

**What is an Early Bird?**

Early Bird is a period of time in the spring when current Girl Scout members can renew their membership for the upcoming membership year before the end of the Girl Scout year to earn incentives. Early Bird registration for the 2025-26 membership year opens on April 1, 2025.

**What are the 2025 Early Bird incentives?** Any girl member renewed by June 15, 2025, for the 2025-2026 membership year will receive an entry for a rocket launch opportunity. One lucky Girl Scout member will win a VIP Rocket Launch Experience at Cape Canaveral, Fla., for up to four people. Four complimentary roundtrip airline tickets to get to the launch courtesy of Southwest Airlines are also included. The VIP Rocket Launch viewing includes access to many behind-the-scenes activities not usually open to the public.

Any troop that has completed the Annual Troop Report and ACH for this membership year and has two, unrelated Troop Leadership Team members and 75% of girl members (minimum of three) renewed by June 15, 2025, will be entered into a drawing for a weekend camp property reservation. Incentive covers cost of the property reservation only (valued at \$470) and does not include activities, food, or transportation, etc. Reservations are for spring 2026. Tomahawk Ranch cabin April 24-26, 2026; Lazy Acres' lodge April 24-26; or at Meadow Mountain Ranch lodge May 1-3, 2026. Troops will rank their preference on their Annual Troop Report. One winning troop will be selected per property.

**What is the Early Bird registration deadline this year?**

June 15, 2025

**Are the Early Bird Incentives available for new members?**

No, Early Bird Incentives are only available for renewing members. New members registering between April 1-July 31 will select an Extended Year Membership for \$65. The Extended Year Membership is a discounted membership for the remainder of the current membership year (\$20) and includes the renewal for next year (\$45). The Extended Year membership is valid from the date of purchase through the end of the 2026 membership year, Sept. 30, 2026.

**When will the camp property reservation be available for use?**

The troop that is drawn for each camp property reservation will be connected to a GSCO staff member to make final reservation details. GSCO will do their best to ensure the winning troop receives the camp reservation of their first choice. Drawing will be held after July 7. The troop leadership team will be notified and connected with GSCO staff to coordinate the final details of the reservation. Incentive covers the cost of the property reservation only and does not include activities, food, or transportation, etc. Reservations are for spring 2026.

**What is included in the rocket launch incentive?**

Thanks to our friends at Lockheed Martin Space, one lucky Girl Scout member will win a VIP Rocket Launch Experience at Cape Canaveral, Fla. for up to four people. This once-in-a-lifetime package includes VIP access to an upcoming rocket launch, behind-the-scenes experiences such

as a mission briefing, special receptions, and a tour of the launch pad to see the rocket and spacecraft up close! Four complimentary roundtrip airline tickets for travel to the launch courtesy of Southwest Airlines is also provided. The Girl Scout who wins this amazing opportunity will be connected with a representative at Lockheed Martin to facilitate their launch date. The family will work directly with Southwest Airlines to book airfare. All other expenses incurred are the responsibility of the family. Drawing will occur on July 7, 2025, and Girl Scout and their caregiver will be notified soon after. If the family chooses not to accept the incentive, another drawing will occur, and that winner notified. The launch and airfare offer are valid for one year beginning Aug. 1, 2025.

**Are Juliette Girl Scouts eligible for Early Bird incentives?**

Girl Scouts who participate individually as a Juliette are eligible for the Rocket Launch drawing incentive. Only troops are eligible for camp property reservation incentive.

**Can my troop use troop funds to renew?**

Troops are welcomed and encouraged to use funds earned through Product Programs and other money-earning opportunities to renew their girls. However, troops cannot request aid on behalf of a family so will not be able to pay less than the cost of national dues.

**Can I use Cookie Credits to renew?**

Yes, girls will be able to apply Cookie Credits to their balance due using the Early Renewal form. Also, girls/troops may be reimbursed for membership using the Cookie Credit Reimbursement form: <http://www.girlscoutsofcolorado.org/en/for-volunteers/forms-and-resources/credit-reimbursement0.html>

**In the past, GSCO offered a Discount Day when renewal was 50% off. Why aren't you doing that this year?**

Discount Day was originally introduced as we were emerging from COVID, and over the past three years, the cost for GSCO to fund Discount Day has been more than \$100,000 annually (\$354,000 total). We are shifting this council investment to cover what we anticipate will be an increased need for financial assistance due to the increased cost of dues.

**Some families in our troop are having a difficult time financially. Is there help?** We are committed to ensuring that every girl who wants to be a Girl Scout can be, no matter their family's financial situation. During the early renewal period of April 1 to June 15, families will have the option to use a sliding scale to pay what they can. We ask all Girl Scout members to consider paying what they truly can and any amount over the \$45 dues will be a donation to help fund a membership for another family that might be struggling.

**Will help be available after the early renewal period?** After June 15, families in need can apply for financial assistance for membership dues, uniforms, and other supplies. Individual families can request a scholarship by simply checking the box for financial aid during the renewal process. Financial aid may only be requested for registration by caregivers.

**In the past GSCO has offered early renewal gifts like patches, first aid kits, scarves, and T-shirts or credit to the Girl Scout Shop, why are the incentives only drawings this year?** We always strive to use resources wisely and felt that funds previously spent on Early Bird incentives for all should be redirected to financial aid for families in need. The rocket launch experience is entirely donor supported and the camp weekends are a high value but not a cash expense.

**What should I do if I am unable to renew because of technical difficulties?** If you have any difficulties completing your renewal during Early Bird, contact GSCO customer care at [inquiry@gscolorado.org](mailto:inquiry@gscolorado.org) or call 877-404-5708 for assistance. We can help address any issues.