



2024–2025 Financial Assistance Member Guide

Eligibility Guidelines



Eligibility Guidelines

- Applicant qualifies for free or reduced-price school lunch, applicant is a foster child, or if the family receives any of the following state or federal benefits: (SNAP), (TANF), (CHIP), (SSI), (WIC), (FPHA), (LIHEAP) or any other state-specific assistance programs.

Extenuating Circumstances

We recognize that extenuating circumstances exist. Our philanthropy team is working hard to increase the amount of financial assistance available to our members. 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 disasters (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 or mail to Girl Scouts of Western Washington Financial Assistance, 5601 6th Ave S Suite 150, Seattle, WA 98108. Extenuating circumstance requests can take up to seven days for review and response.

How to Apply



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



Get pre-qualified!

Once you qualify for our financial assistance program, you are qualified for the entire membership year. You can request grants at the same time as you submit your eligibility information, or you can get pre-qualified and wait to submit grant requests later in the year.



Troop leaders, staff, or other volunteers can submit an online financial assistance application for youth and/or adults if the 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 financial assistance application. This secondary contact will be notified for both grant confirmations and follow-up needs.

Grant Structure



Once your eligibility is approved, you can submit specific grant requests.

Youth Grants

- Membership dues: new registration, renewal, or both!
- Plus three grants: uniform grant, service unit event, staff-led council events, volunteer-led events/camp (any combination!).
- Plus, one camp grant.

Adult Grants: events, volunteer-led events/camp (any combination!).

- Membership: new registration, renewal, or both!
- Three event grants: [see eligible events](#) online.

Membership



Membership is a requirement for financial assistance eligibility to be processed. The cost of Girl Scout membership and renewal and/or any council service fees are covered by council if needed.

Step 1: Submit your membership form online or using a paper form. Select “Financial Aid” as your payment type.

A screenshot of a web form for Girl Scout membership. The header shows 'Girl Membership (Valid 10/1/2017 - 9/30/2018) for Test-Girl Household - Edit'. Below this, there is a 'Request Financial Aid' section with '\$25.00' and an unchecked checkbox. The 'TOTAL' is listed as '\$25.00'. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'ADD ANOTHER MEMBERSHIP' and 'CHECKOUT'.

You will be notified when your membership grant is processed.

A screenshot of the 'PAYMENT INFORMATION' section of a form. It includes fields for 'Membership Fee: \$', 'Extended Year Fee: \$', and 'Donation: \$'. Below these is a 'Total Attached: \$' field. At the bottom, there are radio button options for payment methods: 'Cash', 'Check*', 'Amex', 'Discover', 'Visa', 'MasterCard', and 'Financial Aid'.

Event Requests



Event grants are available to youth and adult members who qualify for financial assistance and have not yet used all three grant requests. Request event grants AFTER getting pre-qualified.

Staff-Led Council Events: [View council events](#) on our website. Select “Financial Aid” as the payment type when registering. Grant funds will be applied to the balance due.

Volunteer-Led Event/Camp Grant: You may also use one of your three allotted grant requests as an event toward one [volunteer-led community camp or day camp](#). This grant is specifically for volunteer-led events or staff-led events and cannot be used for other types of activities such as Camp S'More.

Service Unit Events: Select financial assistance as payment type when registering. The service unit registrar will submit grant requests on behalf of members who select financial assistance. The service unit registrar and grant recipient will be notified once the grant is approved. Grant funds are sent to the service unit.

Events have financial assistance deadlines to ensure adequate processing time. Please be sure to review the deadlines and details of your event in advance

Stay tuned for details on specific volunteer-led camp programs in the 2024–2025 membership year.

Camp Requests



Available to youth and adult members who:

- Have an active Girl Scout membership.
- Are pre-qualified for financial assistance.
- Register for their camp program before the registration deadline.

This grant may be applied to ONE camp session per membership year. Any required deposit is not included in the grant amount. Grant funds will be directly applied to the camper's outstanding balance.

Register for camp and select financial assistance as your payment type. The camp registrar will submit the request on your behalf. You will be notified once your grant is approved.

The camp grant can only be used to attend Girl Scouts of Western Washington overnight camping events. This grant is exclusive to Girl Scouts of Western Washington camp and cannot be applied to volunteer-led events. There will be no grant swaps between the volunteer-led event grant and camp grant.

Uniform Grant Request



Uniform Grant Request

- Available to youth members who qualify for financial assistance and have not yet used all three grant requests.
- You can request this grant toward a new and/or bridging uniform bundle, which includes: Girl Scout sash, vest or tunic, troop numbers (up to five), flag patch, council ID set, membership tab, and membership pin, world trefoil pin, or applicable bridging insignia.
- Once you receive your approval email from the Financial Assistance Department, it will serve as proof of your eligibility for our retail team. You can use the grant online (excluding girlscoutshop.com), in person at one of our retail stores, or by phone. To place your Girl Scout store order, simply call or email us. Shipping is included with the uniform grant.

Important Dates and Deadlines



Financial assistance is offered on a first-come, first-served disbursement plan. Because limited funds are available, we encourage Girl Scouts to apply ASAP. Processing time takes up to 14 business days during non-peak season. During peak times, processing can take up to 21 business days.

Timeline

- **October 1:** Financial assistance applications open.

October 1–August 30

Uniform grants, event grants (service unit events, volunteer-led events, or staff-led council events), and camp grants are open for request, until funds have been depleted.



Questions and Resources

Please call or email our customer care team:
1(800) 541-9852 or customercare@girlscoutswv.org
(Monday–Friday 9:00 AM–4:50 PM)

Visit our website's [Financial Assistance page](#)