriate. (If a caregiver cannot be reached, call the person designated to act in an emergency. Continue trying to reach the caregivers so they can assume responsibility for medical decisions.)
- 3.Record in writing:
 - a.Conditions existing at time of accident Order of events following the accident Names and addresses of witnesses
 - b.Medical attention, opinion or instructions received from caregivers
- 4.Notify the Council office as soon as possible (within 48 hours) by emailing councilcare@gscnc.org.
- 5.Submit completed insurance forms and a copy of the record of the accident within five days.

In Case of a Serious Accident, Emergency or Fatality

- 1.Give priority attention to providing all possible care for the injured person(s). Secure doctor, ambulance, and police as appropriate. Secure and/or retain a responsible adult at the scene of the accident. Contact the caregiver and ask them to come to the site or meet at the emergency room. If caregivers cannot be reached, call emergency contact. Continue trying to reach the caregiver or emergency contact.
- 2.In the event of fatality, always notify the police. Retain a responsible adult at the scene of the accident. See that no disturbance of the victim or surroundings is permitted until police have assumed authority.
- 3.Refer all media (newspaper, radio, TV) inquiries to the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Marketing and Communications department.
- 4.During office hours (Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.), contact the Council office as soon as possible: 202-237-1670. After office hours and on weekends, call the EMERGENCY ANSWERING SERVICE AT: 1-888-288-1784.