

Juliette Girl Scout Handbook

2025 -2026

About the Juliette Program

The Juliette program is Girl Scouting customized by you! With the support and guidance of a Juliette Mentor, girls can create their Girl Scout experience by choosing from a variety of Girl Scout activities that meet their interests, needs and schedule. As a Juliette, girls can participate in everything that is open to their grade level. Being a Juliette allows you to start or continue your Girl Scout experience on an individual basis, in a way that works best for you!

Juliette Mentor

There are many adventures awaiting your Juliette. To ensure her ability to share in these opportunities, Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming (GSMW) requires that Juliettes have a Juliette Mentor. Juliette Mentors are not assigned and are typically the Juliette's caregiver however a Juliette can choose another trusted adult (18 or older) in her life to take that role. Juliette Mentors should only support one girl unless they are in the same household.

Responsibilities of the Juliette's Caregiver:

- Have a current GSUSA membership and background check.
- Pre-register Juliette for activities as required and ensure any necessary forms (health and permission form, etc.) for camps, events and other activities are submitted in a timely manner.
- Help your Juliette participate in Fall Product and Cookie Programs and ensure she follows Program requirements and safety guidelines. By doing so, you will help her earn funding support to help her pay for Girl Scout memberships, events, camp and GSMW Retail Shop items such as books, badges and uniform pieces.
- Provide transportation, arriving and picking your girl up on time for all Girl Scout activities.

Responsibilities of the Juliette Mentor:

- Have a current GSUSA membership and background check.
- Assist your Juliette in purchasing program materials or use the VTK to complete the Badges, Leadership
 Awards and Journeys. Verify that your Juliette has completed the requirements for awards and badges and help
 her purchase them from the GSMW Retail Shop or submit a Juliette Fund Request form.
- Help your Juliette set and accomplish her goals.
- Read GSMW emails and visit GSMW's website and Facebook groups to learn about adventures that your Juliette can attend when she is ready.

Girl Scout Program

Girl Scout Leadership Experience

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) is the engine that drives Girl Scouts. Girls discover themselves and their values, connect with others in their community, and take action to make the world a better place. Discover, connect and take action are the three keys to leadership that focus on 'what' girls do. The second part of the GSLE model focuses on the importance of 'how' girls participate in activities: girl-led, cooperative learning and learning by doing. Journeys and Badges are the backbone of the Girl Scout program and will provide girls with a well-rounded Girl Scout experience!

Leadership Awards

New this year! The Leadership Awards for Juniors through Ambassadors include flexible options that allow girls to explore their own leadership style. The bonus - they're part of an expanded set of options to fulfill the prerequisite toward earning Girl Scouting Highest Awards. Girls can practice all the ways they can lead themselves, their team and their community. The new Leadership Awards are about building real skills for real impact and having confidence to turn their ideas into action. These awards are designed to help girls explore what leadership means to

them. Requirements for the Leadership Awards are in the Volunteer Toolkit or can be <u>downloaded</u> from the GSUSA website.

Badges and Awards

Skill Building Badges complement the Journeys at each grade level. Through fun activities, girls can earn a variety of badges to build their skills and gain the confidence they'll use to change the world. Badge requirements and activities are available in the VTK or badge pamphlets can be purchased through the GSMW retail shop.

The <u>Award and Badge Explorer</u> is an online tool that a Juliette and her Juliette Mentor can use to explore her interests and get badge overviews. You can filter by grade level and topic to find the badges and awards your Juliette would like to earn and then use the VTK and/or badge pamphlets to earn the badge. You can also download your Juliette's age level <u>Badge and Award Chart</u>.

Journeys

Journeys are multi-session experiences in which girls dig deeper into their interests and use the skills they gain along the way to make a difference in their community. During a Journey, Girl Scouts do hands on activities, connect with experts and take the lead on a Take Action project. Please note that the Journeys will be retired from the Girl Scout Program 10/1/2026.

There are several different Journeys that girls can complete within three areas of leadership:

- Environmental Leadership
 - o It's Your Planet Love It!
 - o Outdoor Journey
- STEM Leadership
 - o Think Like an Engineer
 - o Think Like a Programmer
 - o Think Like a Citizen Scientist
- Personal Identity Leadership
 - o It's Your Story Tell It!
 - o It's Your World Change It!

Journeys in blue are available in the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) only for all levels.

Journeys in black are available in the VTK or for purchase through the GSMW retail shop.

Girls can earn the Journey Summit Award pin by completing three Journeys at their grade level. When your Juliette reaches this achievement let us know by emailing customercare@gsmw.org so GSMW can send her a certificate to commemorate her achievement.

Girl Scout Highest Awards

The Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are the highest awards Girl Scouts can achieve in Girl Scouting. Projects focus on taking action and making the world a better place. Characteristics of a take action project include addressing a need; addressing a root cause of an issue; and creating a lasting impact that can be measured and includes provisions to ensure sustainability. A girl can embark on the project phase of the award once prerequisites have been completed and the time it takes to earn the awards depends upon a girl's age level and the nature of the project. Find out more about Highest Awards on our website or email customercare@gsmw.org.

Volunteer Toolkit

The Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) is a digital resource that supports Juliettes and their Juliette Mentors in making the process of planning and executing badge work more efficient. Some of the new badges and Journeys are only available in the VTK. Using the VTK is a great organizational, planning and curriculum tool. GSMW does have resources available to help guide and teach you how to use this tool and the VTK also has an embedded Help feature to get you started.

Juliette Trek Challenge

The Juliette Trek Challenge is a challenge designed for Juliette Girl Scouts to earn and it provides guidance as a Juliette Girl Scout customizes her Girl Scout experience. The Juliette Trek Challenge is a great place to start if you are a new Juliette Girl Scout and perfect for returning Juliettes. The Juliette Trek Challenge can be found on the <u>Juliette page</u> of our website.

Girl Scout Uniform

We are proud of our identity and the sense of belonging that comes from wearing a Girl Scout uniform. Girls display badges, pins and other earned awards on official tunics, vests, or sashes (required when participating in ceremonies or officially representing the Girl Scout Movement). If you are not sure where to place insignia, check out the Where to Place Insignia resource.

You can use the <u>online store</u> to look at uniform pieces and get pricing information. The basic uniform set up includes age level sash or vest, American flag, Council ID set, Juliette patch can be worn in place of a troop number, Insignia tab with age level membership pin and World pin. You can purchase uniform pieces along with other Girl Scout merchandise in the following ways:

- Email shop@gsmw.org
- Submit a Juliette Fund Request form to use your Juliette Funds to pay for your order
- Visit a GSMW Retail Shop in Billings or Great Falls, MT

Product Programs

Girl Scouts learn these five skills: Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills and Business Ethics when participating in the Fall and Cookie Programs. GSMW has important guidelines to keep girls safe in the product programs. All families participating must follow these guidelines. As a Juliette, you will receive information from GSMW twice a year inviting you to participate in these programs. To finance activities, Girl Scouts rely on a combination of family partnership and Product Program proceeds. As a Juliette progresses through the grade levels, her goal should be to become self-sufficient using the Product Program proceeds she earns. The proceeds are called Juliette Funds.

Fall Product Program (October-November): Allows Juliettes to earn funds early in the membership year. Girls earn proceeds for magazine and nut/candy sales to friends and family.

Cookie Program (February-April): The largest girl-led business in the world where girls participate by taking customer pre orders, using the digital online platform and through booth sales.

Juliette Funds

How are Juliette Funds managed?

Girls participating in Girl Scouts as Juliettes can earn Juliette Funds by participating in the Product Programs. In accordance with IRS guidelines, these funds are maintained by GSMW not the individual girl or Juliette Mentor. A Juliette Mentor can use the online <u>Juliette Fund Request</u> form to request to use Juliette Funds for program materials, uniform pieces, badges/awards/pins, Juliette and Juliette Mentor membership fees, Girl Scout camp/program/Destination fees and reimbursement for community service and Highest Awards project expenses. Juliette Funds cannot be used when a caregiver has an outstanding balance from a Product Program.

gsLearn

gsLearn is GSUSA online platform that provides informational content from GSUSA and GSMW through video modules. There are modules found in gsLearn that Juliette Mentors may find helpful as they support their Juliette's Girl Scout experience. A Juliette Mentor must be registered and have a current background check to access gsLearn and gslearn can be accessed through your My GS account. The following modules maybe helpful to Juliette Mentors:

- GSUSA Daisy Petal Badges
- GSUSA New Leader Onboarding: What Girl Scouts Do. This learning course includes individual modules for each Girl Scout age level (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador) for you to choose from.
- GSUSA World Thinking Day 101: An Overview for Volunteers
- Highest Awards:
- o GSMW Highest Awards
- o GSMW Bronze Award
- o GSUSA Silver Award modules
- o GSMW Gold Award

Programs, Events and Camps

GSMW hosts programs and events throughout the membership year and has three residential camps where your Juliette can attend summer resident camp. Please visit www.gsmw.org for more information. In addition to these programs, your local Service Unit may host events. To get connected with your Service Unit, please email customercare@gsmw.org. GSUSA also hosts free virtual programming for girls of all age levels.

How do I Stay Informed?

There are several ways to stay informed and connected to what's going on.

- 1. Regularly visit our council's website <u>www.gsmw.org</u> to learn more about upcoming events, activities and what's new as well as find resources to support you and your Juliette on our <u>page</u> dedicated to Juliettes.
- 2. Join the Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming Facebook page and your regional Facebook group.
- 3. Join the GSMW Juliettes Facebook and BAND app group.
- 4. Watch your email for monthly newsletters and other announcements.
- 5. Attend Service Unit meetings (a Service Unit is comprised of Girl Scouts, both girls and adults, who reside in a given area, typically a city/town).

General Information

Who do I contact with questions?

GSMW has a Juliette Coordinator to provide support, help you stay connected and answer any questions you may have. Please contact Bridget Moore at bridgetm@gsmw.org or 406-252-0488 ext 2026 Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 3:00 pm.

How much does it cost?

Girl Scouts pay an annual membership fee to GSUSA. This fee is sent to GSUSA for program development. This fee also allows supplemental activity accident insurance for each member while participating in Girl Scout activities. Other optional costs include uniform pieces, program materials and cost for program activities. By participating in the Fall and Cookie Programs, a Juliette can earn proceeds to cover these costs.

Why does my Juliette have a troop number when she isn't in a troop?

The membership system that is used by GSMW requires all girl members to be assigned to a troop. GSMW assigns Juliettes in the same Service Unit/Town together so that we can easily identify Juliettes and include them in communications. Juliette troop numbers all begin with the number 6 followed by 3 digits.