

Destinations Application Information

Application Checklist

(You are SIX steps away from starting your next great adventure!)

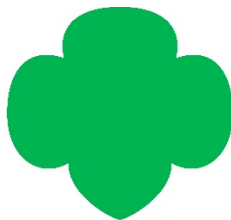
- ☐ 1. **Make sure you are a registered Girl Scout.** If you are not a Girl Scout, it's easy to register! [Contact your local Girl Scout council.](#)
- ☐ 2. **Choose your Destinations!** You can apply for up to FOUR Destinations. [Check out ALL the trips](#) and imagine the experiences you might have. Use **green buttons** at the top of the page to filter trips based on your age or the type of trip & make sure you meet the requirements.
- ☐ 3. **Draft your application on this worksheet.** Once you begin the online application, you will NOT be able to save it and continue later – you must complete each application in one sitting. You can use the below worksheet to draft your answers to the short answer and essay questions, and then cut and paste the text into the online form. NOTE: You must complete a **separate application with a unique essay** for each trip.
- ☐ 4. **Request your references.** You must ask at least two people to provide a reference, but you are welcome to enter an *optional* third reference. If you are applying to more than one Destination, you can ask the same (or different) references for each trip. More details about the references process are on the next page!
- ☐ 5. **Apply online!** Complete your [online application](#) well in advance of the deadlines. Aim to complete your application 11/1, so your references have enough time to finish their part of the application by the **early application deadline: 11/15**. After 11/15, applications are open on a rolling basis. If you are applying after 11/15, **before you apply**, call or email the Destination's contact person for each trip (listed on each trip page) to make sure there is still space. If you have problems completing your application, email destinations@girlscouts.org.
- ☐ 6. **Understand what happens next.** As soon as you complete your application, you will receive a confirmation email (check your JUNK MAIL if you don't see it!) Your application will be sent to your references, so they can see what you wrote and then complete their section. The application will also be sent to a contact at your local Girl Scout council so that they can verify that you are a Girl Scout. Finally, your application will be sent to the Destination host – the organization that is running the trip. The host will review your application and let you know their decision according to the timeline [here - under "Important Dates"](#).

References Information

As a reminder, you only need two people to submit a reference, and these people can be asked for multiple trip applications. You have the option to submit a third reference, but this is not required.

- **Who should I ask?** Each reference will be asked to provide specific examples your strengths or skills that would enable you to enjoy and succeed in the Destination. Consider asking your troop leader, a coach, a teacher, a member of your place of worship, or any adult who knows you well. You may **not** ask a family member. As with all reference requests, it's a good idea to ask them if they are willing to do this before submitting your application.
- **Information to provide to references:** If you are applying to more than one Destination, let your references know they will have to complete more than one recommendation form (one for each Destination). Let your references know that they will be asked "to provide specific examples of the applicant's special strengths and/or skills that would enable her to enjoy and succeed in the Destination of her choice." They can enter the information directly into an online form they will receive by email, or they can choose to upload a letter. Either is fine!
- **Process of submitting references:** You'll type your references' email addresses into your online application, and they will automatically receive a form to complete by email. After you submit your application, immediately inform your references to look out for the email. Be sure to ask them to check their JUNK MAIL folders – it often goes there! Sometimes email filters (especially school email systems, which have strict security) block the reference email from coming through completely. Not to worry! We will also email YOU a copy of the reference link, so you can pass it along if needed.
- **Deadlines:** The deadline for them to complete their reference for the early application round is 6/15. If you are applying during the rolling application period after 6/15, please ask them to complete it ASAP (but know that they will usually need at least a few days).

Ready to get started? Start drafting your application answers on the next page!



Destinations Application Worksheet

This worksheet is for your personal use only. Below is each question that you will complete on the [online application](#), so you can be prepared before you start the online form. You can draft your answers to the short answer and essay questions on this sheet, but there is no need to write every single answer on this worksheet. It's just for you to prepare!

General Information

- Your Age
 - o If you are 13 or over, you can complete the application yourself, but *make sure your parent is nearby!* They must verify their support for your application on the last page.
 - o If you are under 13 years old, your parent must complete the application on your behalf.
- Your home Girl Scout Council
 - o Double-check this – just in case – using our [Council Finder](#).
- Name & Dates of Destination
- Your First Name, Last Name, Birthdate, Present School Grade, Email Address, Phone Number, Address, Racial/Ethnic Background (*optional*)
- Parent/Guardian Name, Parent/Guardian Email Address

Short Answer Questions

- Have you ever been away from your family overnight?
Options: Lots of times, Once or twice, Not Yet
- If you HAVE been away from your family overnight, briefly describe length of time, where, when, and with whom. If you HAVE NOT, please describe why you are ready for this trip away from home now.
- Briefly describe a meaningful experience that you had away from home, without your family.
- Please list any activities (sports, clubs, arts, or other activities) you do outside of school.

- List any languages (other than English) that you speak fluently.
- List any languages (other than English) that you speak conversationally (beginner to moderate level).
- Do you have any other special skills, relevant to this Destination, which you'd like to mention?
- If you have previously attended a Girl Scout Destination(s), please list the name and dates of the Destination(s).

Essay Question (If you are applying to more than one Destination, please *write a different essay for each Destination* to which you are applying, explaining why you want to go on that specific Destination, and why you would be a great candidate!)

Essay Prompt: Please describe why you want to participate in the Destination that you have chosen. Be specific about what knowledge and skills you would bring to this trip, and what knowledge and skills you would like to bring home! Don't forget to describe any special experience you have, like camping or community service, OR why you're excited about trying something new!

References Information

- Reference #1 Name:
- Reference #1 Email:
- Reference #2 Name:
- Reference #2 Email:
- Reference #3 Name (*optional*):
- Reference #3 Email (*optional*):

You're now ready to complete the [online application](#)!

Submission Checklist

Use this space to keep track of your application process for all Destinations.

Destination name	Date my portion of application completed	Reference #1 name	Date reference completed	Reference #2 name	Date reference completed	<i>OPTIONAL</i> Reference #3 name	<i>OPTIONAL</i> Date reference completed