girl scouts
arizona cactus-pine

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council (GSACPC) strives to make sure that no girl is denied a Girl Scout experience due to financial need. GSACPC encourages girls and volunteers to contribute when able and to be active participants in their Girl Scout experience. Troops are encouraged to be as self-sufficient as possible in activity planning to ensure all girls are able to participate.

Applications for support are posted on the GSACPC website and available by mail, call 602-452-7000 to place your request. Please allow 6 weeks for processing a completed application. **Incomplete applications will not be processed.** When seeking support for camp or an event, it is advisable to apply for financial assistance even before the registration for the camp or event opens. If support is granted but not used because the Girl Scout was unable to get a place in the program, this will not affect future requests.

Funding for assistance is limited and not all requests may be granted. Beyond membership, GSACPC approves funds based on level of financial need demonstrated on applications whenever possible.

Membership – *$15 annually, transmitted through GSACPC to Girl Scouts of the USA*
Membership Services Executives are able to attach an endorsed membership assistance form to the membership registration.

GSUSA encourages girls to designate a portion of their group treasury for the annual membership dues of its members. This is a sound and efficient practice that enables girls to meet membership dues and lessens the potential burden to individual members. The timing of the Cookie Sale Program makes funds available for early re-registration in the spring.

Financial Need – *girls and adults*
The amount of assistance for an individual is dependent on the level of financial need based on the 2013 National Poverty Guidelines. Be sure to fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms will not be processed. All information can be sent directly to the Financial Assistance Committee and will be held in strictest confidence.

Questions about money earning projects, product sale participation, and service projects are not a determining factor of need. These questions are only used if an individual is between two levels of assistance. If active participation is seen, the individual can be moved to the higher category. Awards based on demonstrated need may range from 0 to 100%.

First Year Troop Dues – *girls*

- Maximum troop dues of $20 are available for first year Girl Scouts.
- If a girl has received troop dues in the past, she is not eligible.
- Payment is sent directly to the troop leader.
- After the first year of Girl Scouts, troops should have sufficient funds from product sales to no longer have troop dues.

Events – Council Sponsored and Approved Service Area/Unit – *girls and adults*
Troops are encouraged to plan events within their troop budgets.

- Events with an educational or Girl Scout component are eligible for up to 50% of the cost of the event.
- Entertainment events are eligible for up to 25% of the cost and limited to only one for each girl per membership year.
- If assistance is given for an event and the individual does not attend and does not have a valid reason, no further assistance will be given.

Troop Travel – *girls and adults*
Troops are encouraged to plan trips that are within their means.

Financial assistance is intended to fill in when a gap develops in the plan in spite of the efforts of the girls and the adults who support them. Financial assistance should never be part of the planning process.

Money earning for trips should happen over time to allow accumulation of sufficient funds. The development of skills and the practice of progression are necessary to ensure successful travel. In the event of an unanticipated gap, assistance is limited to no more than 10% of the total cost and will only include costs for necessary adults as described in safety guidelines from GSUSA.

Requests involving inappropriate distance for grade level, travel to primarily entertainment venues, and those involving sufficient family members to resemble a family vacation are unlikely to be considered.

Destinations – *girls*
Except in cases of extreme need, it is expected that the funding for the experience will be:

- 10% from the Girl Scout and her family
- 30% from the funds administered by the Volunteer Financial Assistance Committee
- 60% split between the family and financial assistance
- according to the needs based review conducted by the committee

In other words, all Girl Scouts attending Destinations, will receive at least 30% support. After the needs based review by the committee, those girls who have significant demonstrated need could receive as much as 90%.

Camp – *girls*
Financial assistance, based on need and supplied from 0 – 100% after required deposit, is limited to no more than one one-week session.

Uniforms and Books – *girls*

- Daisy Girl Scouts can requests vests or tunics. All other levels can request a choice of vest or sash.
- Membership pins, numerals, insignia tab, ID strip sets and American flag patches are available for all levels.
- The Daisy Petal Set can be requested. This is valuable to the girls learning the fundamentals of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- Troops are encouraged to fund the cost of books. Leadership Journey Books and handbooks can be requested by girls at all levels.

Uniforms and Books – *adults*

- Membership pins and insignia can be requested by adults.
- Troops are encouraged to use troop funds to purchase resources needed for troop leadership.
- Copies of leader guides may be available to borrow from the Member Resource Center (MRC) or service unit libraries.
- Any resource received through assistance for adults will be labeled with the request that the materials be returned after the adult is done using them. These materials will go into the Member Resource Center (MRC) for other leaders to use.
- Adults requesting assistance are encouraged to consider requesting *It's Your Journey, Customize It*.

When completing the sections about earned income and other forms of support, please supply information in dollars. The committee will be unable to process applications that say: "not sure" or "looking for work".

girl scouts
arizona cactus-pine

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

Financial assistance is available for those Girl Scouts who might not be able to participate in Girl Scout activities because of financial restraints, financial assistance is available for girls, troops and adults. **Apply in plenty of time to allow 6 weeks for processing, even before the event opens for registration. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**

NOT for membership registration use. Financial assistance should NOT be part of the troop budget-making process. Girls, adults and troops are encouraged to plan a realistic budget and to plan to meet their goals. If applying for more than one activity please attach a separate form for each activity.

Each request is reviewed individually by a volunteer committee. The type of event and previous assistance granted are considerations. Assistance requested for local training events is limited to the registration fee. Any adjustments to financial aid are at the discretion of the Volunteer Financial Aid Committee.

REASON FOR REQUEST

EVENT	OTHER TYPE OF NEED
☐ Council-sponsored ☐ Neighborhood ☐ Troop	☐ Troop Dues ☐ Girl Scout start-up kit (books, sash, etc) ☐ Other (specify): _____

PROGRAM LEVEL

☐ Girl Scout Daisy ☐ Girl Scout Brownie ☐ Girl Scout Junior ☐ Girl Scout Cadette ☐ Girl Scout Senior ☐ Girl Scout Ambassador

APPLICANT INFORMATION

☐ Girl ☐ Troop

Name	Email		
Address	City	State	Zip

Daytime Phone	Evening Phone	Cell Phone

FINANCIAL NEED

Anticipated gross earned family income for the current calendar year:	Other forms of support this year with estimated dollar amounts (e.g., rent subsidy, WIC, TANF, disability payments):	Number of people residing at home?
$	$	

Has the girl participated in...? ☐ Cookie Program Sale ☐ Fall Product Sale ☐ Troop Money Earning Activity ☐ Community Service Project	Please list any additional information about expenses or circumstances that affect household/family income.

Have you received financial assistance before? ☐ Yes ☐ No	If yes, how much? $	When? (year)

IF APPLICANT IS UNDER AGE 18, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION

Birthdate	Age	Grade Level in September	Troop # (or none)	Have you moved in the past year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Mother/Guardian Name	Daytime Phone	Father/Guardian Name	Daytime Phone
Mother's Employer	Mother's Occupation	Father's Employer	Father's Occupation

LEADER INFORMATION

Name	Email		
Address	City	State	Zip

Daytime Phone	Evening Phone	Cell Phone

ACTIVITY DETAILS

Support for trips will be granted **at up to *10% of the total budget***, for one trip only.

Date of Activity	Name of Activity	Registration Deadline

FINANCIAL DETAILS OF REQUEST (estimated budget)	If assistance is for more than one individual, please attach a roster that includes names and the number of girls and adults. Funding will be granted ONLY for the number of adults indicated in GSUSA's safety guidelines.		
	PER GIRL	**PER ADULT**	**TOTAL**
Food			
Transportation			
Lodging			
Program Expense			
Fee (explain below)			

Total Estimated Cost			

Amount Applicant Can Pay			
Balance Needed			
Date Needed		**Please allow 6 weeks for processing.**	

Mail or Fax application to:
Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc.
Attn: Financial Assistance
119 E Coronado Road
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Fax: 602.452.7100

Please allow 6 weeks for processing.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
Assistance Granted? ☐Yes ☐No	Amount $	
If camp:	Session	Total Cost
Comments		
Authorized Signature		