

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA CONSISTENT MESSAGES ABOUT MEMBERSHIP & PROGRAM

Girl Scouting provides a unique all-girl environment.

Working in partnership with caring adults, girls can explore their potential without competition from boys – an opportunity many educators consider essential for girls to achieve future aspirations. Unlike many other youth-serving organizations, GSUSA continues to devote its total resources to the development of girls.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

To continue to serve the unique interests and needs of girls, a strengthened program model, with input from Girl Scouts, non-Girl Scouts, and youth development experts, is being developed.

The Girl Scout program meets the development, educational, emotional, and social needs and interests of girls ages 5 to 17.

The emerging program model will continue to provide a national framework for a consistent Girl Scout experience focused on personal growth and leadership development and differentiated more closely by age.

Female role models are essential for carrying out the purpose of Girl Scouting.

Interaction with women in leadership positions is of particular importance in the development of girls. GSUSA recommends that men who serve in troop leadership roles do so as co-leaders with women.

Girl Scouts of the USA is a membership organization.

The membership registration policy states that girls and adults participating in the Girl Scout Movement must be registered as members with Girl Scouts of the USA. The Girl Scout program, handbooks and other resources, uniforms, and insignia are developed and produced by GSUSA for the exclusive use of its members.

The membership of Girl Scout councils and USA Girl Scouts Overseas locations are to reflect the pluralism and diversity of their populations.

No girl or adult who meets membership requirements will be denied admission or access to Girl Scout program because of race, color, ethnicity, creed, national origin, socioeconomic status, or disability.

Girl Scout councils are chartered by GSUSA.

Councils develop organizational structures to provide effective services to girl members in their jurisdictions, tailoring methods for delivering program and support services to the groups they are designed to serve.

Girl Scout councils are community-based organizations.

Successful councils deliver program activities that meet the needs of their communities, enriching the lives of girls and earning the support of the community. Girl Scout councils also work with local agencies and businesses to share their Girl Scout expertise.

The girl membership-to-population ratio is used to measure council effectiveness in meeting its charter accountabilities.

A Girl Scout council's sole purpose is to reach out and deliver Girl Scout program to all girls in its jurisdiction. The participation rate is based on the number of girls (ages 5 to 17) who are members, relative to the number of girls in the population within those age groups.

Girl Scout councils and GSUSA work in concert to achieve the membership goals of the Girl Scout Movement.

The national organization provides a wide range of membership and program services and resources to councils. Councils recruit girls and adults, deliver Girl Scout program activities, and provide learning opportunities for the adults who serve them.