

# —❖— Be an Honor Troop! —❖—

Honor Troops make Girl Scouting an exceptional experience, setting themselves apart as role models by participating in a wide variety of engaging activities.

To become an Honor Troop, try to include as many of the activities listed in the GSGCF Honor Troop Checklist as possible in your troop's year plan. Ask each parent/caregiver to select at least one activity that they can help you with.

Each girl will be eligible for the Honor Troop patch if the troop completes all four required items (listed in bold), in addition to at least **ten elements** of the GSGCF Honor Troop checklist. Complete the online Honor Troop survey by June 15.

## GSGCF Honor Troop Checklist

- ☐ **Have two or more registered leaders/co-leaders that have completed required training.**
- ☐ Create a year plan in the Volunteer Toolkit.
- ☐ Have at least two registered troop support volunteers.
- ☐ Host at least one family meeting and one family event or activity.
- ☐ Host at least one ceremony (Investiture, Court of Awards, Girl Scouts Own, Bridging, or Flag Ceremony).
- ☐ Be represented at a minimum of three service unit meetings.
- ☐ **Earn four or more badges or awards from the Girl Scout Leadership Experience curriculum.**
- ☐ Complete at least one Journey.
- ☐ Participate in at least one outdoor adventure.
- ☐ Complete at least one STEM badge or activity.
- ☐ Participate in the Mags and Munchies program.
- ☐ **Participate in the cookie program.**
- ☐ Participate in at least one activity that focuses on diversity, equity, and/or inclusion.
- ☐ Take part in at least one in-person or virtual field trip.
- ☐ Demonstrate at least two ways your troop is girl-led.
- ☐ Complete at least one troop community service or Take Action project.
- ☐ Invite at least one new girl to the troop or have 12 or more troop members.
- ☐ Renew memberships of any girls returning to the troop during Early Bird renewal season in the spring.
- ☐ **Submit troop finance report and year-end review by June 1.**

***Troops that complete ALL requirements will be entered to win a gift card to GirlScoutShop.com.***

We encourage you to share your success. Please send photos of your troop activities to [marketing@gsgcf.org](mailto:marketing@gsgcf.org) and include troop number, service unit, leader name, and a brief description of the activity in the photos. Please be sure all parents/caregivers have given permission for the photo to be used on council social media, print, and/or digital materials.

# Honor Troop Frequently Asked Question's

## ***What qualifies as a family event or activity?***

Girl Scouts encourages families to be a part of the girl's experience. A family badge event, ceremony, troop party, field trip, etc. are all appropriate family experiences. Please keep in mind that overnight trips are for members only (adults must have a membership and background check). Non-members are permitted to attend day trips as a participant but not a chaperone.

## ***Does the troop leader have to attend the service unit meetings to qualify?***

We encourage you to share this requirement with all parents/caregivers and troop volunteers. The troop may be represented by any adult at the service unit meeting who can then report the information back to the troop leader/co-leader. Attendance can be at in-person or virtual service unit meetings.

## ***Do fun patches count for earned badges and awards?***

No. Badges and awards may include GSUSA badges, Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards, Journeys, CIT pins, My Promise My Faith awards, Global Action Awards, etc.

## ***What counts as "participation" in the product programs?***

At least 75% of the girls in the troop must participate in the product programs. Girls should set a goal and work toward it. Each participating girl must sell a minimum of ten items in the Mags and Munchies program or 36 packages in the cookie program.

## ***What does it mean to be "girl-led" and how would we demonstrate that?***

Girl-led means that girls are playing an active part in figuring out the "what, where, when, how, and why" of their activities. While a Daisy and Ambassador troop can demonstrate this in different ways, the opportunity to help create their unique troop experience should be available to all girls. How did girls plan their camping trip, ceremony, or troop meetings? Were girls given a choice as to what badges or Journey to work on? Did older girls help run an activity for younger girls? These are all ways you can demonstrate the troop is girl-led.

## ***What time frame counts for the Honor Troop checklist activities?***

Please only include activities your troop completes between July 1 and May 31 each year.

## ***Can an activity count toward multiple requirements, such as a STEM camp?***

The intent of the Honor Troop program is to provide girls with a variety of activities. Please choose the single best category for each activity.

## ***Do we still qualify for the drawing for a GirlScoutShop.com gift card if our Daisies don't do an overnight activity?***

We encourage progression, and many Daisy troops are not yet ready for an overnight experience. You are exempt from the overnight requirement, but we do encourage you to participate in a day trip.

## ***Do all girls in the troop have to participate in each item we do on the checklist to qualify?***

We understand that sometimes an illness or other circumstance may prevent all girls from participating in an activity. Girls who were not in the troop at the time of the activity are exempt. Please do not include activities on the checklist in which fewer than 75% of girls participated.

## ***When will we receive our patches?***

Honor Troop patches will be ordered from our vendor after the survey closes on June 15. Late submissions cannot be accepted. Patches may take 4-6 weeks to arrive. Troops achieving Honor Troop in future years will receive a year bar. Girls moving to a new level may receive a new Honor Troop patch.