

2026 Girl Scout Convention Frequently Asked Questions

As of November 20, 2024

What is the venue for the 2026 convention?

The convention will take place at:

Walter E. Washington Convention Center 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW Washington, DC 20001

<u>Visit</u> the official tourism site of Washington, DC, for planning resources.

Who decides the location of each convention?

Girl Scouts of the USA's National Board determines where each National Council Session (NCS) takes place based on a variety of factors, including ease of travel, capacity needs, and logistical considerations.

How did you select the convention dates?

We have heard from our members that July is a good time to hold National Council Session as it reduces the need for girl delegates and girl attendees to miss school. By offering this event in July, when the majority of the country is on summer break, we hope to provide the opportunity for more Girl Scouts to attend, participate, and witness the democratic process at NCS.

Is convention for all Girl Scouts or just older ones? Are families welcome too? And what about alums, volunteers, and other supporters of the Girl Scout mission?

This event is open to all, including Girl Scout members, alums, families, and non-members. We will be sharing more information about the specifics of the event as we have them, but there will be activities and demos in the Hall of Experiences, special guests, live performances, and much more.

When will the convention registration portal open? When will we have details regarding hotels?

Additional details about planning for convention will be available in early 2025.

Is there an official airline partner for convention? Are bus trips being organized to/from convention?

Girl Scout members should check with their local councils to see if they will be organizing any group travel plans or discounts from their regions.

Please note that there is currently no official or preferred national airline or bus company for this convention.

Should my troop travel to convention?

Convention is a great experience for both families and troops. Troops can use the <u>Girl Scout Guide to U.S. Travel</u> to start brainstorming. As soon as you decide to plan a troop trip, read the Trips/Travel chapter in the Safety Activity Checkpoints, available on your council's website, for more guidance, and contact your council to learn about resources, requirements, and training that may be available.

Will girls be able to use their cookie rewards to attend?

Each council determines how Girl Scouts can use the cookie rewards—including what some councils call "cookie dough"—that they have earned by participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Please check with your council to see if they will be offering this option.

Who can apply to be a National Council delegate at the 58th National Council Session?

National Council delegates and alternates must:

- be a citizen of the United States of America as set out in GSUSA's Congressional Charter;
- be a registered member of the Girl Scout Movement;
- be able to consider a broad spectrum of the opinions of adult and older girl members from all parts of the council; and
- be willing to prepare thoroughly on the issues and business that will come before the National Council.

Visit your council's website to learn more about their application process, policies, and procedures regarding eligibility to serve as a delegate.

Will there be opportunities to volunteer at the convention?

Yes. We welcome the support from local volunteers. We are still in the planning phases and working on identifying our staff and volunteer needs. More details will be available in 2025.

How do I express an interest in speaking or facilitating a breakout session at the convention?

Thank you for your interest. <u>Complete this form</u> to be contacted by a member of the convention team.

How can I learn about sponsoring the event or participating as an exhibitor in the Hall of Experiences?

Thank you for your interest. Please <u>complete this form</u> to be contacted by a member of our development team. Please note that we will start our outreach to sponsors and exhibitors in early 2025.

How can we stay informed about convention updates?

Join our <u>Convention Insider email list</u> to be the first to receive updates as they become available.

Who should I contact with questions?

For any questions not addressed here, please contact the convention team.