

2026

GIRL SCOUTS OF NASSAU COUNTY Girl Scout Cookie Program® Family Guide and Permission Form

Welcome families, to an exciting year for the Girl Scout Cookie Program. The cookie program gives your Girl Scout the ability to power unique opportunities and adventures for themselves and their troop while learning to think like an entrepreneur. And you're key to their success. With the support, assistance, and encouragement of their family, there's no stopping a Girl Scout!



Why should my Girl Scout participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program?

The Girl Scout Cookie Program fuels your Girl Scout's adventures throughout the year: exploring what interests them, discovering their passions, and taking action on issues they care about. Whether they're using STEM skills to solve a problem, changing a law to help their community, having a courageous outdoor experience, or starting an innovative nonprofit, a Girl Scout builds a better future for themselves and the world. Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, not only do Girl Scouts become entrepreneurs as they gain hands-on experience running their own small business, they also develop concrete skills (Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics) that last a lifetime. Yet, even with all of that great learning and earning, year after year Girl Scouts tell us the number one reason they participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program is because it's FUN!

Did you know? All proceeds from the Girl Scout Cookie Program stay local! When your friends and family purchase Girl Scout Cookies from your young, bright entrepreneur, they're supporting their success today and tomorrow.

Girl Scout Cookie proceeds...

1. Cover the cost of running the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including the cost of cookies, materials, and logistics.
2. Fund Take Action projects for the community and amazing Girl Scout-led adventures for troops.
3. Help our council provide financial assistance so all Girl Scouts can have amazing experiences in STEM programs, the outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship, as well as camp, leadership training, and more.

Key Dates

January 5	Order taking begins (<i>Digital and in-person</i>)
February 9	Initial Order deadline
February 19	Booth Sales begin
February 28	Initial Order deliveries begin
March 26	Order taking ends



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Ways to Sell

There are many ways to sell Girl Scout Cookies, and each one helps Girl Scouts gain different skills along the way. Let your Girl Scout take the lead in picking how they want to run their business.

Order cards: Girl Scouts can use the card to track customers and their orders. Contact friends and family over the phone or bring the order card to an in-person family activity.

Direct sales: This happens after your Girl Scout has cookies in hand; no need to keep customers waiting! Girl Scouts can go door-to-door, pull a wagon through their neighborhood, and more (all with help from a caregiver).

Cookie booths: Cookie pop-up sales in areas with lots of foot traffic are a fun way for your Girl Scout to connect with their community and practice their sales pitch with new customers. Booth locations must be approved by your Service Unit Cookie Chair and our council, and take place within our council jurisdiction. Participants must follow all council guidelines about setting up, running, and taking down a booth. Look for communication from GSNC and your troop regarding booth sale regulations that may change after this booklet is printed due to any updated council guidance in place when booth sales are taking place.

Online sales: Use Digital Cookie to reach customers near and far. Your Girl Scout can promote their site by emailing friends and family and creating videos to share on social media where they make their pitch online. There are endless ways for your Girl Scout to get creative in spreading the word about their Digital Cookie site. And the best part for you? All of the cookies are paid for online so no money to collect or hand in!

Watch your email in January for an invitation for your Girl Scout to set up their Digital Cookie site. If you don't receive the invitation by January 5, click on the email request prompt at: digitalcookie.girlscouts.org

Donation program: Customers who are looking for ways to support your Girl Scout, but don't want to purchase cookies for themselves, can donate packages of cookies to GSNC's Gift of Caring program. With the generous support of DHL Express, cookies will be donated to the U.S. military locally and throughout the world through our Operation Cookie program and we will be continuing to donate cookies through the Hometown Heroes program. Customers can support Gift of Caring through any of the above selling methods. Donations also count toward Girl Scout rewards and troop proceeds.

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR COOKIE-PRENEUR:

- Help them earn the Cookie Entrepreneur Family pin to practice building their skills at home.
- Help them set up their Digital Cookie site.
- Help them keep money safe.
- Know the rules and safety guidelines.
- Model business ethics, decision making, people skills, and safety as you support them.
- Review the order card together so they know their product. While looking at the rewards opportunities, encourage them to set a goal.
- Ask their troop leader how you can help the whole troop reach its goals. Your Girl Scout will learn to be a helper and take action by watching you.
- Help them make arrangements to connect with people in their network.
- Never do things for your Girl Scout that they can do for themselves, even if it's quicker and easier for you to do them.
- Have fun together along the way and engage your whole family in supporting them.



2026 Girl Scouts of Nassau County Cookie Program CAREGIVER PERMISSION SLIP AND ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

My Girl Scout _____, a registered member of Troop # _____, has my permission to participate in the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program® and Digital Cookie® (the Girl Scout Leadership Experience online cookie program and sales system).

Initial in-person orders and Girl Delivery online orders: Order taking begins on January 5, 2026

My troop deadline for initial in-person cookie orders is _____, and payments for initial in-person orders are due _____.

If your Initial Order is not turned in, your Girl Scout will not qualify for the Initial Order Reward.

Additional Orders: My troop deadline for additional orders is _____. (*The Girl Scout Cookie Program ends on **March 26, 2026** (last day for order taking). The last day the GSNC Remote Cookie Cupboard is open is **April 4, 2026.***)

Procedures: I will see that my Girl Scout has adult supervision at all times and does not sell in-person to the public prior to the official starting date of **January 5, 2026**. My Girl Scout will sell Girl Scout Cookies for the exact prices noted on the order card and will collect money for in-person orders after the customer receives their order. I understand that the GSUSA Digital Cookie site is the only online sales platform my Girl Scout is allowed to use for online cookie selling, along with any online pilot program sponsored and approved by Girl Scouts of Nassau County. I acknowledge that all marketing initiated by my Girl Scout or me, including online, will follow Girl Scout guidelines. I understand that cookies are **NOT RETURNABLE**.

Girl Scout Rewards and Troop Proceeds: I understand that there are multiple options for Girl Scout rewards and troop proceeds, and that if 2/3 of my Girl Scout's troop elects to receive higher troop proceeds and no rewards, then my Girl Scout will receive, if earned, patches, Cookie Credits, the Initial Order reward, the donation pin and donation delivery event, the 500+ Club CEO Dinner, the 1000+ event, and a 2000+ item. My Girl Scout will not receive any of the lower level reward items. I understand that Girl Scout rewards/patches not picked up by June 15, 2026 will be donated to a local charity. I understand that, per GSUSA and IRS guidelines, troop proceeds belong to the Girl Scout troop as a whole and not an individual Girl Scout.

Financial Obligation: I understand that I am responsible for all cookies my Girl Scout receives and for turning in all money collected by my Girl Scout to Girl Scouts of Nassau County (GSNC) through my troop. In the event of non-payment for the products received, I understand that GSNC reserves the right to initiate collection procedures by its designated agent. I further understand that all costs associated with the above-mentioned collection process, including an additional 30% fee, and any attorney fees incurred, will be my responsibility.

I will meet the deadline for orders and money to be turned into the Troop Cookie Manager. I will follow the procedures listed above as well as any updated guidelines issued by GSNC during the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program. I have read and accept the financial obligations detailed on this sheet.

Caregiver (Print name) _____ Caregiver Signature _____ Date _____

Street Address (include Apt #) _____

City _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Mobile Phone _____ Weekday phone (if different from mobile) _____

Please detach this page and hand in to your Troop Cookie Manager