

Service Unit Update

September 2025



Updates for Service Unit Teams

This section provides information and updates for Service Unit Directors and other Service Unit Team members.

Congratulations to our President's Award Service Units!

2024-2025 President's Award Service Units

SU603	SU760	SU816	SU858	SU889
SU610	SU803	SU819	SU859	SU890
SU612	SU805	SU831	SU870	SU897
SU616	SU808	SU836	SU871	SU915
SU621	SU810	SU842	SU877	SU922
SU622	SU811	SU846	SU882	SU941
SU625	SU812	SU855	SU886	

The following are amounts earned by service units for achieving key goals on the Service Unit Plan of Work. Bonus funds can be used in any way that supports youth programming or volunteer recognition in your service unit.

2024-2025 Service Unit Bonus For achieving key goals, service units earn bonus funds can be used to serve youth and volunteers in your community.	\$250 SU610 SU886 SU941	\$240 SU831 SU846	\$200 SU621 SU859 SU622 SU871 SU625 SU882 SU819 SU897 SU842 SU915 SU855	\$190 SU603 SU836 SU803 SU858 SU808 SU889 SU811 SU890 SU821 SU922
	\$180 SU616 SU805 SU870	\$150 SU612 SU816 SU760 SU877 SU810 SU940 SU812	\$100 SU626 SU754 SU770 SU771	\$90 SU627 SU847
				\$50 SU617 SU857 SU624 SU867 SU780 SU868 SU835 SU932 SU838 SU942

Fall product program

Be sure to plan some time for distributing materials and answering questions about the Fall Product Program during your September Service Unit meeting. Community Engagement Managers will have individual sample packs of the Nut and Caramel Trail Mix for troop leaders to try.

Recognition Coordinator Chat

Join us for a chat about Girl Scout Recognition, all Service Unit Directors and Recognition Coordinators welcome! Get ready to gear up for another exciting year in Girl Scouts as we dive into how to honor those who make it all possible—our volunteers!

Choose the session that works best for your schedule:

Monday, September 22nd, 6pm-7pm : [Click here to register!](#)

OR

Tuesday, September 30th, 6pm-7pm: [Click here to register!](#)

What's Ahead

This section provides information and updates for ALL volunteers. Please share the information below through email and social media and add it to your leader meeting agenda. If your leader meeting is later in the month, please share this info on Facebook or email beforehand.

Happy Back-to-Troop!

Back-to-school means back-to-troop! This time of year it is important to do troop updates and reset for the troop year ahead. Here are a few things to do to make sure you are ready for a fun-filled year!

ACH/Banking Forms

This is the best time of year to make sure all Girl Scout bank accounts have two registered, background checked signers! All troops must have ACH/Banking paperwork completed before participating in the Fall Product Program. Volunteers should reach out to info@girlscoutstoday.org for assistance.

Troop Information Update

Whether your troop meeting schedule or location is new, or you would like to open your troop to new members, please take a few minutes to fill out the [Troop Information Update Form](#).

Submit your troop finance report before September 30

The Finance tab in the Volunteer Toolkit is the place to record troop income and expenses from the troop year and submit your troop finance report. Get your troop's finance report submitted early to be included in a prize drawing. Yours could be selected from the finance reports received by August 15, September 5, and September 26.

All troops must submit their finance report before September 30, 2025.

Permission Forms

Remember to get new permission forms for your troop members, now that the new troop year is starting! Troop Leaders should keep these forms all year, to ensure they have necessary information in the event of an emergency, as well as permission to participate in both the Fall Product Program and Cookie Program. Find the [Year Long Permission and Health form on our website](#).

Wellpoint Insurance Youth Club Membership Benefit

Wellpoint (Iowa Medicaid insurance) offers a \$50 benefit for youth members (ages 5-18) to join Girl Scouts to help build social and leadership skills! To utilize the benefit, call Wellpoint at 833-731-2140 or give Girl Scouts a call at 800-798-0833 and we can help you get started!

800-798-0833 | info@girlscoutstoday.org | [GirlScoutsToday.org](https://www.GirlScoutsToday.org)

Fall Product Program

[The Fall Product Program](#) is just around the corner! It's a simple, fun product program offering girls and troops the opportunity to earn funds for Girl Scout activities while also practicing five important skills: goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. The sale runs from October 3-November 23. **Troops earn 25% of the profit on the sales they make!**

Fall Product Program materials can be picked up from your service unit product manager at your September meeting.

Don't forget to [take the Fall Product Program training today!](#)

President's Volunteer Service Award

[The President's Volunteer Service Award](#) is on a temporary pause, as decided by AmeriCorps (the organization that oversees the program). We are unable to certify any volunteer service for the PVSA at this time. We do not know when this program might resume or any other information but will share an update in the Service Unit Update if more information becomes available.

Girl Scout Travel

From day trips to international travel, Girl Scouts has opportunities for youth to learn the life-skills necessary for successful travel as an adult. Youth will learn adaptability in navigating unfamiliar environments, independence, problem solving, and listening skills to name a few. [Learn about the Girl Scout travel progression](#) so you can support youth development through travel experiences.

Here are some tips and things you need to know about traveling with your troop:

1. Start small: day trips and shorter distance trips if you have not yet traveled with your troop.
2. Take the travel training available on gsLearn before planning any field trips or overnights.
3. If troops are traveling more than 100 miles from their typical meeting place, they must fill out the [Troop Trip Approval](#) form on our website.
4. Transporting youth has some additional rules. All adults driving Girl Scouts must be registered, background checked, over 21 and a licensed driver (teen drivers can NEVER drive other Girl Scouts to activities), drive a registered and insured vehicle, and have a good driving record.
5. When driving more than 150 miles, each driver must submit an MVR (Motor Vehicle Record)
6. Create a binder to hold your troop's yearlong permission slips, accident forms, and council emergency card. Plan to keep this and a first aid kit with one troop leader during field trips or longer travel experiences.
7. Refer to [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) for more in-depth transportation and activity guidelines.

Feel nervous about planning your troop's first travel experiences? Register for a council event!

Our team plans and facilitates activities with partners while you focus on transportation details and guiding your troop during the experience.

Travel with Girl Scouts has even more opportunities for middle and high schoolers!

[Girl Scout National Convention Trip\(CSA\)](#)

[Belize Conservation Adventure\(SA\)](#)

[Destinations](#): Independent Travel for ages 12+ is now open for applications! Grant funding is available for Destination Experiences, including our National Convention trip and Belize trip.

Reach out to our Girl Experience Team with questions! We are here to assist. Info@girlscoutstoday.org

Halloweekend, October 18, Camp Liberty

One of our largest council events is back for another round of fall fun! Everyone is invited to Camp Liberty for a Halloween celebration like no other. Join us for outdoor adventures, silly scares, and festive crafts all for just \$5 per person when you register in advance!

Sneak Peek at the exciting activities available for the \$5 entrance fee:

- Black Widow's Trail: Follow the spider's web but don't get caught as you meander this trail.
- Spider Zipline: Create your own spider to launch on a mini zipline and race your friends.
- Moon Mist Bubbles: Play with magical fog filled bubbles.
- Skeleton Fairy Creations: Make your own hauntingly beautiful skeleton fairy.
- Enchanted Elixir Tasting: Pour and mix to change colors of this tart drink.
- Potion Necklaces: Write a secret message to add to your potion and make it disappear.
- Halloween Petting Zoo: Meet some cuddly rats or cockroaches.
- Monster Mashers Slingshots: Grab a slingshot and take aim at some not so scary monsters!
- Inflatable Obstacle Course/Slide and Lazer Tag

Additional activities and food available for "add-on" as you register if you want to extend your fun!

Cost: \$5 youth/adult **Deadline:** 10/15/25

10/16-10/18 Walk-in at event cost \$10 youth/adult

[Register HERE](#)

Opportunities are still open for troops to host a tent-n-treat! Receive a free overnight stay, October 17th at Camp Liberty in outside units AND free entrance to Halloweekend for up to 12 youth and 2 adults. [Register](#)

Camp Adventures Await—All Year Long!

Guess what? Camping isn't just for summer anymore—start planning now to enjoy the magic of camp this fall and winter! Camp Liberty (near the Quad Cities), Camp Little Cloud (near Dubuque), and Camp L-Kee-Ta (near Burlington) are open year-round—and yes, they've got cozy, climate-controlled cabins ready for your next adventure!

Whether you're planning a troop sleepover or a full-on Service Unit bash, Girl Scout groups get an **awesome discount** with the code **GS50** (yep, it's case sensitive)! [Reserve Your Spot Now!](#)

Got questions? We've got answers! Just send an email to Info@GirlScoutsToday.org with the subject line "Camp Rental."

Bonus: Our camps aren't just for Girl Scouts! Non-members are welcome, too! From dreamy weddings to peaceful weekend getaways, we're here to help you plan something unforgettable.

Let's make some memories—see you at camp!

Outdoor Skills Training

Outdoor Skills Training registration is live on the Events Calendar; here's what we have scheduled:

- Sunday, September 7th at Camp Liberty
- Saturday, September 27th at Camp Liberty
- Saturday, October 11th at Camp Little Cloud
- Saturday, October 25th at Camp L-Kee-Ta

All sessions take place from 9am-4pm. [Register on our events page.](#)

Girl Scout Shop Updates

Save the Date- Pop-Up Shop in Waterloo!

On Thursday, September 25th, from 4-7pm, the shop will be at the Waterloo office! Browse a selection of fun and useful items, including plush, stickers, gifts for leaders, and uniforms. The heat press service will also be available. If you'd like a heat-pressed uniform, we recommend placing your order in advance through the council shop website (GSEIWIShop.com) and select Waterloo office as the pickup location.

Mark Your Calendars- Saturday Shop Hours

Council shops in Quad Cities and Cedar Rapids will be open on Saturday, September 6th and 20th, from 10am-2pm. This is a great time to pick up all your uniform essentials and get ready for back-to-troop!

September In-Store Special

When you visit a shop and purchase a full uniform any Tuesday in September, you will receive a free heat press service as well as a free bag (\$20 value)! (*Sash or vest, flag and council insignia, tab and pins, troop numerals, troop crest if applicable*).

2025 Fall Riding at Camp Liberty

Fall Riding at Camp Liberty is in session! There are options for all ages, including new equestrian opportunities this year:

New equestrian opportunities this year:

- [Junior Equestrian Badge Workshop](#) – Sept 14, Attend this 3-hour badge workshop to learn all about horses and complete all the requirements for the Junior Horseback Riding badge.
- [Howdy Partner sessions](#)– Oct 11, Brownie or Junior Girl Scouts attend a 3-hour riding session with their favorite adult!
- [Junior and Cadette 6-week riding lessons](#) - Join us each Thursday for 6 weeks (Sept 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 16) of horse-riding lessons and take your equestrian skills to the next level!

Classic equestrian opportunities available:

- [Daisy and Brownie Pony Rides](#) – Meet the horses, tour the equestrian center, and take a ride around the arena led by an adult partner.
- [Brownie and Junior Arena Rides](#) – Practice basic riding skills, play fun games and learn how to groom and saddle a horse.
- [Junior Trail Rides](#) – Learn equestrian safety, practice simple skills in the arena, and take a leisurely horseback ride through Camp Liberty.
- [Cadette, Senior, Ambassador Trail Rides](#) - Enhance trail riding skills and take to our beautiful trails at Camp Liberty for a leisurely horseback ride.

[Find and register for all available fall riding options here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Sept 6-7, Brownie-Ambassador, [Overnight At The Blank Park Zoo-Des Moines](#), Register by 9/3
Sept 13, All ages, friends & families, [Girl Scout Day With Iowa Hawkeyes Football-Iowa City](#), Register by 9/10
Sept 13, Daisy, [Daisy Coding For Good: Coding Basics-Online](#), Register by 9/10
Sept 14, Junior, [Equestrian Junior Badge Workshop AM-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 9/3
Sept 19, All ages, friends & families, [Girl Scout Night With Iowa Hawkeye Volleyball-Coralville](#), Register by 9/17
Sept 20, Daisy-Ambassador, [Compassion In Action: Moments Of Hospice-Cedar Rapids](#), Register by 9/10
Sept 20, All ages, friends & families, [Living Like Laura-Decorah](#), Register by 9/10
Sept 24, Senior-Ambassador, [Teen Yoga Night-Burlington](#), Register by 9/17
Sept 26, Junior, [Junior Space Science Investigator-Cedar Rapids](#), Register by 9/19
Sept 27, Daisy-Ambassador, [Girl Scout Night At The Drive-In-Blue Grass](#), Register by 9/24
Sept 28, Daisy-Junior, [Travel \(Day Trip\): Wildlife Prairie Park-Hanna City](#), Register by 9/24
Sept 28, Daisy, [Cybersecurity Safeguards and Investigations For Daisies-Online](#), Register by 9/24
Oct 4, Brownie-Junior, [Girl Scout Golf Experience With First Tee Quad Cities-Davenport](#), Register by 10/1
Oct 11, Brownie, [Equestrian Howdy Partner Brownie-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 10/1
Oct 11, Junior, [Equestrian Howdy Partner Junior-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 10/1
Oct 14, Daisy-Brownie, [Stepping Into STEM-Iowa City](#), Register by 10/8
Oct 16, Daisy-Junior, [Pinch Pot Pals-Waterloo](#), Register by 10/8
Oct 17, Brownie, [Brownie Space Science Adventurer-Ely](#), Register by 10/10
Oct 18, All ages, friends and families, [Halloweekend-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 10/15 for \$5, or register at the door for \$10

Find more upcoming events at www.GirlScoutsToday.org/events

Upcoming Training

Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training:

September 6, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Bettendorf](#), Register by 8/29
September 19, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Cedar Rapids](#), Register by 9/11
October 4, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Bettendorf](#), Register by 9/25
October 10, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Cedar Rapids](#), Register by 10/2
November 1, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Bettendorf](#), Register by 10/22
November 21, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Waterloo](#), Register by 11/14
December 19, CSA-Volunteers, [Red Cross CPR, First Aid, AED Training-Cedar Rapids](#), Register by 12/11

Outdoor Skills Training:

September 7, Volunteers, [Outdoor Skills Training-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 9/3
September 27, Volunteers, [Outdoor Skills Training-Camp Liberty](#), Register by 9/19
October 11, Volunteers, [Outdoor Skills Training-Camp Little Cloud](#), Register by 10/3
October 25, Volunteers, [Outdoor Skills Training-Camp L-Kee-Ta](#), Register by 10/17

Find all upcoming training opportunities [on our events page](#).