

Frequently Asked Questions

Does a girl have to be a Girl Scout to attend Girl Scout Camp?

No. Girls are welcome regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, socio-economic factors, or disability status, providing program requirements are met. A girl who is not a registered Girl Scout may attend by including the \$12 annual Girl Scouts of the USA membership fee that provides, among other things, supplementary accident insurance. She must also have written permission from a parent/guardian to join. If a girl doesn't wish to register as a Girl Scout, she may attend for an additional fee of \$45 to cover costs, such as non-Girl Scout accident insurance.

What if my camper has special needs?

Our Girl Scout camps can accommodate a wide variety of special needs. Please note that our camps are rustic outdoor program centers and that although individual buildings may be ramped, the camps are not generally wheelchair accessible. When the camp knows ahead of time what your child's concerns are, such as a special diet, or developmental delays, the staff can discuss possible accommodation and be better able to serve your child and make her camp experience the best it can be. Attending an open house event is a great way to see if the camp environment is appropriate for your camper.

Is there a behavior code that campers need to follow?

Yes. Camp is an excellent opportunity for girls to live in and enjoy being part of a community. We live by the Girl Scout Promise and Law. While at camp, on the bus, and during out-of-camp trips, campers must respect the rights of others; respect the property of others; respect the feelings and needs of others; and follow the rules specific to each camp. Failure to follow all rules and codes of conduct may result in the camper being sent home. If a camper is sent home for inappropriate behavior, NO refunds will be given. Please check your confirmation packet for the behavioral agreement for camp and bus behavior expectations.

Does my camper need a physical exam?

Yes. All day and resident camps require girls to have a physical examination by a licensed physician within 24 months of camp participation, with a current health history record completed for this season. A Medication Administration Authorization form also must be completed with specific information and signed by both the camper's guardian and physician for any prescription and over-the-counter medications that your camper needs administered while at camp. See the confirmation packet for the health history and physical examination forms and the Medication Administration Authorization form. Please bring these forms with you to camp; do not pack them in your camper's luggage or mail them in ahead of time. According to State regulations, health forms, including a current physical, must be on file at camp or a camper will be excluded from camp activities and sent home until such forms can be produced. If a camper does not have a physical on file, she will not be able to attend any camp program.

What kind of healthcare is available?

All camps have a qualified healthcare supervisor. If illness or injury requires additional medical attention, there is a doctor on call for each camp. Each camp has a medication administration-certified staff member to assist in medical emergencies or medication administration to your camper.

What happens if there are program changes?

The camp reserves the right to alter or cancel camp activities due to weather conditions (including rain, excessive heat or thunderstorms), safety concerns, staff constraints, or low registration.

What happens in case of emergency?

If you need to contact a camp, please call the Camp Director at the phone number listed in your confirmation packet. If camp personnel need to contact you, they will call the first person listed on the Camper Release form. Please be sure this information is correct.

Can I send my camper with her cell phone in case of emergencies?

No. If there is an emergency at any of our camps, council and camp staff will do everything possible to make contact with the appropriate parent/guardian as soon as possible, so campers do not need a cell phone in case of an emergency. Campers cannot bring their cell phones or any electronics to camp as these items tend to get lost or damaged. Also, having these items tends to hinder campers from making connections with their fellow campers and counselors.

What about safety?

Safety comes first at Girl Scout Camp. We have a well-supervised program with trained staff. Girls are taught safety first in all program areas. All outdoor camp activities are weather permitting. Weather-alert monitoring radios are located in the main office of each camp. Counselors and girls know the emergency signals and the location of emergency evacuation spots. In addition, a number of our camps are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). See www.acacamps.org for more information. Developed exclusively for the camp industry, this nationally recognized organization focuses on health and safety issues and sends a team of dedicated camp professionals every three years to review camp operations while the camps are in session. Only 25% of camps across the nation receive this rigorous accreditation. Our camps are also licensed youth camps and uphold federal, state, and local health and safety codes, as well as adhering to the policies and standards of both the Girl Scouts of Connecticut and Girl Scouts of the USA.

What will my daughter do while at camp?

Programs are geared to the age, skills, and interests of girls. Each girl may sign up for any program listed for her age level. Many programs give the opportunity to earn Try-Its, Badges, or Interest Projects. Each program may have a different theme, but campers will also get to enjoy many traditional camp activities, such as swimming, nature, and arts & crafts. Kapers (camp chores) are a part of each day's activities and help girls develop a sense of responsibility and appreciation for keeping the camp neat and tidy. Resident campers and day campers who attend the optional overnight will enjoy campfires and other evening activities.

Where will my daughter sleep at resident camp?

Girls attending resident camp programs may sleep in A-frames, bunkhouses, cabins, or tents with other campers within their unit. Counselors sleep in similar, but separate, facilities within the unit. Generally, campers sharing the same facility are the same age and have selected the same camp program. Consider attending an open house to get the full flavor of our beautiful camps!

What are the day camp hours?

One week of day camp runs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What day does resident camp start and end?

One week of resident camp runs Sunday through Saturday. A two-week session at resident camp starts on Sunday, continues through the weekend, and runs to the next Saturday.