

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Volunteer Activity Guidelines

Updated: October 26, 2021

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles recognizes that the COVID-19 health crisis is a fluid situation, and we continue to monitor the guidelines and requirements regarding vaccination, testing, and masking provided by the Federal, State, and local agencies.

Vaccination and COVID-19 Testing

While we are committed to providing a safe and inclusive space for girls, volunteers, and our communities, Girl Scouts, as an organization is not mandating that girls or adult members be vaccinated in order to participate in any Girl Scout activity. However, depending on the venue or location of an event, meeting, or trip, members may be required to show proof of vaccination and/or a negative Covid-19 test to participate in that activity at the location. When possible, volunteers should seek opportunities that will not exclude girl members from participating based on vaccination status. In cases where a venue, city, county, or state has a mandate, troop leaders should inform all members of the mandate that they will be expected to follow by the entity.

Troop and Service Unit Meetings

- Troops may not advertise that a troop is fully vaccinated, as Girl Scouts is an inclusive organization.
- Volunteers may ask a parent/guardian or volunteer to show proof of vaccination, or a negative COVID-19 test, however, a leader/volunteer may not require proof of vaccination. Please note, members may be required to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test to a venue mandating such proof.

Overnight Troop/Volunteer Events & Activities

- Leaders/volunteers may ask a parent/guardian or volunteer to show proof of vaccination, however, a leader/volunteer may not require proof of vaccination for day activities/events. However, members may be required to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test to a venue mandating such proof.
- Leaders/volunteers may **ask and require** a parent/guardian or volunteer to provide a negative COVID-19 test result within 72 hours of an **overnight** activity.

Masks

Indoors:

Masks are required for all participants attending in-person troop meetings, service unit meetings, activities, or events in an indoor setting regardless of vaccination status.

Outdoors:

Masks are NOT required outdoors, however, masks are recommended to be worn when an outdoor event is considered a crowded outdoor setting.

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*Please note: Masks may be required by non-GSGLA businesses and establishments including, but not limited to: schools, parks and recreations, local venues.

Do not wear masks when:

- Eating or drinking, swimming, sleeping, or exempted by a doctor, due to a medical condition. In this case, you may want to consider wearing a face shield, should your condition permit.

Troop and Service Unit In-Person Meetings

In Person Meeting Required Documents

Prior to hosting any in-person troop meetings, service unit meetings, or events, please have attendees complete the below forms:

- Every GSGLA member/girl/family that meets in-person must fill out the [Member Agreement Participation Form](#) / [Formulario de Acuerdo de Participación del Miembro de GSGLA](#)
 - This form only needs to be completed once per membership year and should be retained by the Troop Leader or Service Unit Manager
- Each participant (girl and adult) who are attending an in-person troop meeting, service unit meeting, or event will need to complete the: [GSGLA Assumption of Risk Waiver for In-Person Activities](#)
 - This form only needs to be completed once per membership year and should be retained by the Troop Leader or Service Unit Manager
 - Attendees will need to input the volunteer's email address for the volunteer to receive a copy of the waiver.
 - For any questions regarding completion, please contact covid19@girlscoutsla.org
- Each participant attending an in-person meeting/activity should complete the [COVID-19 Self-Screening Assessment](#) / [Evaluación de Auto-Examen de COVID-19](#) prior to attendance at every in-person gathering to ensure that participants are following health screening guidelines.
 - Attendees are not required to submit this document, but should conduct the self-assessment prior to leaving home.
- Print and have available the [Troop/Service Unit In-person Meeting Activity Sign-In sheet](#) / [Planilla de Inscripción para Actividad/Reunión Presencial de la Unidad de Servicios/Patrulla de GSGLA](#).
 - This sheet is to be completed for each troop or service unit in-person gathering. It serves two purposes 1) to indicate that participants acknowledge that screening guidelines have been met and 2) It serves as a roster of those who were physically present for the event or activity for contact tracing purposes (This form is to be retained by meeting organizer, see details on form.)

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Meal and Food Recommendations: Troop / Service Unit Meetings

- Follow [CDC handwashing guidelines](#)
- Avoid any self-serve, shared food or drink options at Girl Scouts meetings or events (non-indoor overnights/camping)
- Snacks should be limited to pre-packaged food items

Meeting Space: Troop / Service Unit Meetings / Events

- There are no capacity limit restrictions for meeting indoors for non-overnight activities.
- Masks are required for all participants attending in-person troop meetings, service unit meetings, activities, or events in an indoor setting regardless of vaccination status.

Special Events & Money Earning (SEME)

- Please follow vaccination and COVID-19 testing policies listed above.
- All in-person event fliers must include a COVID protocol statement. Statements can include specific protocols to be followed or can list general protocols (For example, “All local, state, CDC, and GSGLA COVID protocols will be followed at this event”).
- For any SEME questions or requirements, please contact: seme@girlscoutsla.org

Indoor Overnights & Camping

Sleeping

- Members of different households are permitted to share a tent, cabin, or other lodging arrangements.
- Sleeping locations must not exceed 75% capacity (Example, an 8-person tent would not exceed 6 occupants; A multi-purpose room with a 40-person room capacity would not exceed 30 occupants).
- It is recommended that sleeping arrangements are positioned in a head-to-toe fashion.

Meal and Food Recommendations/Options: Indoor Overnights & Camping

- Follow [CDC handwashing guidelines](#)
- Serve individually packaged food
- Prepare food from home for individual consumption
- Family style meals where one person, wearing clean gloves and a face covering, serves everyone.
- Eat outdoors at a restaurant
- Have each girl or adult prep and cook their own food

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Travel

- At this time, carpooling is not recommended however, it is allowed. Mask wearing and ventilation with windows ajar is strongly suggested.
- When possible, individual families should accompany their children during troop travel and arrange to drop off and pick up their own child from meetings or activities.
- Hotel stays are allowed provided that each room does not exceed 75% capacity.
- Domestic and International travel is allowed with CDC recommendations.

Reporting a COVID outbreak

- If someone connected to a troop or service unit has been exposed to or is diagnosed with COVID-19 and has potentially exposed others during a Girl Scout event or activity, please complete and submit a [COVID-19 Notification Report](#)
- After filling out the COVID-19 Notification Report, please scan or email the completed form to covid19@girlscoutsla.org.
- A member of the GSGLA COVID-19 task force will contact the volunteer who submitted the notification form.
- The volunteer will be directed on the next steps to follow, including but not limited to:
 - a. Notifying the facility or homeowner where a troop/SU has met (whether indoors or outdoors).
 - b. Contacting the parents or volunteers of anyone who may have been exposed.
 - c. Receiving additional guidance (for example, quarantine timeline) if applicable.
- Should you have any questions, please email covid19@girlscoutsla.org.

Quarantine Recommendations

- Please follow [CDC guidelines](#) when determining when one should quarantine after exposure to COVID-19.
- For those who are unvaccinated, you should quarantine for 10 days if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19.
 - You may shorten the quarantine period to 7 days IF you have a viral test collected on or after Day 5 and the result is negative.
 - People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who has COVID-19 unless they have symptoms.
 - Fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure even if they don't have symptoms.

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**Please note it is not mandatory for girls or parents to meet in person. Please be mindful and provide a blended meeting option for girls/families that are not able to participate in person. Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSLA) reserves the right to cancel any or all meetings/events previously approved based on guidance and/or changes from the California Department of Public Health or LA County Department of Public Health.*

For more than a century, Girl Scouts have weathered difficult times the same way year after year together. Whether it is from our individual homes in virtual meetings or meeting safely distanced outside for the first time in quite a while, our Girl Scout Connection remains a point of hope, inspiration, and strength. Stay safe, Girl Scouts!