



# 2019-2020 Guide to Financial Assistance





## Eligibility Guidelines

- Applicant qualifies for free or reduced-price school Lunch
- Applicant is a Foster Child

## Extenuating Circumstances

We recognize that extenuating circumstances exist. Our Philanthropy team is working hard to increase the amount of Financial Assistance that is available to fund girls with increased needs. We also offer additional assistance to the extent possible for the following extenuating circumstances:

- Homelessness
- Recent change in family structure
- Recent job loss
- Significant illness
- Natural disaster (flood, fire, earthquake...etc.)

If your family falls into any of these categories and doesn't meet our eligibility guidelines, please submit a written description of your situation to [FinancialAssistance@Girlscoutswa.org](mailto:FinancialAssistance@Girlscoutswa.org) or Girl Scouts of Western Washington Financial Assistance, PO Box 770, DuPont WA 98327. Extenuating circumstance requests can take 7 days for review and eligibility response.

# How to Apply



1. Visit our website's [financial assistance page](#)
2. Complete online eligibility application (paper forms are also available for download with mailing instructions)
3. If eligible, you will receive confirmation email within 24 hours. Paper applications can take up to 3 weeks for processing.



## **Get pre-qualified!**

Once applicants qualify for our FA program, they are qualified for the entire membership year. They can request grants at the same time as they submit their eligibility information, or they can get pre-qualified and wait to submit grant requests later in the year.



**Troop leaders, staff or other volunteers** can submit an online FA Application for girls and/or adults if applicant provides written or verbal authorization.



Applicants may include a **volunteer or other adult's name** and email address as a secondary contact on the online FA Application. The Financial Assistance Team will notify this secondary contact for both grant confirmations and follow-up needs.

# Grant Structure



Once eligibility is approved, you can submit specific grant requests. Below is our 2019-2020 girl and adult grant options:

## **Girl Grants:**

- Membership – new registration (10/1/19-9/30/20), renewal (10/1/20-9/30/21) or both!
- Plus 3 grants – supply voucher, troop dues, event (any combination!)
- Plus 1 camp grant up to \$250

## **Adult Grants:**

- Membership – new registration (10/1/19-9/30/20), renewal (10/1/20-9/30/21) or both!
- 3 Event Grants: see eligible activities on GSWW's Calendar of Events.

*You may submit all your grant requests at once, or you may submit them one at a time during the membership year. Girls can mix and match grants!*

# Membership Grant Request



Qualified applicants are offered **Membership Dues Grants** to cover the cost of Girl Scout membership and membership renewal dues.

**Step 1** Get pre-qualified for the FA Program

**Step 2** Submit Membership Form Via online or using a paper form and select FA as your payment type.

☞ Girl Membership (Valid 10/1/2017 - 9/30/2018) for Test-Girl Household - Edit

Request Financial Aid  
\$25.00

**TOTAL** \$25.00

Member will be notified when their grant is processed.

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Membership Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Extended Year Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Attached: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Cash  Check\*

Amex  Discover

Visa  MasterCard

Financial Aid

# Troop Dues Request



- This \$40 Grant is available to girl members who qualify for FA and haven't used all 3 grant requests yet. A girl must be listed on a troop roster in our database to receive a troop dues grant.
- A family can request a grant at the time of qualification or can request a grant later in the year after getting pre-qualified.

# Events Requests



- Events Grants are available to girl and adult members who qualify for Financial Assistance and haven't used all 3 grant requests.
- A family can request an Event Grant AFTER getting pre-qualified.
- **Events** are posted on the GSWW calendar. Select FA as the payment type when registering and grant funds are applied to the balance due.
- **3rd party Events** (i.e. Pacific Science Center, Engage Thru Tech) are posted on the GSWW calendar. Buy tickets through the 3rd Party's registration system, then submit an Event Grant request & a copy of the receipt to receive reimbursement. Grant funds are reimbursed to the SU, troop or individual. If a SU, troop or individual is requesting that payment be made directly to the vendor, submit an Event Grant request & a copy of the vendor invoice.
- **Service Unit Events** Select FA as payment type when registering. The SU Registrar submits request on behalf of the member that selected FA. The SU Registrar and the families are notified once the grant is approved. Grant funds are sent to the Service Unit.



**Need help with the new events registration process?** Check out this [step-by-step guide on how to sign up for events](#) or email us at [customercare@girlscoutsww.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsww.org) for support. We're here to help!

# Camp Requests



## **GSWW Staff-Led Camps:**

**NEW for the 2019-2020 Membership Year our Financial Assistance Camp awards are \$250.**

Beginning November 5, 2019, registration for Resident Camp will begin! Girls eligible for FA can apply for a grant up to \$250.

Vol-led camp- register for your camp of choice and indicate Financial Assistance as your payment method.

GSWW camps (Robbinswold Overnight, St. Albans Overnight, River Ranch Overnight & River Ranch Day Camp)  
To request your camp grant, please indicate on your Camper Application that your camper will be utilizing Financial Assistance. If you have already completed your Camper Application and did not request Financial Assistance, you may do so by contacting our Customer Care Team by calling 1(800) 541-9852 or emailing [customercare@girlscoutswv.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutswv.org). Once your camp grant request is received, it will be reviewed by the Financial Assistance Team and when approved, it will automatically be applied towards your camper's balance.

Please note that your \$25 camp deposit is not covered by your Camp Grant and must be paid during camp registration. Deposits are non-transferable and non-refundable. The maximum award for a Camp Grant is \$250. Any remaining balance after your Camp Grant is applied must be paid by Tuesday, May 19, 2020 to avoid cancellation.



# Girl, Adult & Troop Supply Voucher Request



Available to girl members who qualify for FA and haven't used all 3 grant requests yet.

**NEW for the 2019-2020 membership year supply voucher grants have been reduced to \$40**

Family can request grant at time of qualification or can request grant later in the year after getting pre-qualified. Vouchers can be mailed to family or Troop Leader

If lost, family can call Customer Care, case is made, FA voids original card and issues a replacement. Family can check balance by using the website/phone number on back of card

# Important Dates and Deadlines



- 2019-2020 Financial Assistance application open October 1, 2020
- We accept Membership Dues Grant requests year round
- Supply Voucher, Troop Dues, Event and Camp grants are open 10/1/2019-8/30/2020
- Event grants have Financial Assistance deadlines to ensure adequate processing time. Please be sure to review event request details for qualifying deadlines.



# Any Questions?

## Questions & Resources

- Please call or email our Customer Care Team: 1- 800-541-9852 or [customercare@girlscoutsww.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsww.org) (Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm)
- Visit our website's [Financial Assistance Page](#)

